

# Unbecoming American: A Powerful Memoir of Identity, Immigration, and the Search for Home



## Unbecoming American by Gina Evans

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 625 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

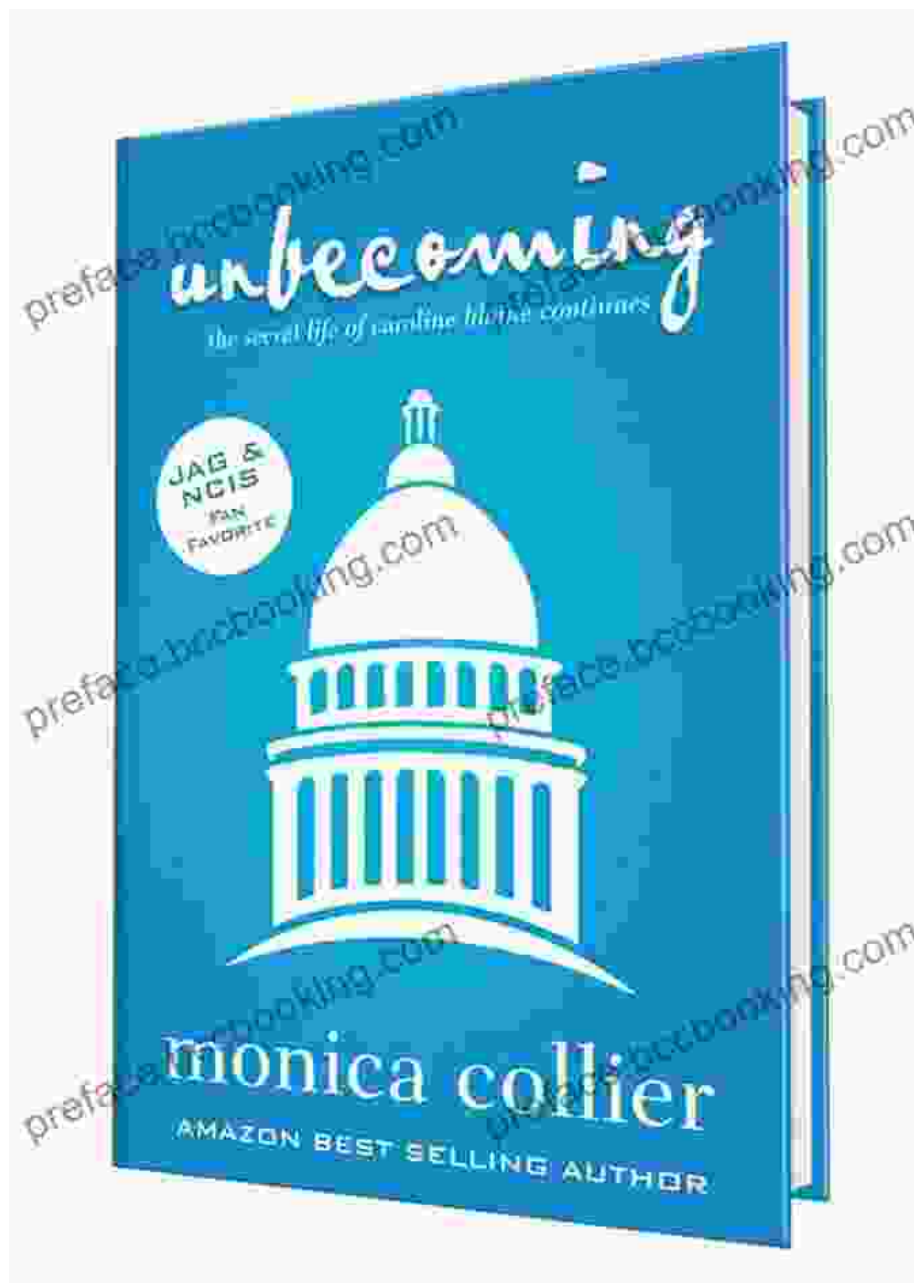
Print length : 296 pages

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## About the Book

**Unbecoming American** is a powerful and deeply personal memoir by Gina Evans, a first-generation American whose journey of self-discovery and belonging unfolds against the backdrop of a changing America.

Born to Nigerian immigrants in the Midwest, Evans grapples with the complexities of her bicultural identity from a young age. As she navigates the expectations of her family and the challenges of assimilation, she begins to question what it truly means to be American.

Evans' memoir is a moving and thought-provoking exploration of identity, immigration, and the search for home. It is a story that resonates with anyone who has ever felt like an outsider or who has struggled to find their place in the world.

### **Author Biography**

**Gina Evans** is a writer and educator whose work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and NPR. She is a graduate of Harvard University and holds an MFA from the University of Iowa. *Unbecoming American* is her first book.

### **Critical Praise**

"*Unbecoming American* is a beautifully written and deeply resonant memoir that explores the complexities of identity, immigration, and the search for home. Gina Evans' journey is one that will resonate with anyone who has ever felt like an outsider or who has struggled to find their place in the world." — **Roxane Gay, author of *Bad Feminist* and *Hunger***

"Gina Evans' memoir is a powerful and timely exploration of the American dream and the challenges faced by immigrants in our increasingly diverse society. Her story is one of hope, resilience, and the enduring power of the human spirit." — **Isabel Wilkerson, author of *The Warmth of Other Suns* and *Caste***

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## Excerpt

From **Unbecoming American**:



***“I was born in the Midwest, the daughter of Nigerian immigrants. My parents came to this country with dreams of a better life for their children. They worked hard and sacrificed much to give me and my siblings the opportunities they never had.***

***But growing up, I often felt like an outsider. I was the only black girl in my neighborhood and at my school. I was teased for my dark skin and my kinky hair. I was told that I didn't belong.***

***As I got older, I began to question my identity. Was I American? Nigerian? Both? Neither?***

***I searched for answers in books, in music, and in the stories of other immigrants. I traveled to Nigeria and to the United States, trying to understand my place in both worlds.***

***My journey of self-discovery was not always easy. But it was ultimately a journey of hope and healing. I learned to embrace my bicultural identity and to find my own unique voice.***

***I am an American. I am Nigerian. I am both and neither. I am a hyphenated American, a citizen of two worlds. And I am proud of who I am.”***

### **Book Club Discussion Questions**

1. How does Gina Evans' experience as a first-generation American shape her understanding of identity and belonging?
2. What are the challenges and rewards of living in a bicultural world?
3. How does Evans' memoir explore the changing nature of the American dream?
4. What lessons can we learn from Evans' journey about the power of resilience and self-acceptance?
5. How can we create a more inclusive society that welcomes and values all immigrants?

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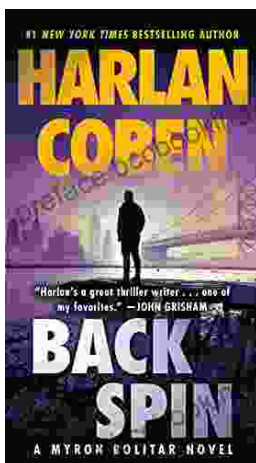
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