

Arts & Entertainment

Yale Professor Discusses Best-Selling Book 'On Tyranny'

Timothy Snyder's path to the best-seller lists began with a viral post-election Facebook post

By Hillel Italie
AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Timothy Snyder would have preferred a different path to the best-seller lists.

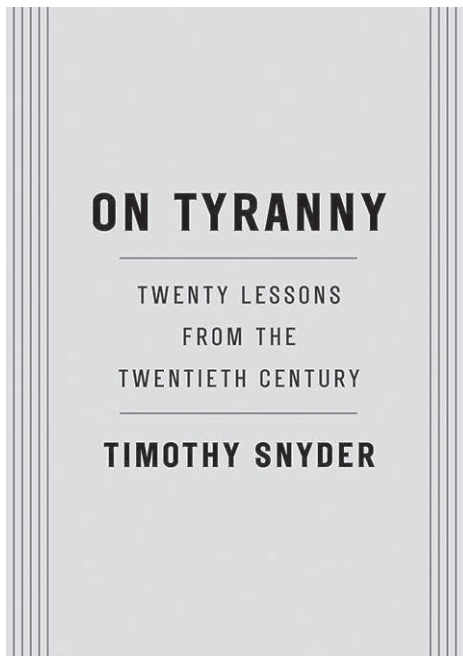
The Yale University professor and scholar of European history, whose books include "Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin," was so alarmed by the election of Donald Trump last fall that soon after he posted a list on Facebook of "20 Lessons from the 20th Century on How to Survive in Trump's America." His advice ranged from "Be kind to our language" to "Believe in truth" to "Do not obey in advance."

The list went viral and the Penguin Random House imprint Tim Duggan Books released an expanded, pocket-sized edition of Snyder's warnings that quickly reached high on Amazon.com's best-seller list. With more than 100,000 copies in print, "On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century" has become a guide for many worried about democracy under Trump's administration, a non-fiction counterpart to such dystopian best-sellers as "1984" and "The Handmaid's Tale."

During a recent interview with The Associated Press, Snyder spoke of why he posted the initial list, what concerns him now and what he'd like to see happen.

On His Initial Facebook Posting

"What I thought I should try to do as



quickly as possible, and economically as possible, concisely as possible, was pass on what I think I understand about regime change, in the negative sense, from democracy to authoritarianism. And (to pass on) what I think I've learned from people who are smarter than me and who have experienced more than me, in Europe in the 20th century, about what that looks like and how it should be resisted.

"And my sense, which has been confirmed in the weeks and months that followed, is that many Americans understand something strange has happened, but don't quite know where to

turn for guidance about what to do."

On The Strength Of American Democracy

"How long has America really been a democracy, in the sense of people being allowed to vote? I would say, circa 1965, Civil Rights Act? If not all of your citizens can vote you're not really a democracy. So were talking about half a century, tops. In addition to that, we're not a democracy now, in the very important sense that there are voter suppression laws, there is an electoral college,

know what the other side's billionaires are."

On What He'd Like To See Change

"The things that happen here now, that so alarm us or surprise us, have generally happened in some form in some other country in the not too distant past. But we've shut ourselves out from that. We've made ourselves much more provincial than we used to be. I would think a thoughtful government, rather than attacking the press as is the case now, would incentivize young

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which means people's votes don't count the same as other people's votes. There is a gerrymandered system at the level of congressional districts, so that again means people's votes don't count the same as other people's votes.

"And we have an absurd amount of money in politics, which creates a situation in which someone like Mr. Trump can say, 'Sure I'm a billionaire, but at least I'm your billionaire. You don't

people to go into careers in journalism. A thoughtful government would find ways to support institutions of the press which actually report abroad. This may seem like a minor thing, but really it's not. Rather than thinking about the world, we just stare into the mirror 24 hours a day. And not surprisingly we don't learn anything from that."

Bring Brunch Home for Mother's Day

There's no denying that brunch is a popular favorite, but you don't have to leave the comfort of your own home to enjoy a delicious spread with family and friends. Try one of these new recipes.

Cinnamon French Toast Sausage Roll-Ups

- 12 Smithfield Fresh Sausage Links
- 2 eggs
- 2/3 cup milk
- 3 tablespoons almond liquor (optional)
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 6 slices whole-wheat bread, crust removed and cut in half
- 3 tablespoons butter

Cook sausage according to package directions; keep warm.

Beat together eggs, milk, almond liquor and cinnamon. Dip one bread slice half in egg mixture and wrap around one sausage link. Press bread edges together where they overlap to keep from unrolling. Repeat with remaining bread and sausage links.

Heat large skillet over medium heat; add butter and let melt. Place French toast-wrapped sausages in skillet, seam-side down. Cook until browned on all sides, about 10 minutes total.

Cheesy Bacon Jalapeno Corn Muffins

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 1 package (16 ounces) Smithfield Hometown Original Bacon
- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup yellow cornmeal
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 2 eggs
- 6 tablespoons butter, melted



Cinnamon French Toast Sausage Roll-Ups

- 1/3 cup honey
- 3/4 cup milk or buttermilk
- 1 can corn kernels, drained
- 2 medium jalapeno peppers, seeded and diced
- 1 medium jalapeno pepper, thinly sliced

Heat oven to 375 F.

Line rimmed baking pan with foil and set lightly sprayed baking rack in pan. Cut bacon crosswise into thirds and lay out bacon strips on rack, being careful not to overlap slices. Bake 10-12 minutes, or until bacon has just begun to crisp. Remove from oven and drain on paper towels. Increase oven temperature to 400 F.

In large bowl, stir together flour, cornmeal, baking powder, salt and cheese until well mixed.

In small bowl, whisk eggs until frothy and stir in melted butter, honey and milk. Add milk mixture to dry ingredients and stir until combined. Fold in corn and diced jalapeno and reserve.

Lightly spray or butter 12-cup muffin tin and line each cup with two slices of bacon. Evenly divide muffin batter into cups, filling about three-fourths full and top with remaining bacon and sliced jalapeno. Bake muffins 20 minutes, or until golden brown, using toothpick to test doneness. Let cool briefly, remove muffins from tin and serve while still warm.

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A family wage, and the benefits that go with it, not only strengthens families, but also **allows our communities to become stronger**, more cohesive, and more responsive to their citizens' needs.

Our family wage agenda reflects our commitment to people working in the building trades, and to workers everywhere. In this small way, we are doing our part to **help people achieve the American Dream**. This dream that workers can hold dear regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, creed, or religious beliefs.

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