

The United States is known as a nation of immigrants. But it is also a nation of xenophobia. In *America for Americans*, acclaimed historian Erika Lee shows that an irrational fear, hatred, and hostility toward immigrants has been a defining feature of our nation from the colonial era to the Trump era.

Americans have been wary of almost every group of foreigners that has come to the United States. Benjamin Franklin ridiculed German immigrants for their "strange and foreign ways." Americans' anxiety over Irish Catholics turned xenophobia into a national political movement in the 1850s. Over the century that followed, Chinese immigrants were excluded, Japanese incarcerated, and Mexicans deported. Today, Americans fear Muslims, Central Americans, and the so-called browning of America. Xenophobia has not been an exception to America's immigration tradition, an episodic aberration on an inevitable march toward inclusion. It is, in fact, Lee argues, an American tradition in its own right, deeply embedded in our society, economy, and politics.

Forcing us to confront this history, *America for Americans* explains how xenophobia works, why it has endured, and how it threatens us all. It is a necessary corrective and spur to action for any concerned citizen.

ERIKA LEE is a Regents Professor, the Rudolph J. Vecoli Chair in Immigration History, and director of the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota, and an Andrew Carnegie fellow. The author of *The Making of Asian America* and other award-winning books, Lee lives in Minneapolis, MN.

READ BY SHAYNA SMALL



Running Time: Approx. 13.5 Hours • Unabridged

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39793
ISBN 978-1-5491-8518-2



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AMERICA FOR AMERICANS
A HISTORY OF XENOPHOBIA IN THE UNITED STATES

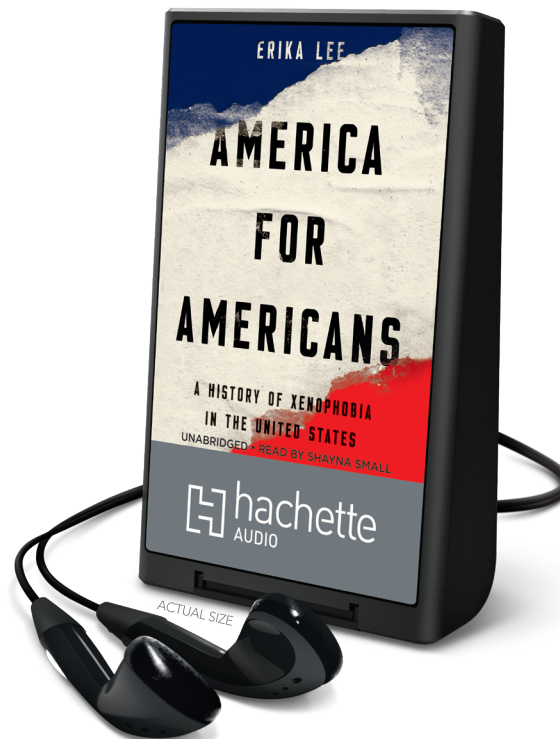
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