



## Timothy Snyder

AUTHOR

#1 New York Times Bestselling Author of 'On Tyranny' and 'Our Malady'



VISIT TIMOTHY'S WEBSITE

### About:

- **Gender:** Male
- **Nationality:** United States
- **Languages:** English
- **Travels from:** United States

### Engagement Types:

- Speaking

### Topics:

- Global Economics & Markets
- Mindfulness & Resilience
- Physical Health
- Risk Management

## Biography Highlights

- Renowned Historian of Fascism, Communism, and Modern Tyranny
- Prize-Winning Author of Numerous New York Times Bestselling Books

## Biography

Yale University historian of Nazism and communism Timothy Snyder was described by the New York Times as a “public intellectual unafraid to make bold connections between the past and present.” His book *On Tyranny* was #1 on the New York Times Bestseller List more than two years after its publication, thanks to Snyder’s unique ability to distill practical guidance for action from the darkest chapters of history. It has been used around the world in defense of democracy.

His newest book *Our Malady* is a short, urgent examination of healthcare as a human right which begins from Snyder’s recent and nearly fatal illness. From his hospital bed, he rethinks the connections between the health we lack and the freedom we need. In a time of authoritarianism and pandemic, the timeliness of this book cannot be overstated. Both a *cri de coeur* and a data-driven argument, it shows the way towards an America that is both healthy and free.

## Websites:

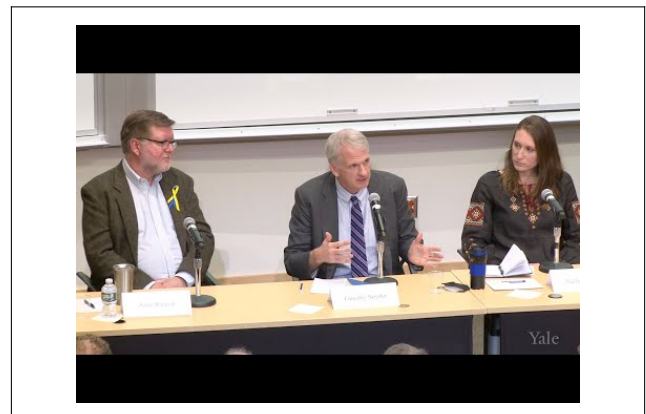
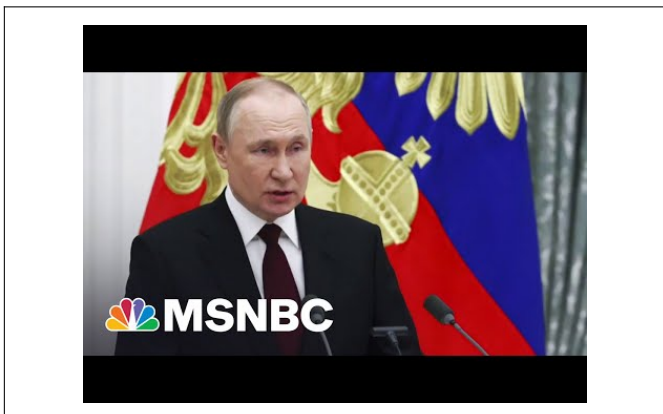
- [Website](#)

Snyder is also well known internationally for the prize-winning *Bloodlands*, which explains the most murderous events of the time of Hitler and Stalin in Europe. In his book *Black Earth*, Snyder explains the Jewish Holocaust in ways that help us to better understand the basic predicaments of our own time. In *The Road to Unfreedom*, Snyder charts the path from democracy to tyranny (and back). All five of these books were or are New York Times bestsellers.

A masterful presenter, Snyder is sought out by groups around the world to understand the direct line between big ideas of the past and our lives today.

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## Videos





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## Timothy's Topics

### On Tyranny: The Lessons of the Past and a Guide for The Present

In this talk based on his #1 New York Times bestselling book, Timothy Snyder offers a guide for resisting what he describes as America's turn toward authoritarianism. He leads audiences through the lessons of the past by examining why other democracies gave way to fascism, Nazism, or communism, and offers a call to arms, with invaluable ideas for how we can preserve our freedoms in the uncertain years to come.

