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Stealing America: Vote by Vote, a review

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How many ways can an election be stolen? Award-winning documentary filmmaker Dorothy Fadiman recounts the ways with her latest powerful documentary film that makes perfect sense of a day in American history that made no sense at all to most Americans. *Stealing America: Vote by Vote* is a massively important film and an absolute must-see, big picture of election day 2004. Stealing America lays before us a comprehensive, honest documentation and analysis of the events of that day while presenting the facts as they occurred in real time. It also offers dire warnings for the possible fate of our upcoming 2008 presidential election if we as individuals do not start acting like we own our democracy and work for change. While many Americans feel we had jumped down the election rabbit hole on election day 2004, Fadiman responds by connecting the dots on this American crisis, effectively pulling the rabbit up out of the hole, by it's ears, to tell us what really happened.

As someone who has devoted thousands of hours to this subject as an activist investigator and archivist, I am extremely impressed at Fadiman's profound knowledge and understanding of this subject which seems so incomprehensible. This filmmaker tackles each topic with scholarly thoroughness deserving of the highest praise. Fadiman breaks it all down to reveal the complexities of a modern stolen election. Plain, well narrated visuals lay the bare facts before an audience being shown a strange tale of connecting dots. Welcome moments of irony and humor break up the film's mostly ominous undertone. In Stealing America, the strange story told of that strange day blows away the veil of historical myth popularized in the mainstream media, replacing it with the truth of understanding. History revisionists will be disappointed by the profound truthfulness of what happened and why. The anatomy of the stolen election of 2004 is dramatically exposed in this excellent documentary film which offers the average citizen a new understanding of that day. Historical fact brought forth in this film force "official" accounts into the limelight of scrutiny particularly as regards the discrepancies in exit polls. Fadiman blows holes in official accounts from befuddled reporters who lamely attempted to explain away outrageous anomalies. Fadiman exposes many tragic flaws in these stories as told by pundits who so egregiously failed their viewing audience with uninformed analysis and misinformation. Those still confused by what happened in 2004 will be illuminated by this necessarily lengthy documentary film. Stealing America outlines the election of 2004 with brilliant continuity of subject matter and profound insight.

This film moved me to tears while reminding us all that we are the ones who have the power to alter this disastrous course of events by being eternally vigilant as protectors of our own precious democracy. The film reminds us that as citizens we are not powerless against the many forces determined to subvert the integrity of our most sacred right to vote and to have our vote be counted. Fadiman should be on the fast-track to an Emmy nomination for Best Documentary Film of 2008 with Stealing America Vote by Vote. Free screenings of the film may be seen in major Ohio cities this week: Columbus, Youngstown, Cincinnati, Dayton and Cleveland, now through October 4. Stealing America begs the question, if we do not have real elections, then what do we really have at all? See this film. Share this film. Then, do something.

Victoria Parks is a life-long resident of Ohio; B.S. Broadcast Journalism from Kent State University; award-winning songwriter and performer; indie-producer; Penwoman; democracy activist; commentator; satirist; graphic artist. Parks has been involved in audits and investigations of Ohio's elections since 2004. She spends a lot of time reading and promoting a well-informed electorate regarding elections and other crucial issues like media reform and the growing and immediate threat of American fascism.