

Michelle Obama's book best-selling of 2018

23rd November, 2018



The new autobiography penned by the former First Lady of the USA Michelle Obama has stormed to the top of the bestseller lists. The in-depth memoir of her life and times at the White House is now the fastest-selling book of 2018 and holds the top

spot on Amazon's bestseller list. The 448-page book is called 'Becoming'. Amazon calls it: "An intimate, powerful, and inspiring memoir by the former First Lady of the United States." The book's publisher, Penguin Random House, said: "We are thrilled by the extraordinary response to Ms Obama's beautifully rendered and deeply personal memoir, and we are confident that 'Becoming' will inspire millions of readers."

Michelle Obama summed up the idea behind her book. She said: "Becoming is never giving up on the idea that there's more growing to be done." An Amazon reviewer wrote: "Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her - from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work, to her time spent at the world's most famous address." The autobiography and Ms Obama's accompanying nationwide tour to promote it have ignited talk of the former First Lady running for President in 2020. One of her aides quickly dismissed any speculation, saying: "Let me be very clear, it will never happen."

Sources: cnn.com / latimes.com / amazon.com

Writing

Autobiographies are the best kinds of books. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

autobiography / former / First Lady / bestseller / White House / memoir / personal / idea / never giving up / experiences / childhood / motherhood / nationwide / tour

True / False

- a) The article says Ms Obama wrote her book with a fountain pen. T / F
- b) The article says Ms Obama's was very stormy. T / F
- c) The book is slightly under 450 pages long. T / F
- d) The publisher said the book was thrilled. T / F
- e) Ms Obama said 'Becoming' means giving up when you need to. T / F
- f) An Amazon reviewer says Ms Obama talks about growing up. T / F
- g) A book tour has sparked rumors Ms Obama will run for President. T / F
- h) A close associate says Ms Obama won't run for President. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. autobiography | a. private |
| 2. in-depth | b. recording |
| 3. intimate | c. motivate |
| 4. thrilled | d. thorough |
| 5. inspire | e. conjecture |
| 6. summed up | f. life story |
| 7. chronicling | g. needs |
| 8. demands | h. started |
| 9. ignited | i. excited |
| 10. speculation | j. outlined |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about Michelle Obama?
- b) Would you like to read Michelle Obama's book?
- c) How interesting would your memoirs be?
- d) What's the best book you've read this year?
- e) What is the best biography you've ever read?
- f) Why do you think the book might be "powerful and inspiring"?
- g) What do you think of the book's title, "Becoming"?
- h) What advice do you have for Michelle Obama?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. The new autobiography penned | a. Amazon's bestseller list |
| 2. The in-depth memoir of | b. have shaped her |
| 3. holds the top spot on | c. millions of readers |
| 4. Ms Obama's beautifully rendered and | d. any speculation |
| 5. 'Becoming' will inspire | e. for President |
| 6. Michelle Obama summed up the | f. deeply personal memoir |
| 7. chronicling the experiences that | g. motherhood and work |
| 8. balancing the demands of | h. by the former First Lady |
| 9. running | i. idea behind her book |
| 10. her aides quickly dismissed | j. her life and times |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you think about Michelle Obama?
- What do you think will be in Michelle Obama's book?
- What's the most inspiring book you've ever read?
- What do you think life was like as First Lady?
- What can we learn from Michelle Obama?
- Should Michelle Obama run for President in 2020?
- What questions would you like to ask Michelle Obama?

Spelling

- The in-depth eommir of her life
- Amazon's setsellber list
- The book's iblpshuer
- We are hitllred
- the extraordinary eopsnrse
- 'Becoming' will nspiire millions of readers
- Obama usmmed up the idea
- An Amazon vreiewer
- her years as an eucxtevie
- balancing the demands of trheohomod
- gnitied talk
- quickly dismissed any peustalicon

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. d	3. a	4. i	5. c
6. j	7. b	8. g	9. h	10. e

Role Play

Role A – Michelle Obama

You think Michelle Obama's memoirs would be most interesting. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with the other memoirs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Beyonce, Queen Elizabeth II or Melania Trump.

Role B – Beyonce

You think Beyonce's memoirs would be most interesting. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with the other memoirs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Michelle Obama, Queen Elizabeth II or Melania Trump.

Role C – Queen Elizabeth II

You think Queen Elizabeth II's memoirs would be most interesting. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with the other memoirs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Beyonce, Michelle Obama or Melania Trump.

Role D – Melania Trump

You think Melania Trump's memoirs would be most interesting. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with the other memoirs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Beyonce, Queen Elizabeth II or Michelle Obama.

Speaking – Memoirs

Rank these with your partner. Put the best memoirs to read at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| • Oprah Winfrey | • Michelle Obama |
| • Queen Elizabeth II | • Melania Trump |
| • Aung San Suu Kyi | • Beyonce |
| • Queen Noor of Jordan | • Melinda Gates |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.