



The Secret Lives of Citizens: Pursuing the Promise of American Life

Thomas Geoghegan

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In this witty combination of memoir and observation, Thomas Geoghegan addresses the widespread cynicism about our government and explores what it means to be a "national" civil servant and a "local" citizen.

"This is unlike any public-policy book I've ever read: part *Catcher in the Rye*, part *The Road to Wigan Pier*, part *The Federalist Papers*, it is mesmerizing, rueful, painfully honest, and never, ever dull."—Nicholas Lemann, author of *The Big Test*

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"[Geoghegan] has written a book that is not only compelling to read but that provokes us to seriously reflect on the choices we make and how we spend our time." —Jonathan Coleman, *Washington Post Book World*

"Geoghegan's language is playful. . . . Personal reminiscence mixing with historical anecdote, dipping into complex themes . . . shifting from wistful nostalgia to dark comedy." —Robert B. Reich, *New York Times Book Review*

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