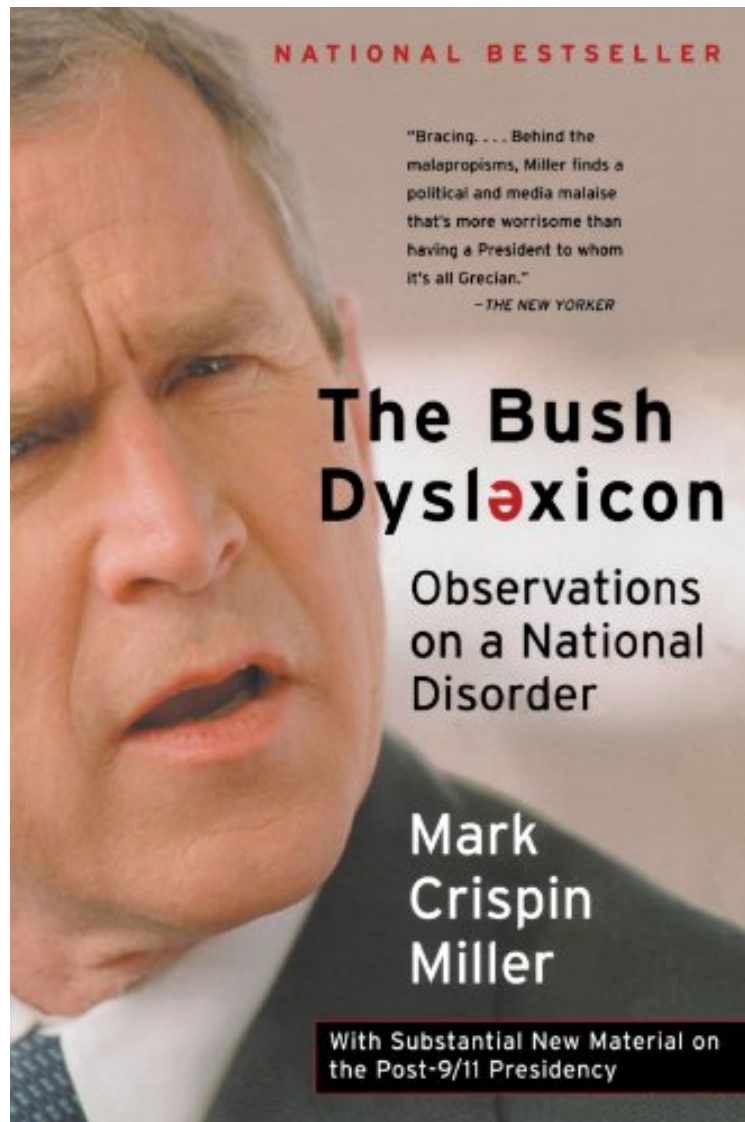


[Free read ebook] The Bush Dyslexicon: Observations on a National Disorder

## The Bush Dyslexicon: Observations on a National Disorder

*Mark Crispin Miller Ph.D.*

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**Mark Crispin Miller Ph.D. : The Bush Dyslexicon: Observations on a National Disorder** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Bush Dyslexicon: Observations on a National Disorder:

44 of 46 people found the following review helpful. More than just the politics of the momentBy Alan DeikmanI have both editions of this book; the earlier one and the one published just this year. The newer edition is much improved from the new material, but the message is the same.This appears to be a vastly misunderstood work. I understand that some bookstores stack this in the "humor" or "political humor" (if they have one) sections. That's like placing "Animal

