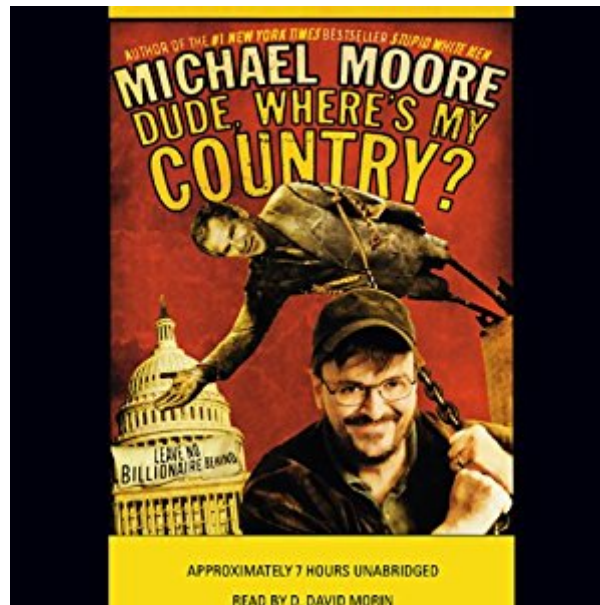


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# Dude, Where's My Country?



## Synopsis

Michael Moore is on a mission: he aims to unseat the man who slithered into the White House on tracks laid by guilty Enron execs and greased with his daddy's oil associations. And as for "The Left," they're just as satisfied to stand idly by as the chasm between the "haves" and the "have nots" grows wider and wider. That's right, Michael Moore is back with a new book that reveals what's gone wrong in America and, more importantly, how it can be fixed. In his characteristic style that is at once fearless and funny, Moore takes readers on another wild ride to the political edge of righteous laughter and divine revenge. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 6 hours and 57 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Hachette Audio

Audible.com Release Date: November 7, 2003

Language: English

ASIN: B0000YSMOW

Best Sellers Rank: #48 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Humor > Political Humor #533

in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Political #1721 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Politics & Current Events

## Customer Reviews

Hey folks, this is place for book reviews, not just somewhere to hammer your political stakes. If I want to know a good restaurant in which to eat, I don't get much help from people who say "that place sucks," or "it's awesome, maan." Those are not restaurant reviews. They are inarticulate blanket statements that tell me very little about culinary establishments. If some moron who doesn't like Italian food, but loves Chinese food, even if it is bad, makes those statements, I am not in a very good position to find a good restaurant. But, hey, Moore's book is not exactly fine literature either, nor is it supposed to be. It is the stuff that touches nerves and induces one or two sentence leftwing or rightwing rants. While this may be bad for the book review section, it is good for political discourse. And that is where many "professional" reviewers (or the publicists who pick abridged comments) fare little better than the guy who likes lousy Chinese food. The first splash review on the back of the book exclaims "Moore is a comic genius." This comment is like a court reporter

exclaiming "Kobe Bryant is a basketball genius" after covering a pretrial hearing. Well, Moore is damned funny, but the book is not primarily a comic work. Chapter 10 is hilarious, granted, but this is a book of serious political and social commentary peppered with quips and sarcasm. Moore fans already know that model, and they aren't the ones reading these reviews for the purpose of finding a good read. The book is a Bush-bashing of epic proportions, but the weapon for the beating is not weird conspiracy theories as some might want to claim.

Moore's book was at times downright DISTURBING to me--and not in the Molly Ivans "I can't believe the astonishing facts I'm reading!" way. No, more like "I'm a bit worried that Moore has gone off the field." I'm a Moore FAN who's met the man several times, visited with him, and read all his books (I just finished this one today; I'm one of those rare reviewers who actually READ the books before submitting a review). But this book seems to offer us a lot of what we already knew, a hefty dose of NEW research, but wrapped in the decoration of conspiracy theory. For example, Moore excels at researching and documenting his grievances about Bush's handling of terrorism, war, the economy, the environment, civil rights, etc. Moore has been taken to task before about playing loose with facts, so he covers himself well by offering us specific sources for each claim this time. At least the facts won't be as easy to dispute. But Moore sways a bit too flexibly toward his own dastardly conspiracy theories, and that nudges him toward rhetoric that becomes ever-more aggressive and shocking, rather than cunning and witty as when he's at his best. He'll cite Michael Savage as an example of conservative hate speech that "liberalism is a mental disorder," but a few pages later joke about no effective mental health treatment being developed for conservative thinking. He'll title a book "Dude, Where's My Country?" to complain that conservatives have stolen the America he once knew, and then climax the book with a chapter about how conservatives are a minority in an America that really prefers liberal social agendas. One chapter troubles me deeply.

Wow, what a book! I must have looked stupid laughing out loud during my lunch breaks as I read it. But the laughter was mixed with concern about where our America is heading. His excellent, yet misunderstood use of sarcasm is well blended with the shocking, sometimes frightening and thought provoking questions he raises. I thoroughly enjoyed his previous book, but I admit I couldn't wait for this one because I knew that if he was outraged at Bush for stealing the Presidency in "Stupid White Men", he would be hilariously struck by the mess he has gotten us into in such a short time. Now let's talk about the reviewers that "allegedly" read this book, but were "disappointed" to find those web sites that list the "factual errors" in this book. Isn't it convenient that they don't share

the links to these sites so we can judge for ourselves. So I decided to look for these myself, and I found some interesting ones. You know, I was really expecting to find at least ONE error or misrepresentation, but all they had were either inconsequential criticisms or debunking of opinions, not facts. In fact, none of the supporting articles that Moore references are even challenged! Let me show you a few examples of the 17 "factual errors" noted at spinsanity.org:#1. "Moore claims that [...] HarperCollins, which published Stupid White Men, "dumped [the book] in some bookstores with no advertising [...] yet on his web site Moore stated that "HarperCollins is doing their best to get the book out there." -Bryan Keefer, "Moore's myriad mistakes" HOW IS THIS RELEVANT? Also, these were not FACTS, just opinions. Can there be "Factual Errors" in opinions?

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