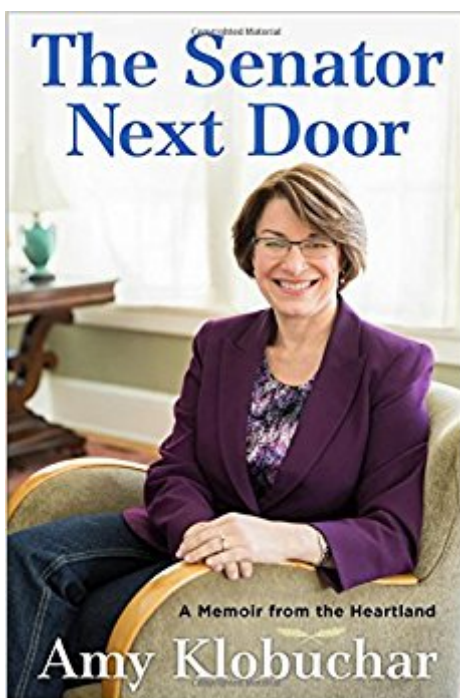


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# The Senator Next Door: A Memoir From The Heartland



## Synopsis

One of the U.S. Senate's most candid--and funniest--women tells the story of her life and her unshakeable faith in our democracy. Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar has tackled every obstacle she's encountered--her parents' divorce, her father's alcoholism and recovery, her political campaigns and Washington's gridlock--with honesty, humor and pluck. Now, in *The Senator Next Door*, she chronicles her remarkable heartland journey, from her immigrant grandparents to her middle-class suburban upbringing to her rise in American politics. After being kicked out of the hospital while her infant daughter was still in intensive care, Klobuchar became the lead advocate for one of the first laws in the country guaranteeing new moms and their babies a 48-hour hospital stay. Later she ran Minnesota's biggest prosecutor's office and in 2006 was the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate from her state. Along the way she fashioned her own political philosophy grounded in her belief that partisan flame-throwing takes no courage at all; what really matters is forging alliances with unlikely partners to solve the nation's problems. Optimistic, plainspoken and often very funny, *The Senator Next Door* is a story about how the girl next door decided to enter the fray and make a difference. At a moment when America's government often seems incapable of getting anything done, Amy Klobuchar proves that politics is still the art of the possible.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 368 pages

Publisher: Henry Holt and Co.; 1st Edition edition (August 25, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1627794174

ISBN-13: 978-1627794176

Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 1.3 x 240 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 61 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #378,007 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #190 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > United States > Legislative Branch](#) #1854 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Political](#) #4287 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Specific Groups > Women](#)

## Customer Reviews

â œKlobuchar, the daughter of a longtime columnist for the Star Tribune in Minneapolis, has a reporter's eye for an anecdote. In her 356-page book, she writes about lessons learned. . . . The

Senator Next Door [is] about avoiding the sort of blistering rhetoric and political posturing that makes it hard to forge alliances across party lines to get things done. . . . The book is threaded with tougher lessons, including dealing with her father's alcoholism and her daughter's serious medical problems at birth.

• USA Today "From the halls of her high school all the way to the United States Senate, Amy Klobuchar's journey is one of incredible perseverance and success. Her story radiates with warmth, humor, and candor. I hope it will inspire women everywhere to take part not only in public life, but in all endeavors in their lives, with the same passion."

• Sheryl Sandberg, author of *Lean In* "In this warm and wise book, Senator Klobuchar shows that the ability to find common ground-and to use down-home common sense-is the key to leadership in a democracy. In the tradition of Ben Franklin, she knows that compromisers may not make great heroes, but they do make great democracies. Her book is both a desperately needed wakeup call to our politicians and a delightful memoir that will inspire everyone. Buy one for yourself and give one to an elected official."