Farm" in the children's section because it has talking pigs and horses. Personally, I don't find disabilities amusing (Bush's no less than any others) and Miller seems to make it clear he feels the same way. Also, the joke has been running on too long by this time to be funny. The other mistake is that this is simply an attack by a liberal professor against the conservative Bush president. Yes, Miller is obviously a liberal and does attack Bush with a near lethal precision of insight and logic -- the kind Peggy Noonan wishes she had -- but "Dyslexicon" is every bit as much about the rest of us as it is about Bush. It is about how our superficial media allows a creature such as Bush to exist and even flourish. Regardless of how you feel about the current president Bush, reading Dyslexicon is very instructive in understanding the psychology of others, particularly politicians. That's a useful skill in this day and age. 32 of 36 people found the following review helpful. A grammatical comedy (with a deeper message).....By Kyle TolleEarly on in The Bush Dyslexicon, it is made apparent to readers that although George Bush is the featured target of choice for scrutiny, he certainly is not the first president we've had that suffers from poor speaking abilities or other illiteracy problems. It just so happens that George Bush's afflictions are more readily noticeable and profound than those of our past leaders. The Bush Dyslexicon is not only a collection of Bush's grammatical disasters, it is also a biography of sorts revealing his ascent to the White House which is quite profound, or depressing, depending on your point of view. Being a product of Yale University, you would expect Bush to be a highly educated and proficient leader under normal circumstances. In reality, much information about Bush is not normal. Never rising above mediocre status as a student, far from being well read and informed, and flaunting his disdain for education in general, it is not hard to imagine how he has become immersed in his own illiterate and dyslexic world. Even more disconcerting is the fact that Bush doesn't even appear to care that he can't speak intelligibly on anything. As Mark Miller depicts in his book, when Bush does speak, you are reminded as a reader to look closely at what our president is actually saying. In delivering his messages and statements on many different subjects, it is apparent that Bush is quite comfortable being insincere, hypocritical, uncompassionate, forgetful, and just plain uncaring in a lot of ways. This doesn't say much in hopes for a better democracy and better leadership. Throughout this book, I found many of George Bush's quotes to be quite funny while other quotes could be labeled as bizarre, cruel, or downright meaningless. Somewhere along the way during your passage through this book, you begin to realize that it is not so funny anymore and you take stock of your president and your government and understand that the whole situation is in a very bad way. The Bush Dyslexicon, nevertheless, is a very well written and detailed narrative on not only George Bush, but also the sad state of our union, the divisive media machine that hurts us more than it helps us, and our democracy which is badly in need of repair. This book is highly recommended to all readers who want to know the real George Bush and what he is really about. 6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. FrighteningBy JMackWhile an intelligent person has already realized that our president often has trouble turning a phrase, The Bush Dyslexicon goes beyond laughing at W.'s short-comings. The results are frightening. One of the main arguments concurs with a previous suggestion that Bush has dyslexia. The author, while leaving this as a possibility, goes to further to suggest that Bush is an amnesiac. For this reason, Bush mixes up pre-rehearsed answers to questions in his mind, only getting small memorized portions correct. Also, Bush has trouble answering any question straight without falling back on some previous touchy-feely jargon. Does he even remember the question asked. We know W. is not the most intelligent man, but he is a product of the system. The book explains the conspiracy that got Bush into the oval office. Yes, it was Daddy's money and his rich friends. Also, explain how Daddy's money influenced the media. Was it an accident that rather focusing on Gore's knowledge of the issues that the media focused on W.'s image as a good ole boy? Why is it that Americans never heard the story of W.'s bro is Florida altering the voter list illegally? And believe me, W.'s record as the governor of Texas is less than sparkling. Truthfully, this book would take further explanation than the 1,000 words I am allowed. But if you are concerned about the state of democracy in America, this book should be on your read list. And the Democrat presidential candidate should be on your voter list in 2004.

"A particularly astute analysis of the television coverage of the campaign, the election, and the political aftermath."?NewsdayThe Bush Dyslexicon is a raucously funny ride?whether it's Bush envisioning "a foreign-handed foreign policy" or Miller skewering vociferous cultural conservatives like William Bennett and Lynne Cheney for their silence on Bush's particular "West Texas version of Ebonics." But there is also a strong undercurrent of outrage. Only because our elections have become so dependent on television and its emphatic emptiness, says Miller, could a man of such sublime and complacent ignorance assume the highest office in the land.

.com .comFrom Publishers WeeklyMiller, a New York University professor of media studies, has fashioned a devastating compendium of President George W. Bush's grammatical gaffes, syntactical shipwrecks, mind-boggling malapropisms and simply dumb comments. Page after page (after page) of quotations, suggests Miller, reveal that Bush is a man who, while not stupid, is prodigiously illiterate and woefully uneducated. Further, and compounding the problem, Bush could not care less about these shortcomings. How then, Miller asks, and this is his larger concern, did someone in Miller's opinion so obviously unqualified to be president convince so many voters that he was? Miller's answer is, in a word, television: Bush succeeded on TV not despite his "utter superficiality," but because his

superficiality blended seamlessly with the vacuous culture of the tube. It was not simply that Bush's handlers were able to manipulate his image, attempting to construct out of his ignorance an anti-intellectual "good ole boy" persona, but that news professionals in the medium were all too willing to go along with this ploy. They went along because the pundits of TV have become, according to Miller, increasingly right-wing, thus natural Bush allies, but also because they no longer care to talk about substance, preferring instead discussion of "likability" and other attributes of pure image. While Miller is sometimes vague in his arguments, he has produced a sharp-edged polemic questioning the wisdom of how we elect our leaders. As President Bush has said, "It's not the way America is all about." Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Miller (media studies, New York Univ.; *Boxed In: The Culture of TV*) suggests that Americans may be suffering from a corporate form of dyslexia: "Seeing that it's all gone wrong, yet always hearing from on high that everything is perfectly all right, we each feel...as helpless and perplexed as any undiagnosed dyslexic." Miller's explanation is that George W. Bush and his handlers have mastered the use of television, highlighting the candidate's hyper-chummy style to sell their theme and message. An opening analysis compares the current President with former Presidents Bush, Nixon, and Johnson, whose images often suffered on television, then shows how the 2000 campaign used television to the candidate's advantage. Miller uses extensive quotes from campaign appearances, television interviews, and the televised debates to demonstrate how the candidate focused on canned "theme" and "message" texts while repeatedly revealing through body language and malapropisms what he may actually have been thinking. Miller makes no effort to be unbiased and is sometimes openly contemptuous, but the analysis is thoughtful and the quotes are accurate and well documented. Recommended for media studies collections. Jill Ortner, SUNY at Buffalo Libs. Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.