**Available:** In person, Virtually

### Our Malady: Lessons from History and My Hospital Bed

Inspired by his own hospitalization, and in witness to the lives lost to Covid-19, Timothy Snyder examines the societal forces that led to the current state of the healthcare industry. In examining some of the darkest moments of recent history and of his own life, Snyder finds glimmers of hope and promotes principles that enshrine healthcare as a human right. Snyder explains how we can save the system, and only in so doing can we create an America where everyone is truly free.

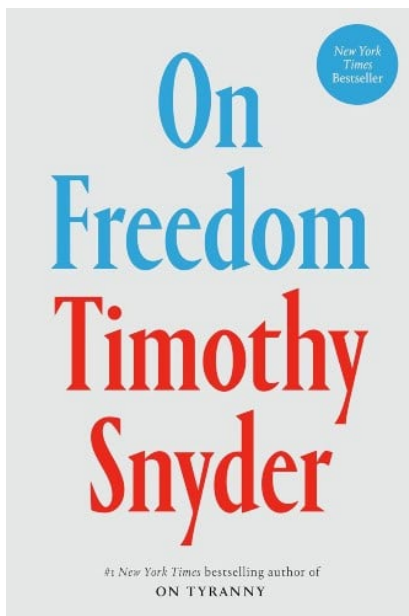
**Available:** In person, Virtually

## The Holocaust as History and Warning

Timothy Snyder presents a new explanation of the Holocaust and exposes its causes as risks that we face today. Based on the research that informed his important bestseller *Black Earth*, Snyder recounts the mass murder of the Jews as an event that is still close to us, more comprehensible than we would like to think, and thus a terrifying warning for the present.

**Available:** In person, Virtually

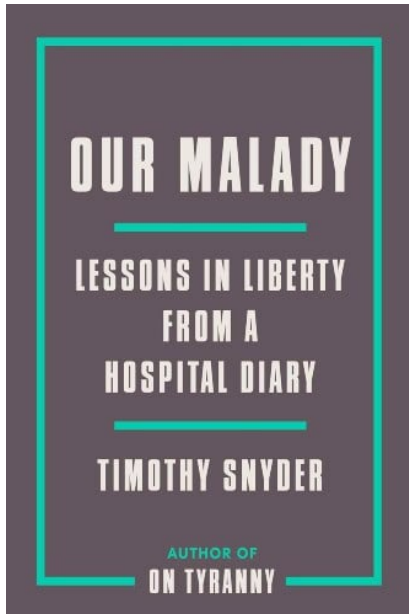
## Books



### On Freedom

Timothy Snyder has been called “the leading interpreter of our dark times.” As a historian, he has given us startling reinterpretations of political collapse and mass killing. As a public intellectual, he has turned that knowledge toward counsel and prediction, working against authoritarianism here and abroad. His book *On Tyranny* has inspired millions around the world to fight for freedom. Now, in this tour de force of political philosophy, he helps us see exactly what we’re fighting for. Freedom is the great American commitment, but as Snyder argues, we have lost sight of what it means—and this is leading us into crisis. Too many of us look at freedom as the absence of state power: We think we’re free if we can do and say as we please, and protect ourselves from government overreach. But true freedom isn’t so much freedom from as freedom to—the freedom to thrive, to take risks for futures we choose by working together. Freedom is the value that makes all other values possible. *On Freedom* takes us on a thrilling intellectual journey. Drawing on the work of philosophers and political dissidents, conversations with contemporary thinkers, and his own experiences coming of age in a time of American exceptionalism, Snyder identifies the practices and attitudes—the habits of mind—that will allow us to design a government in which we and future generations can flourish. We come to appreciate the importance of traditions (championed by the right) but also the role of institutions (the purview of the left). Intimate yet ambitious, this book helps forge a new consensus rooted in a politics of abundance, generosity, and grace.

