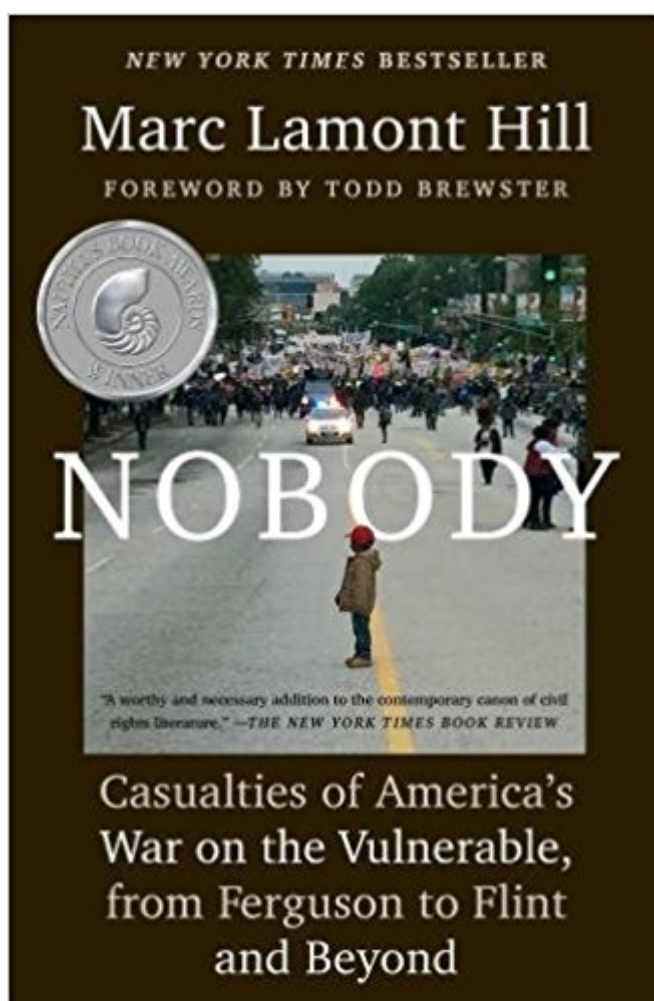


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# Nobody: Casualties Of America's War On The Vulnerable, From Ferguson To Flint And Beyond



## Synopsis

Named a Best Book of 2016 by Kirkus Reviews A New York Times Editor's Choice Nautilus Award Winner • A worthy and necessary addition to the contemporary canon of civil rights literature. • "The New York Times In this thought-provoking and important • (Library Journal) analysis of state-sanctioned violence, Marc Lamont Hill carefully considers a string of high-profile deaths in America "Sandra Bland, Freddie Gray, Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Trayvon Martin, and others" and incidents of gross negligence by government, such as the water crisis in Flint, Michigan. He digs underneath these events to uncover patterns and policies of authority that allow some citizens become disempowered, disenfranchised, poor, uneducated, exploited, vulnerable, and disposable. To help us understand the plight of vulnerable communities, he examines the effects of unfettered capitalism, mass incarceration, and political power while urging us to consider a new world in which everyone has a chance to become somebody. Heralded as an essential text for our times, Marc Lamont Hill's galvanizing work embodies the best traditions of scholarship, journalism, and storytelling to lift unheard voices and to address the necessary question, "how did we get here?"

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"With Nobody, Hill marshals the full weight of multiple scholarly traditions to expose complex, ancient, and intersecting injustices of American racism. This is the book that respects Michael Brown, Sandra Bland, Freddie Gray, Trayvon Martin, and all the other lost black women, men, girls,

and boys by taking them seriously.Â This is the book we needed to understand how we got here and to understand what it means to be here. This is the definitive text. It will remain so for generations.” --Melissa Harris-Perry, Maya Angelou Presidential Chair at Wake Forest University and Editor-at-Large, Elle.com

”Marc Lamont Hill is the most courageous and progressive voice in ‘Main Stream Media,’ whose new book,Â Nobody,Â is a subtle and persuasive historical and contemporary analysis of our state of emergency in America. He gives new meaning to the now popular idea of ”intersectionality” with intellectualÂ gustoÂ and politicalÂ urgency!” --Cornel West, author and professor of philosophy and Christian practice at Union Theological Seminary and professor emeritus at Princeton University”

An essential primer on the relationship between anti-Black racism and state-sanctioned violence, Nobody chronicles historical and social developments around race, class, gender and the role of the State in America which have served to develop, maintain, and expand an expendable underclass. In Hill’s book we see how repression breeds resistance, the very same dynamic that has led to an upsurge in the Black Freedom Movement that seeks justice for all of us.” --Alicia Garza, cocreator of the Black Lives Matter Network”

Marc Lamont Hill proves once again why he is one of the leading voices on race in America. With its fresh insight and careful on-the-ground reporting, Nobody is a powerful call to action that gives a voice to our most vulnerable communities. As with anything Hill writes, this book is essential reading.” --Neera Tanden, president and CEO of the Center for American Progress”

Marc Lamont Hill has written the book we desperately needed.Â No mere chronicle of recent anti-Black violence,Â NobodyÂ digs deeper, revealing how the killing fields of urban America were tilled by seven decades of Jim Crow and four decades of neoliberalism, turning the very people who brought the prospect of genuine justice, democracy, and citizenship to America into a disposable nation of ‘nobodies.’Â But as Hill reminds us, precarity is not death, the market is not God, and an equitable, just future is in ‘nobody’s’ hands.” --Robin D. G. Kelley is the Gary B. Nash Professor of American History at UCLA and author of Freedom Dreams; Thelonious Monk; and Africa Speaks, America Answers”

