



Brothers Emanuel: A Memoir of an American Family

By Ezekiel J. Emanuel

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NATIONAL BESTSELLER

For years, people have been asking Ezekiel “Zeke” Emanuel, the brash, outspoken, and fiercely loyal eldest brother in the Emanuel clan, the same question: *What did your mom put in the cereal?* Middle brother Rahm is the mayor of Chicago, erstwhile White House chief of staff, and one of the most colorful figures in American politics. Youngest brother Ari is a Hollywood superagent, the real-life model for the character of Ari Gold on the hit series *Entourage*. And Zeke himself, whom the other brothers consider to be the smartest of them all, is one of the world’s leading bioethicists and oncologists, and a former special advisor for health policy in the Obama administration. How did one family of modest means produce three such high-achieving kids? Here, for the first time, Zeke provides the answer.

Set amid the tumult of Chicago in the 1960s and 1970s, *Brothers Emanuel* recounts the intertwined histories of these three rambunctious, hypercompetitive Jewish American boys, each with his own unique and compelling life story. But ultimately, this is the story of the entire Emanuel family: the tough, colorful Old World grandparents; a mischievous, loving father who immigrated to the United States with twenty-five dollars and who enthralled his boys with tales of his adventures in Israel’s war for independence; and a proud, politically engaged mother who took the boys with her to rallies and protests—including a civil rights march through the streets of Chicago led by Martin Luther King himself.

Even as the Emanuels distinguished themselves as individuals, the bond of brotherhood that tied them together was never broken. *Brothers Emanuel* is a wry, rollicking, and often poignant narrative of how one American family succeeded in raising three extraordinary children.

Praise for *Brothers Emanuel*

“An endearing, honest and gripping account of an American success story.”—*San Francisco Chronicle*

“A beautiful portrait of growing up Jewish in an urban environment during an era of profound social change.”—***Publishers Weekly***

“This delightful memoir is a deeply personal tale of one family, but it’s also about much larger things: America and tribal identity, love and rivalry, and the moral lessons to be learned as you grow up.”—**Walter Isaacson**

“Fascinating . . . a classic tale of an immigrant family.”—***Chicago Tribune***

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Editorial Review

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How did one family produce three such extraordinary sons? Ezekiel is a doctor, university professor, and special advisor on health policy for President Obama. Rahm is mayor of Chicago and a former White House chief of staff. Ari is a powerhouse Hollywood agent. Firstborn Ezekiel traces the genesis of the divergent achievements of the brothers Emanuel in this vivid, engaging, and thoughtfully analytical family portrait that illuminates the forceful personalities and “kinetic energy” of the Emanuels as well as 1960s Chicago. Their Israeli father, Ben, was consumed by his work as a community-minded doctor. Their mother, Marsha, a fearless activist, took her young sons to civil rights protests. The brothers fought constantly but always defended each other during street fights with anti-Semitic and racist bullies. Ezekiel’s loving, bemused, and incisive chronicle of Emanuel family dynamics and each brother’s struggles—his as an ambitious nerd; “fiercely intelligent” Rahm’s with sensitivity about his height; and natural-born entrepreneur Ari’s with learning disabilities—fizzes with surprising disclosures, alarming and hilarious incidents, and intriguing perspectives on the American dream, the nature-versus-nurture puzzle, and diverse definitions of success. -- Donna Seaman

Review

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From the Hardcover edition.

About the Author

Ezekiel “Zeke” Emanuel is the son of Benjamin Emanuel and Marsha Emanuel and the brother of Chicago mayor and former White House chief of staff Rahm Emanuel and Hollywood talent agent Ari Emanuel. A vice provost and university professor at the University of Pennsylvania and a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, Emanuel also served as the special advisor for health policy

to President Obama's director of the Office of Management and Budget. He is an op-ed columnist for *The New York Times*. Raised in Chicago, he now lives in Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia.

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