



In Praise of Barbarians: Essays against Empire

By Mike Davis

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The author of *City of Quartz* and *Planet of Slums* attacks the current fashion for empires and white men's burdens in this blistering collection of radical essays. He skewers contemporary idols such as Mel Gibson, Niall Ferguson, and Howard Dean; unlocks some secret doors in the Pentagon and the California prison system; visits *Star Wars* in the Arctic and vigilantes on the border; predicts ethnic cleansing in New Orleans more than a year before Katrina; recalls the anarchist avengers of the 1890s and "teeny-bopper" riots on the Sunset Strip in the 1960s; discusses the moral bankruptcy of the Democrats in Kansas and West Virginia; remembers "Private Ivan," who defeated fascism; and looks at the future of capitalism from the top of Hubbert's Peak.

No writer in the United States today brings together analysis and history as comprehensively and elegantly as Mike Davis. In these contemporary, interventionist essays, Davis goes beyond critique to offer real solutions and concrete possibilities for change.

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--*The Nation*

"A rare combination of an author, Rachel Carson and Upton Sinclair all in one."

--Susan Faludi, author, *Backlash*

"Davis' work is the cruel and perpetual folly of the ruling elites."

--*New York Times*

Mike Davis is the author many books, including *City of Quartz*, *The Ecology of Fear*, *The Monster at Our Door*, and *Planet of Slums*. Davis teaches in the Department of History at the University of California, Irvine, and lives in San Diego.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

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