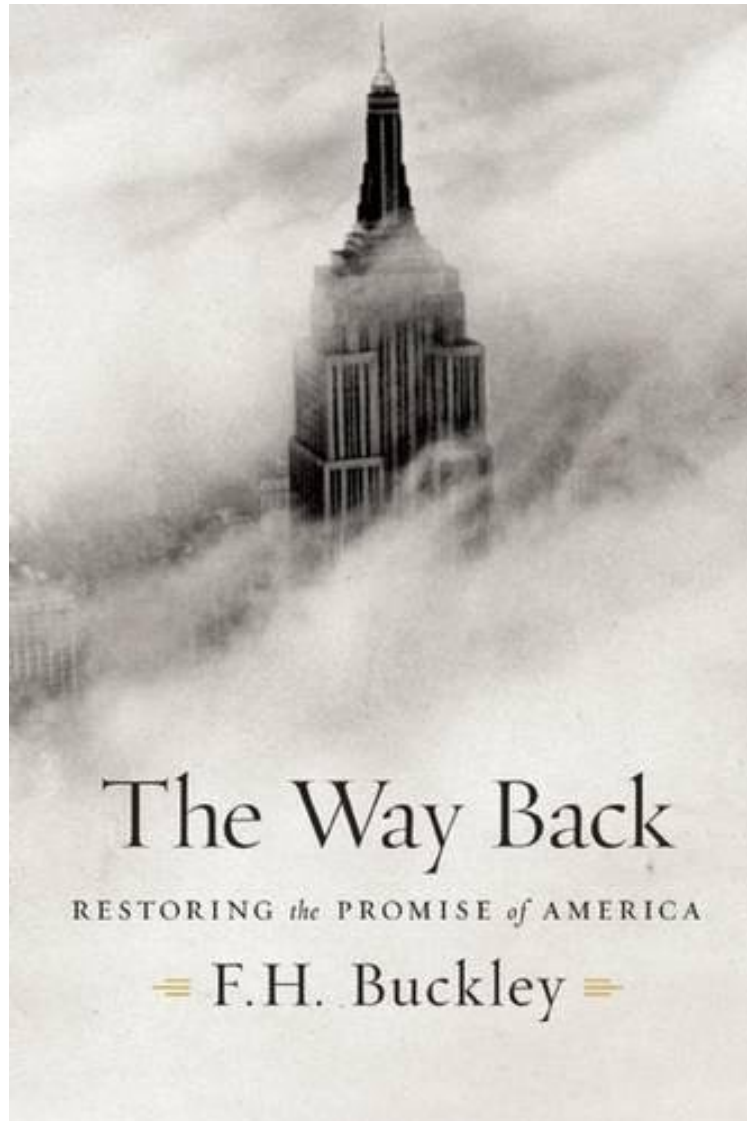


The Way Back: Restoring the Promise of America

F. H. Buckley

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F. H. Buckley : The Way Back: Restoring the Promise of America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Way Back: Restoring the Promise of America:

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A path back to greatnessBy Jeff D. SandeferFrank Buckley makes a compelling case that the American Dream is in real danger, and well worth saving. Thankfully, he gives us a path back to what truly made America great, which is a welcome relief from today's shrill and shallow political rhetoric.2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. This book explains a lot !By Peter Van OudenarenI loved this book, for once there's a current public policy book that explains my life, my children's lives, why my divorce was so destructive,

why people I know can't get decent drug abuse treatment, why so much of my income goes to "the man" in various forms, why my kids can't afford college, why, why, why.. fantastic !. Unfortunately this work adds to the reasons provided by Stiglitz et al for so many troubles we face. Good luck to us. 3 of 5 people found the following review helpful. INCOME INEQUALITY AND THE AMERICAN DREAM By H. See Whatever your views on income inequality that it sows discord or incentivizes productivity; is growing, shrinking, cycling; that it matters or it doesn't F.H. Buckley's *The Way Back* is required reading. Buckley is a lucid and engaging writer. More important, he is thoughtful and insightful. Buckley identifies the American dream not only of pulling oneself up, but also of making things better for one's children, and the consequences that dream has sown in income inequality and in income immobility. Income inequality is consistent with the American dream, provided there is mobility the possibility through hard work and ingenuity to move up. Anyone considering income inequality now must either start where Buckley leaves off or answer his carefully documented critique. Buckley also looks at what can and what (mostly) cannot be changed to revitalize the American dream.

The promise of America is that, with ambition and hard work, anyone can rise to the top. But now the promise has been broken, and we've become an aristocracy where rich parents raise rich kids and poor parents raise poor kids. We've been told that the changes are structural, that there's nothing we can do about this. But that doesn't explain why other First World countries are beating us hands down on the issue of mobility. What's different about America is our politics. An ostensibly progressive New Class of comfortably rich professionals, media leaders, and academics has shaped the contours of American politics and given us a country of fixed economic classes. It is supported by the poorest of Americans, who have little chance to rise, an alliance of both ends against the middle that recalls the Red Tories of parliamentary countries. Because they support an aristocracy, the members of the New Class are Tories, and because of their feigned concern for the poor, they are Red Tories. *The Way Back* explains the revolution in American politics, where political insurgents have challenged the complacent establishment of both parties, and shows how we can restore the promise of economic mobility and equality by pursuing socialist ends through capitalist means.

The Way Back makes a persuasive case that social mobility, fundamental to the American Dream, has eroded, and that people both on the left and right need to deal seriously with the problem of inequality. F.H. Buckley marshals tremendous data and insight in a compelling study. Francis Fukuyama's *Inequality and Immobility* will be the rallying cry from the left as the 2016 elections approach. That's a great reason to put *The Way Back* at the top of your reading list. F.H. Buckley offers a provocative and important commentary on the underlying problems: dysfunctional schools, barriers to entrepreneurship, a broken immigration system, sclerotic government, special interest politics, and more. He dissects who's to blame, what to do, and what not to do with scholarship, wit, and insight. Robert A. Levy, chairman of the Cato Institute: Another excellent book! It is full of marvelously shrewd observation, as well as scholarship, both aimed at subjects of the greatest importance. Jonathan Clark: *The Way Back* demonstrates that inequality and immobility are real and serious and that nominally progressive policies are a big part of the problem. The problem, moreover, is not unintended consequences but rather intended consequences. With his signature combination of erudition, imagination, and wit, F.H. Buckley has produced a game-changing contribution to the inequality literature. Christopher DeMuth