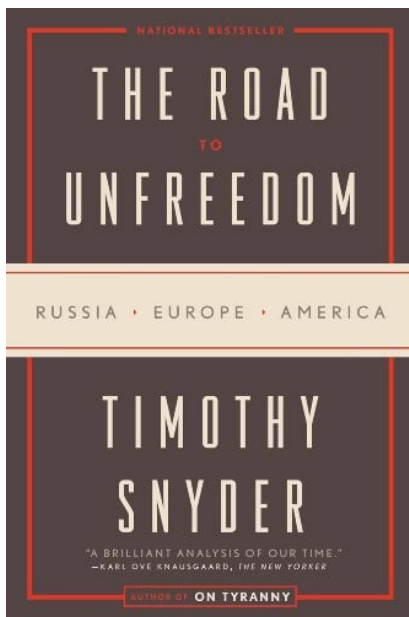
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## Our Malady: Lessons in Liberty from a Hospital Diary

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • From the author of the #1 New York Times bestseller *On Tyranny* comes an impassioned condemnation of America's pandemic response and an urgent call to rethink health and freedom. On December 29, 2019, historian Timothy Snyder fell gravely ill. Unable to stand, barely able to think, he waited for hours in an emergency room before being correctly diagnosed and rushed into surgery. Over the next few days, as he clung to life and the first light of a new year came through his window, he found himself reflecting on the fragility of health, not recognized in America as a human right but without which all rights and freedoms have no meaning. And that was before the pandemic. We have since watched American hospitals, long understaffed and undersupplied, buckling under waves of ill patients. The federal government made matters worse through willful ignorance, misinformation, and profiteering. Our system of commercial medicine failed the ultimate test, and thousands of Americans died. In this eye-opening *cri de coeur*, Snyder traces the societal forces that led us here and outlines the lessons we must learn to survive. In examining some of the darkest moments of recent history and of his own life, Snyder finds glimmers of hope and principles that could lead us out of our current malaise. Only by enshrining healthcare as a human right, elevating the authority of doctors and medical knowledge, and planning for our children's future can we create an America where everyone is truly free.

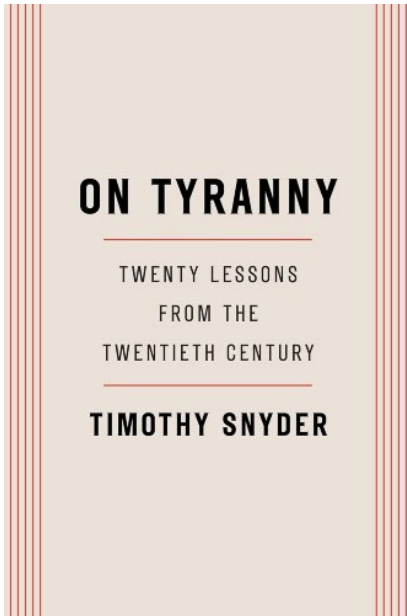
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## The Road to Unfreedom: Russia, Europe, America

With the end of the Cold War, the victory of liberal democracy seemed final. Observers declared the end of history, confident in a peaceful, globalized future. This faith was misplaced. Authoritarianism returned to Russia, as Vladimir Putin found fascist ideas that could be used to justify rule by the wealthy. In the 2010s, it has spread from east to west, aided by Russian warfare in Ukraine and cyberwar in Europe and the United States. Russia found allies among nationalists, oligarchs, and radicals everywhere, and its drive to dissolve Western institutions, states, and values found resonance within the West itself. The rise of populism, the British vote against the EU, and the election of Donald Trump were all Russian goals, but their achievement reveals the vulnerability of Western societies. In this forceful and unsparing work of contemporary history, based on vast research as well as personal reporting, Snyder goes beyond the headlines to expose the true nature of the threat to democracy and law. To understand the challenge is to see, and perhaps renew, the fundamental political virtues offered by tradition and demanded by the future. By revealing the stark choices before us--between equality or oligarchy, individuality or totality, truth and falsehood--Snyder restores our understanding of the basis of our way of life, offering a way forward in a time of terrible uncertainty.

