



Give Me Liberty: Freeing Ourselves in the Twenty-First Century

By Gerry Spence

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Give Me Liberty: Freeing Ourselves in the Twenty-First Century By Gerry Spence

Here, in this landmark personal work, Gerry demonstrates how, despite the democratic rhetoric we hear and believe, we have become enslaved. All of us are trapped by a complex web of corporate and governmental behemoths he calls the "New Slave Master" that today controls our airways, educates our children, and manages every facet of our lives.

Yet, far from being a pronouncement of gloom, *Give Me Liberty!* is an inspiring and visionary work. In the spirit of his bestselling *How to Argue and Win Every Time*, Spence expounds on his philosophy, thus empowering us to:

Liberate the slave within, redefine success, unchain the spirit, escape the religions of work and beliefs that enslave us, free ourselves with what he calls our "magical weapon."

Like Thomas Paine's *Common Sense*, *Give Me Liberty!* captures the underlying malaise of a country, transforming it into a national dialogue that promises a groundswell for a meaningful democracy in America in the coming years.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

"We are slaves. All of us," writes Wyoming superlawyer Gerry Spence with his trademark exuberance. "The New Master is an entanglement of megacorporations on the one hand and an omnipresent national government on the other, each stuck to the other like a pair of copulating dogs, each unable to move without dragging the other behind it, each dependent upon the other, hating the other, but welded to the other in a dissolute enterprise."

This decidedly offbeat manifesto will make Spence--who comes across as a left-leaning Ross Perot on steroids--friends and enemies at every point along the political spectrum. Among his tamer suggestions are a call to criminalize campaign contributions, forced voting for all citizens, and the drafting of judges for temporary assignment from a pool of trial lawyers. In case these ideas don't go far enough, Spence also wants to rewrite the U.S. Constitution. Liberal populists will cheer *Give Me Liberty!* for its unremitting audacity; conservatives will chafe at Spence's fundamental radicalism. --*John J. Miller*

From Publishers Weekly

Lawyer, writer and television pundit Spence starts his scathing critique of American society with Goethe's famous statement, "No one is as hopelessly enslaved as the person who thinks he is free." This is a wide-ranging polemic but at its heart it reflects Spence's claim that Americans of all walks of life have been enslaved by the New Master, "the sum total of an amoral coupling between government and business." Anticipating criticism, Spence (How to Argue and Win Every Time) suggests that while the lives of African American slaves were obviously worse than those of what he deems contemporary corporate slaves, "a comparison is in order." Despite the tactlessness of this approach, Spence does offer a refreshing condemnation of Americans' obsession with work and the accruing of wealth. Many other of his subjects, however, have been covered often and are simply given a fresh gloss through Spence's slave metaphor. His "Twenty Childish Questions," for example, range from why America cannot educate its young to why imprisonment rates have risen exponentially. Spence never hesitates to depart from the highway of his argument for an interesting side road; while the force of his homespun rhetoric makes for an entertaining read, these deviations detract from the book's focus. The ability to raise important social questions and attack rampant complacency while simultaneously recalling Ruby Ridge and Waco reveal Spence as an unlikely cross between a progressive lawyer and a Western populist.

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From Library Journal

Aptly reflecting its iconoclastic lawyer- author (e.g., O.J.: The Last Word, LJ 11/1/97), this book is an opinionated, idiosyncratic critique of the American condition. Spence sees us as the "New American Slaves," at the mercy of greedy, soulless corporations who control "the largest brothel in America, the Congress of the United States." By turns bombastic, provocative, and tedious, the book might have been subtitled "Money Is the Root of All Evil." Two of the 26 chapters deal with the legal system, and they are the most specific and informed. Otherwise, Spence's remedies can be vague (individual empowerment) or contradictory, as when he advocates both compulsory voting and choosing representatives by lot. Infused with conviction, this populist broadside is recommended for libraries where Spence has a following. AGregor A. Preston, formerly with Univ. of California Lib., Davis

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Margaret Barone:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book can be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the book untitled Give Me Liberty: Freeing Ourselves in the Twenty-First Century can be excellent book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

William Rice:

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Brandy Anderson:

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