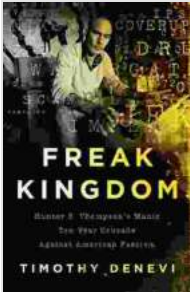


# Hunter Thompson's Manic Ten-Year Crusade Against American Fascism



## Freak Kingdom: Hunter S. Thompson's Manic Ten-Year Crusade Against American Fascism by Timothy Denevi

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 3268 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 398 pages



In the annals of American journalism, few figures loom larger than Hunter S. Thompson. The godfather of gonzo journalism, Thompson was a fearless and uncompromising chronicler of the American counterculture. He was also a staunch opponent of fascism in all its forms.

Thompson's crusade against fascism began in the late 1960s, when he witnessed the rise of the New Right. This was a group of conservative activists who sought to roll back the gains of the civil rights movement and the counterculture. Thompson saw in the New Right the seeds of fascism, and he made it his mission to expose their agenda.

In 1972, Thompson embarked on a ten-year crusade against American fascism. He covered the presidential campaign of George McGovern, a

liberal Democrat who was running against the incumbent Richard Nixon. Thompson's coverage of the campaign was published in his seminal book, *Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail '72*.

*Fear and Loathing* is a scathing indictment of the American political system. Thompson exposes the corruption and hypocrisy of both major parties, and he paints a vivid picture of the growing threat of fascism in America. The book is a masterpiece of gonzo journalism, and it remains one of the most important works of political writing of the 20th century.

Thompson's crusade against fascism did not end with the publication of *Fear and Loathing*. He continued to write and speak out against the far right throughout the 1970s and 1980s. He was a vocal critic of the Reagan administration, and he warned of the dangers of the religious right.

Thompson's warnings about the rise of fascism in America went largely unheeded. In the years since his death in 2005, the far right has made significant gains in the United States. White nationalism is on the rise, and fascist groups are becoming more visible and active.

Thompson's crusade against fascism is more relevant today than ever. His writings offer a valuable warning about the dangers of complacency. We must not forget the lessons of the past, and we must be vigilant in our defense of democracy.

## **Thompson's Ten-Year Crusade in Detail**

Thompson's ten-year crusade against American fascism can be divided into three distinct phases.

## 1. **The Nixon Years (1972-1974)**

This period began with Thompson's coverage of the 1972 presidential campaign and culminated with the Watergate scandal. Thompson was one of the first journalists to expose Nixon's corruption and criminality. He also played a key role in bringing the Watergate scandal to light.

## 2. **The Reagan Years (1980-1988)**

During this period, Thompson was a vocal critic of the Reagan administration. He accused Reagan of being a fascist and a warmonger. Thompson also warned of the dangers of the religious right, which he saw as a major threat to American democracy.

## 3. **The Post-Cold War Years (1989-2005)**

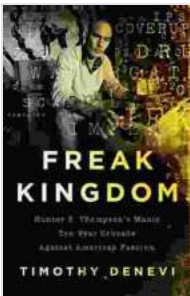
After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Thompson continued to write and speak out against the far right. He warned of the dangers of white nationalism and the religious right. Thompson also criticized the Bush administration's wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Thompson's crusade against fascism was a lifelong battle. He never wavered in his belief that fascism was a serious threat to American democracy. His writings offer a valuable warning about the dangers of complacency. We must not forget the lessons of the past, and we must be vigilant in our defense of democracy.

## **Thompson's Legacy**

Hunter S. Thompson was a complex and controversial figure. He was a brilliant writer, but he was also a heavy drug user and a self-destructive personality. Despite his flaws, Thompson was a fearless and uncompromising defender of democracy. His writings have inspired generations of activists and journalists. His legacy will continue to inspire and challenge us for years to come.

In the words of Thompson himself, "We are all doomed, but some of us are going to have more fun getting there than others." Let us all hope that Thompson's warnings about the dangers of fascism will be heeded. Let us all strive to be vigilant in our defense of democracy.



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