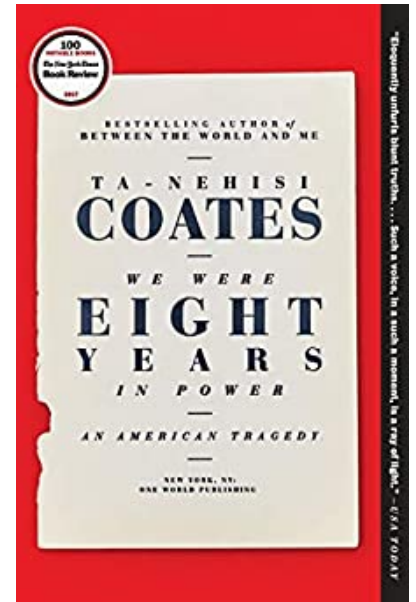


# We Were Eight Years in Power Book Summary (PDF) by Ta- Nehisi Coates

Ready to learn the most important takeaways from We Were Eight Years in Power in less than two minutes? Keep reading!



## Why This Book Matters:

We Were Eight Years in Power discusses Obama's presidency, racism, and white supremacy in American history.

## The Big Takeaways:

- 1. Obama's presidency allowed more opportunities for black creators, but they didn't all tell the facts.**
  1. If Cosby turns racism against black people onto black people, making it a problem that exists from black culture.
- 2. Michelle Obama's story represents an aspect of black America despite it being unexpected.**
  1. Black people are free to act in their own way in their own communities, but code-switch when they venture into the rest of society.

3. **Slavery, while a huge part of American history, has always been downplayed.**
  1. This is because the truth makes too many people uncomfortable.
4. **Reparations for black people sound insane to some, but it actually makes sense.**
  1. Black people had their land stolen and were treated horribly by even the northern communities in the mid-19th century.
5. **Incarceration rates for African-Americans are disproportionately high because we criminalize them for being black.**
  1. When black fathers are locked up, a lot of families lose their breadwinner and thus struggle to get by.

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