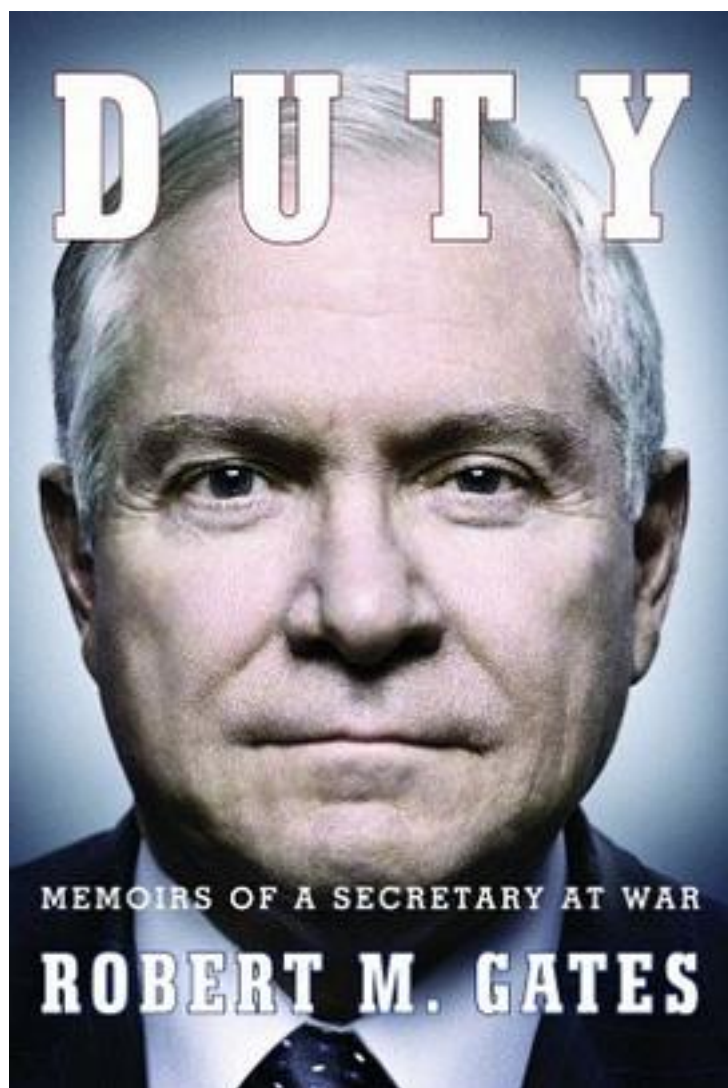


# Duty



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著者:Robert Gates

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From the former secretary of defense, a strikingly candid, vividly written account of his experience serving Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Before Robert M. Gates received a call from the White House in 2006, he thought he'd left Washington politics behind: after working for six presidents in both the CIA and the National Security Council, he was happy in his role as president of Texas A&M University. But when he was asked to help a nation mired in two wars and to aid the troops doing the fighting, he answered what he felt was the call of duty. Now, in this unsparing memoir, meticulously fair in its assessments, he takes us behind the scenes of his nearly five years as a secretary at war: the battles with Congress, the two presidents he served, the military itself, and the vast Pentagon bureaucracy; his efforts to help Bush turn the tide in Iraq; his role as a guiding, and often dissenting, voice for Obama; the ardent devotion to and love for American soldiers—his “heroes”—he developed on the job.

In relating his personal journey as secretary, Gates draws us into the innermost sanctums of government and military power during the height of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, illuminating iconic figures, vital negotiations, and critical situations in revealing, intimate detail. Offering unvarnished appraisals of Dick Cheney, Joe Biden, Hillary Clinton, and Presidents Bush and Obama among other key players, Gates exposes the full spectrum of behind-closed-doors politicking within both the Bush and Obama administrations.

He discusses the great controversies of his tenure—surges in both Iraq and Afghanistan, how to deal with Iran and Syria, “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell,” Guantánamo Bay, WikiLeaks—as they played out behind the television cameras. He brings to life the Situation Room during the Bin Laden raid. And, searingly, he shows how congressional debate and action or inaction on everything from equipment budgeting to troop withdrawals was often motivated, to his increasing despair and anger, more by party politics and media impact than by members’ desires to protect our soldiers and ensure their success.

