

“In his quiet but intense way, Jim Lehrer earns the trust of the major political players of our time,” notes Barbara Walters. “He explains and exposes their hopes and dreams, their strengths and failures as they try to put their best foot forward.” From the man widely hailed as “the Dean of Moderators” comes a lively and revealing book that pulls back the curtain on more than forty years of televised political debate in America. A veteran newsman who has presided over eleven presidential and vice-presidential debates, Jim Lehrer gives readers a ringside seat for some of the epic political battles of our time, shedding light on all of the critical turning points and rhetorical faux pas that helped determine the outcome of America’s presidential elections—and with them the course of history. Drawing on his own experiences as “the man in the middle seat,” in-depth interviews with the candidates and his fellow moderators, and transcripts of key exchanges, Lehrer isolates and illuminates what he calls the “Major Moments” and “killer questions” that defined the debates, from Kennedy-Nixon to Obama-McCain. Oftentimes these moments involve the candidates themselves and are seared into our collective political memory. Michael Dukakis stumbles badly over a question about the death penalty. Dan Quayle compares himself to John F. Kennedy once too often. Barack Obama and John McCain barely make eye contact over the course of a ninety-minute discussion. At other times, the debate moderators themselves become part of the story—and Lehrer is there to give us a backstage look at the drama. Peter Jennings suggests surprising the candidates by suspending the carefully negotiated rules minutes before the 1988 presidential debate—to the consternation of his fellow panelists. Lehrer himself weathers a firestorm of criticism over his performance as moderator of the 2000 Bush-Gore debate. And then there are the excruciating moments when audio lines go dead and TelePrompTers stay dark just seconds before going on the air live in front of a worldwide television audience of millions. Asked to sum up his experience as a participant in high-level televised debates, President George H. W. Bush memorably likened them to an evening in “tension city.” In Jim Lehrer’s absorbing insider account, we find out that truer words were never spoken.

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Tension City: Inside the Presidential Debates, from Kennedy-Nixon to Obama- McCain [Jim Lehrer] on googlecrumbs.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. Tension City: Inside the Presidential Debates, From Kennedy?Nixon to Obama? McCain: My View From the Middle Seat “ By Jim Lehrer. In “Tension City: Inside the Presidential Debates, from Kennedy-Nixon to Obama- McCain,” Jim Lehrer offers his impressions of the debates he. Tension City: Inside the Presidential Debates (Paperback) PDF, you should access the link below and download the file or have access to additional information. From the man widely hailed as “the Dean of Moderators” comes a lively and revealing book that pulls back the curtain on more than forty years of televised. JIM LEHRER is an American journalist and the executive editor and former news anchor for PBS NewsHour on PBS, known for his role as a frequent debate. Description. “In his quiet but intense way, Jim Lehrer earns the trust of the major political players of our time,” notes Barbara Walters. “He explains and exposes.

Tension City has ratings and 97 reviews. Morgan said: Im going to start out saying that I am a political junkie. I watch two things on TV: the news a. 5 Sep - 38 min Jim Lehrer talked about his book [Tension City: Inside the Presidential Debates] and.

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