

Women Hold Up Half the Sky: Selected Speeches of Nicola Sturgeon

Robert Davidson, Editor

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Women Hold Up Half the Sky gathers forty stirring speeches from Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister of Scotland.

Arranged chronologically beginning in November of 2014, when Sturgeon took office, until February of 2020, when Scotland left the EU against its will, the speeches cover turbulent times. Still, Sturgeon's messages brim with grace, hope, and resolve. Their topics include the health of Scotland, as well as broad concerns like equality, education, and the environment. They are moving in expressing concern for refugees: "I am not suggesting that solutions are easy ... but that is no excuse for not doing everything we can." Concise introductions precede each speech to establish their time frames and significance.

Throughout, Sturgeon shows that freedom and independence should be promoted for the good of all people. And gender equity is at the heart of the book—and it's a message that Sturgeon lives out, as the first woman to hold her position.

While Sturgeon is a household name in Scotland, this book gifts her voice to a wider audience. Her messages and concerns may be Scottish through and through, but her progressive, caring, and committed perspective stands to resonate the world over.

Women Hold Up Half the Sky collects addresses given by Nicola Sturgeon, a passionate, loyal Scottish leader with an international vision.

MELISSA WUSKE (July / August 2021)

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