However embroiled he became in the trials of Washington, Gates makes clear that his heart was always in the most important theater of his tenure as secretary: the front lines. We journey with him to both war zones as he meets with active-duty troops and their commanders, awed by their courage, and also witness him greet coffin after flag-draped coffin returned to U.S. soil, heartbreakingly aware that he signed every deployment order. In frank and poignant vignettes, Gates conveys the human cost of war, and his admiration for those brave enough to undertake it when necessary.

Duty tells a powerful and deeply personal story that allows us an unprecedented look at two administrations and the wars that have defined them.

#### 作者介绍:

Robert M. Gates served as secretary of defense from 2006 to 2011. He also served as an officer in the United States Air Force and worked for the Central Intelligence Agency before being appointed director of the agency by President George H. W. Bush. He was a member of the National Security Council staff in four administrations and served eight presidents of both political parties. Additionally, Gates has a continuing distinguished record in the private sector and in academia, including currently serving as chancellor of the College of William and Mary. He holds a Ph.D. in Russian and

Soviet history from Georgetown University.

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## 标签

政治

回忆录

Robert\_Gates

传记

军事

近历史

英文原版

美国政体

## 评论

盖茨同志是个明白人.....国防与情报部门一定得找这样真正的实用主义者.....

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你能指望的最好的国防部长也就这样了

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新年读过的第一本书，真 不容易啊。

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power was a Pulitzer Prize -winning author, an expert on genocide and repression, and a strong advocate of the "responsibility to protect." Obama: I am giving an order  
Mccrystal: who is biden? bite me

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我只记得歼20打脸

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看了一章。至少很谦虚。慢慢看。

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## 书评

盖茨为八位总统提供过服务，是名副其实的八朝元老。其实明眼人不难看出，盖茨与布什家族的密切联系，加上其多年的国家安全领域的经验。因此，其被提名为国防部长也不是太出乎意料。  
五角大楼管理着300万名文职人员和军方雇员。五角大楼的决策制定就像古罗马的竞技场，角斗士在...

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罗伯特·盖茨政治生涯40多年，辅佐过6位总统，奥巴马内阁中唯一从布什政府留任的官员，他有着怎样的传奇。《责任：美国前国防部部长罗伯特·盖茨回忆录》带来的不仅是盖茨对自己政治生涯的回顾，而是对发动伊拉克战争、阿富汗战争的解释。同时又在书中看到了这位国防部长对...

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罗伯特·盖茨，这个统帅过两场大战，辅佐过八位总统的国防部部长，他的从政生涯必定是浓墨重彩的，恢弘磅礴的。带着浓烈的好奇心，看书名，就欲读之而后快。厚重的身份，夺目的符号，繁杂的政务，重大的国事……其中种种，又何止一个DUTY能概之。从“责任的召...

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这本《责任：美国前国防部部长罗伯特·盖茨回忆录》很厚，大32开，632页，字数近60万字。拿到手后，立即看了起来，并读了进去，而后发觉自己喜欢上了这本书。喜欢这本书的理由之一：揭秘性。这本书曝光了当权执政者众多不欲人知的绝密隐情，披露了众多热点事件背后的隐情， ...

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美国的政治家喜欢撰写回忆录，这似乎是一个常态，当然这对于我们研究美国的政治是非常有帮助的。然而对于这些回忆录的客观性上，我认为必须要结合政治理论等专业知识来加以分析和辨别。美国前国防部长盖茨在这本大部头的《责任》虽然一再声称自己更多的是关注军队、国防、军人...

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我是一个比较喜欢看《纸牌屋》和《女国务卿》这样类型美剧的人，一直都有这种英雄主义情怀，当然，并不是说每一个位居高位的人就一定是英雄，只是觉得在这样一个环境工作与生活的热，他们的思维与处理事情的角度到底是怎样的。对于本书作者，在之前我并不知道他的名字。但是伊...

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