Picking up the baton that James Baldwin left behind, Nobody gives urgent voice to the generation of the descendants of the poor, unacknowledged people Baldwin captured so vividly in his 1985 classic, The Evidence of Things Not Seen.” --ESSENCE Magazine”

Nobody provides a comprehensive look at the effects, where police are shooting unarmed minority citizens, and their drinking water is literally poisoned . . . . It will constantly energize you and never bore you.” --The Intercept”

[Hill] challenges us to join a new generation of activists prepared to organize, agitate and act (against the backdrop of state sanctioned violence, economic injustice, social misery, and appeals to fragmentation and fear) on the eminently

reasonable proposition that our "nobodies" will not have a fair shot at becoming "somebodies" until we reduce the unconscionably high and growing gap between America's "have-gots" and our "have-nots." --Dr. Glenn C. Altschuler, Thomas and Dorothy Litwin Professor of American Studies at Cornell University Florida Courier

"In our hyper-partisan era, Hill might not be able to persuade many readers who aren't already on the political left. But "Nobody" is a sincere effort to do just that, and even those who disagree with him should concede that he's the kind of social commentator -- passionate but rarely hyperbolic, well-informed yet respectful of other points of view -- whose ideas are worthy of our attention." --Kevin Canfield The Kansas City Star

--This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Marc Lamont Hill is an award-winning journalist and host of BET News, as well as a political contributor to CNN. He is a Distinguished Professor of African American Studies at Morehouse College. Prior to that, he held positions at Columbia University and Temple University. He lives in Atlanta and New York City.

Todd Brewster is a longtime journalist who has worked as an editor for Time and Life and as a senior producer for ABC News. He is the coauthor with the late Peter Jennings of the bestselling books *The Century*, *The Century for Young People*, and *In Search of America*, and the author of *Lincoln's Gamble*.

Understanding America's relationship with its citizens requires a layered examination of inequality-making processes and their cultural bedrock. Hill's analysis helps us do just that with journalistic, historical, and sociological analyses that contextualize the lives of our most vulnerable neighbors - those who by virtue of their race, class, and gender identities have been rendered "nobodies". This book is required reading for those looking to better comprehend inequality today at both the micro and macro level. From Trayvon Martin to Mike Brown and the ongoing Flint water crises, 'Nobody' is an exercise in award-worthy scholarship, all the while keeping us grounded in a pursuit of a better, more equal and just society.

Read this book now!

Side note: An alternative title for this book: "For mediocre folk who read about the hood...and the rest of y'all too."

It is disheartening that a book like this has to even be written. However, if you have experienced oppression and/or poverty, you know what it feels like to be looked at as the disposable class of being "nobody". This book is a window into that life and a reflection in pieces of my own life. A must read!

There were times I read a passage twice through, closed the book, then came back and read it twice more. An incredibly provocative and heartfelt account. Full of detail and still plenty of opportunity for the reader to establish their own assessment and stance on the events. A necessary read for all!

With such a focus on either being "woke" or being slave to a conservative or liberal standpoint/perspective, Hill makes use of the reality we all face living in and around the school-to-prison pipeline and how there is not one "America" in our construction of human interaction in the U.S., and how we must recognize the killing of Black and Brown men, of People of Color, in "our" America to really start making changes to the ways we live and work with one another. To put things very simply, he makes you recognize the "Nobodies" that are being affected by the ignorance in a largely "colorblind" and "all lives matter" world, created to make those most privileged, comfortable with injustice.

Good read. Definitely a book that i will be gifting my younger male relatives. If you aren't sure about or are interested in the tumultuous events that have plagued the black community read this book. Knowledge is power.

Hands down!!! After reading this book, I feel so much more educated and energized to the work that is set out for me. The way Dr. Hill writes (and speaks) is like he is zooming in and zooming out the images, different contexts, various backdrops - all of the that. The way he ties people and events together and traces them back to how they either reinforced policy or gave birth to new ones is absolutely remarkable. I tried not to write in it because I mark up all my books, but I couldn't resist. Some things you just WANT to remember THE WAY HE SAYS it. Dr. Hill wrote a SUPERB book. He writes about people with a careful regard for the spiritual being and their humanity. The best part about finishing this book is that I personally feel more guided on how to conduct myself in working toward the collective vision for change. THANK YOU, Dr. Hill. You are an amazing human and you are wonderfully made.

"To be Nobody is to be considered disposable" It is not just about Black Americans and police brutality, although if it was, so what! Black Americans have been silenced for too long and they need to speak their truth about their oppression in this country. They need justice and true freedom and one book would just be covering the surface of the Black struggle in America. It's sad that in 2017

that is still the reality. But this book is a voice for not just Black Americans, who are most affected by classism/income inequality, the drug war, lack of healthcare and mental healthcare, homelessness, unemployment, and war on the poor. This is a much needed book about issues the most vulnerable and most marginalized in society face, regardless of race or ethnicity. It is a thoughtful and well-written book all need to add to their libraries.

Marc Lamont Hill's *Nobody* is a must read. The details in this novel outline what it means to be a Nobody in 2017.

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