

By Sarah Kendzior

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"Trump was not an aberration, but a culmination. His rise and installation were made possible not only by illegal activity, but by the exploitation of American pain and injustice.

Stopping a recurrence means mending structural flaws." --

[@gaslitnation patreon.com/posts/why-does...](https://www.patreon.com/posts/why-does...)

"One year ago, mainstream political campaigns were demanding a higher min wage, affordable healthcare, student debt relief, and an end to dependency on gas station dictatorships like Saudi Arabia and Russia. Then covid-19 came..." --

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"Covid-19 came, and the attempted coup came, and the violence came. It came over and over again, in waves of disease, in waves of desperation, in waves of deception that exhausted this country's capacity to fight for itself." --

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"People still are fighting back. But they are also settling for scraps, because scraps are what they are being offered. And some representatives who swore to stand by the American people are settling as well." -- [@gaslitnation patreon.com/posts/why-does...](https://www.patreon.com/posts/why-does...)

"Not a single Republican voted for the covid relief stimulus plan – not because they thought it didn't help people enough, but because they thought this long-delayed, stripped-down bailout provided too much." -- [@gaslitnation patreon.com/posts/why-does...](https://www.patreon.com/posts/why-does...)

"But some of this painful situation is due to the fact the Democrats know that many Americans will settle for scraps instead of settling the score. They will convince themselves that this is what they were promised even when it objectively is not." patreon.com/posts/why-does...

"They tell themselves that 'something is better than nothing'. They tell themselves this out of fear, because the alternative – that few officials have the American people's back – is too painful to contemplate after a year of profound grief and loss." patreon.com/posts/why-does...

"Keep your standards high, even if you do not think that they will be met. You are worth more than they tell you, and part of the struggle of the next few years is resisting the mentality and groupthink that tells you not to ask for what you deserve." patreon.com/posts/why-does...