It Was Like A Fever: Storytelling In Protest And Politics

activist and politicians have long recognized the power of a good story to move people to act. In the early 1960s black college students on tour at a white-only lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, and refused to leave West Side on its opening day to thirty-six cities seven Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) organizers hold a press conference in Atlanta to announce survey findings, inviting questions from the press. But before the students begin to describe their experiences, a onlooker interrupts their stories. Polketta argues that stories are politically effective when they:

- Motivate and mobilize both the public and policymakers around a shared sense of realism and possibility.
- Enable social change through the sharing of personal narratives.
- Provide an accessible and relatable platform for political engagement.

In this new edition of It Was Like A Fever, Polketta and Salzburg bring together a diverse array of stories to explore the power of storytelling in contemporary politics and protest, including:

- The life story of a young woman who uses her experience with sexual assault to advocate for change.
- The story of a community organizing group that uses storytelling to mobilize residents around a shared vision of their neighborhood.
- The narrative of a healthcare worker who shares her experiences with patients to inspire compassion and empathy.

In It Was Like A Fever, Polketta and Salzburg demonstrate that storytelling is a potent tool for social change, and they offer strategies for using stories to build coalitions, engage policymakers, and create lasting change. This new edition includes updated stories and new chapters on the role of storytelling in contemporary politics and protest.
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The Art of Political Storytelling by Philip Spearman (2009) explores the practice of traumatic storytelling that emerged out of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission and came to play a key role in the lives of the Khumalha Support Group for victims of apartheid-era political violence. Spearman follows the group's extensive interviews with survivors and their experiences in storytelling, examining how these narratives shape identity and community. The book offers a fascinating insight into the ways in which storytelling can be a powerful tool for healing and reconciliation.

Narrative Imagination and Everyday Life: Abby Lee 2014-02-12 This book shows how to analyze stories, storytelling, and stories in society, bringing together a variety of approaches to both text and narrative practice under one cover.

The Mundane and the Miraculous: How to Tell a Story from the Ordinary to the Extraordinary, by M. Best (2006). This is a practical guide for anyone who wants to tell stories that are both compelling and effective. It covers everything from choosing a story to delivering it in a way that makes the audience care.

Digital Storytelling by Mark Dedman 2017-12-27 This edited collection brings together academics and practitioners to explore the uses of Digital Storytelling, which places the greatest possible emphasis on the voice of the storyteller. Case studies are used as a platform to investigate questions of concept, theory, and practice, and to show an interpretative light on this emergent form of participatory media. The collection examines the creative and academic roots of Digital Storytelling by drawing on a range of international examples to consider the ways in which the practice has established itself and evolved in different settings across the world.

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