• Walter Isaacson, author of *Steve Jobs* and *Benjamin Franklin* "I absolutely loved this book and could not put it down. It's smart, funny, moving, and filled with wisdom and insight. I especially related to the extraordinary stories about Amy's immigrant grandparents. The *Senator Next Door* left me deeply inspired, with renewed hope for the American Dream."

• Amy Chua, author of *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* and *The Triple Package* "Amy Klobuchar wrote the *Lean In* of political memoirs... [S]he talks about the events and people that shaped her political beliefs, with some disarmingly funny and honest asides.... [W]e need more politicians like Klobuchar-who can tell their stories energetically and with humor, presenting themselves as dynamic public figures."

• Laura Reston, *The New Republic* "Even at her own wedding, Minnesota U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar writes in her new book, she weathered bromides about one day running for president. In *The Senator Next Door*, an autobiography Klobuchar penned without a ghost writer, she writes about her trajectory from a middle-class Plymouth upbringing to the U.S. Senate, with stops along the way at Yale University and the Hennepin County attorney's office."

• *The Star Tribune* "Breezy, witty, serious when necessary and sometimes painfully honest, [Minnesota's] senior senator tells her story from a comfortable front porch rather than an alien Washington, D.C., office.... [A] compelling personal saga."

• Jack Zaleski, *Fargo Forum* "Klobuchar's memoir paints the picture of a steady, indefatigable, honest servant of the people. She tells candid (good and bad) stories of growing up the daughter of a legendary local newspaper reporter, her early witnessing of the dangers of alcohol abuse, the end of her parents' marriage, her daughter's early health problems, her first campaign, and her experiences in Washington...[R]efreshingly genuine...Readers will come away feeling a bit more positive about the

political system and the people working within it. • Publishers Weekly

Amy Klobuchar, the daughter of a newspaperman and a schoolteacher, is Minnesota's senior United States Senator. A Democrat, she was first elected to the Senate in 2006; she was later reelected in a landslide and named to Senate leadership. A national leader, she has a well-earned reputation for working across the aisle to pass legislation that supports families, workers and businesses. She and her husband John have a daughter, Abigail, who is in college.

I wanted to know more about Senator Klobuchar. Here is a wise mother, wife, down-to-earth politician, who grew up modestly, put criminals behind bars as a prosecutor, and has never forgotten where she came from or who she represents. She doesn't get much national attention. She works with Republicans and fellow Democrats to get meaningful legislation passed, not merely introduced. This is a great book. I sure like her.

Returning to Illinois after 15 years in Minnesota, we missed our Senators in our adopted state. Reading the memoir of Amy Klobuchar reminded me why. Loved to move with her through her start in life to her ultimate political life. I'll be watching her in the years to come. Good book to read and understand more about our government. Thank you, Amy.

Interesting facts about about her life. I live in northern MN so know the areas she talked about. It gave me a better idea of the Senator I voted for. I appreciate her more after reading this book b

Maybe it is because I grew up in Minnesota, but I found this book wonderful. I really understand why the people of Minnesota keep reelecting her! I wish me had more politicians like her in Congress. Well done, Amy!! Colleen Fox Bellingham, WA

Senator Klobuchar's memoir is described through honest and readable prose. I learned much about the work of politics and how to find ways to be productive by working with both sides of the political aisles, and accomplishing good legislation that benefits all. The chapters varied in length, which worked against the reader and some sections were too "wordy" but over all this was a helpful look at local and national politics through the eyes of a seasoned legislator in both state and national venues.

Excellent read. Amy Klobucher is funny, articulate and honest in portraying her journey to the United States Senate. She has a remarkable sense of knowing what people need and the ability to get things done regardless of the political state. She will be a formidable force in the Senate or in any other political position that might come her way. She has a great future!

More info than I needed. She needs a good editor! If you are choosing between this book and Claire McCaskill, choose Claire's.

Amy is my senator and I am very proud of her. This book gives us the story of how she came to run for Senator and all the mentors she had. It is written in a very warm and unassuming style. It was a lot like visiting with her over coffee and bars.

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