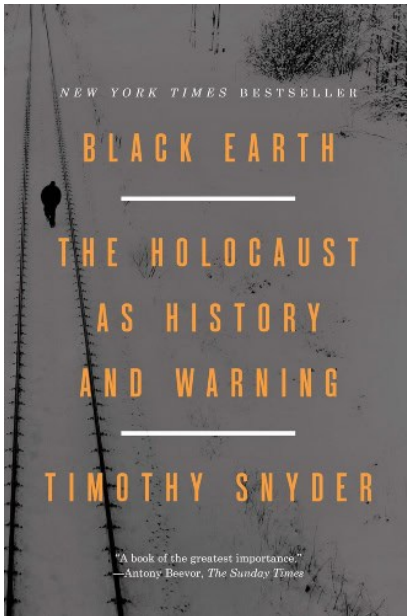
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## On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century

The Founding Fathers tried to protect us from the threat they knew, the tyranny that overcame ancient democracy. Today, our political order faces new threats, not unlike the totalitarianism of the twentieth century. We are no wiser than the Europeans who saw democracy yield to fascism, Nazism, or communism. Our one advantage is that we might learn from their experience. *On Tyranny* is a call to arms and a guide to resistance, with invaluable ideas for how we can preserve our freedoms in the uncertain years to come.

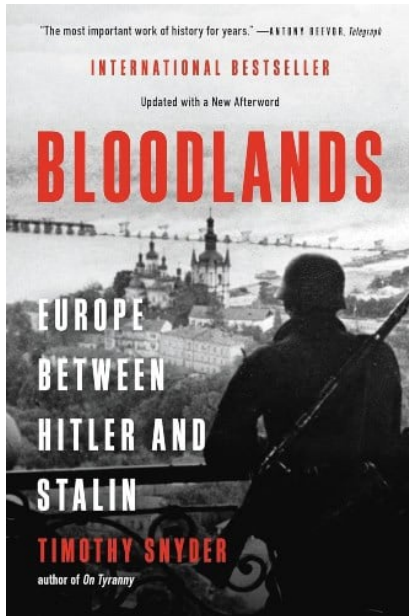
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## Black Earth: The Holocaust as History and Warning

In this epic history of extermination and survival, Timothy Snyder presents a new explanation of the great atrocity of the twentieth century, and reveals the risks that we face in the twenty-first. Based on untapped sources from eastern Europe and forgotten testimonies from Jewish survivors, *Black Earth* recounts the mass murder of the Jews as an event that is still close to us, more comprehensible than we would like to think and thus all the more terrifying. By overlooking the lessons of the Holocaust, Snyder concludes, we have misunderstood modernity and endangered the future. The early twenty-first century is coming to resemble the early twentieth, as growing preoccupations with food and water accompany ideological challenges to global order. Our world is closer to Hitler's than we like to admit, and saving it requires us to see the Holocaust as it was—and ourselves as we are. Groundbreaking, authoritative, and utterly absorbing, *Black Earth* reveals a Holocaust that is not only history but warning. New York Times Editors' Choice • Finalist for the Samuel Johnson Prize; the Mark Lynton History Prize; the Arthur Ross Book Award

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## Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin

From the author of the international bestseller *On Tyranny*, the definitive history of Hitler's and Stalin's politics of mass killing, explaining why Ukraine has been at the center of Western history for the last century. Americans call the Second World War "the Good War." But before it even began, America's ally Stalin had killed millions of his own citizens—and kept killing them during and after the war. Before Hitler was defeated, he had murdered six million Jews and nearly as many other Europeans. At war's end, German and Soviet killing sites fell behind the Iron Curtain, leaving the history of mass killing in darkness. Assiduously researched, deeply humane, and utterly definitive, *Bloodlands* is a new kind of European history, presenting the mass murders committed by the Nazi and Stalinist regimes as two aspects of a single story. With a new afterword addressing the relevance of these events to the contemporary decline of democracy, *Bloodlands* is required reading for anyone seeking to understand the central tragedy of modern history and its meaning today.

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## Speaker Bureaus And Talent Agencies

Timothy Snyder is available to book via these agencies

✓ **Recommended**



Speaking Agency