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Nota di contenuto

Introduction -- America on the brink -- The mainstream/political class divide -- The divide: a data portrait -- The great divide and the populist upsurge -- Left populism: principles and resurgence -- Hopes dashed: Obama and the left -- Right-wing populism: principles and resurgence -- George W. Bush and the right-wing implosion -- Independent voters: angry, volatile, and growing -- The power of money -- The K Street effect: how lobbyists have saturated public policy -- Redistricting, race, and the political class -- Conclusion: reform or fail.

Sommario/riassunto

Just in time for the 2012 election, Douglas E. Schoen, one of America's preeminent political pundits, analyzes the growing chasm between the political class-politicians, lobbyists, fundraisers, consultants-and the American Mainstream, frustrated with government's inability to address the major issues affecting their lives. This gap has given rise to populist movements on the right and the left and driven our two-party system to the brink of possible collapse-in ways that have never been fully discussed or articulated.