



You Have Not Yet Been Defeated

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Alaa Abd el-Fatta

You Have Not Yet Been Defeated

Alaa Abd el-Fattah is arguably the most high-profile political prisoner in Egypt, if not the Arab world, rising to international prominence during the revolution of 2011. A fiercely independent thinker who fuses politics and technology in powerful prose, an activist whose ideas represent a global generation which has only known struggle against a failing system, a public intellectual with the rare courage to offer personal, painful honesty, Alaa's written voice came to symbolize much of what was fresh, inspiring and revolutionary about the uprisings that have defined the last decade. Collected here for the first time in English are a selection of his essays, social media posts and interviews from 2011 until the present. He has spent the majority of those years in prison, where many of these pieces were written. Together, they present not only a unique account from the frontline of a decade of global upheaval, but a catalogue of ideas about other futures those upheavals could yet reveal. From theories on technology and history to profound reflections on the meaning of prison, *You Have Not Yet Been Defeated* is a book about the importance of ideas, whatever their cost.

Read more: <https://fitzcarraldoeditions.com/books/you-have-not-yet-been-defeated-selected-works-2011-2021/>

'Don't read this book to be comforted. Read it to be challenged, terrified, enlightened, moved, and amazed.'

Kamila Shamsie, author of *Home Fire*

'Alaa is the bravest, most critical, most engaged citizen of us all. At a time when Egypt has been turned into a large prison, Alaa has managed to cling to his humanity and be the freest Egyptian.'

Khaled Fahmy, author of *All The Pasha's Men*

'Alaa is in prison not because he committed a crime, not because he said too much, but because his very existence poses a threat to the state. Those who are bold, those who do not relent, will always threaten the terrified and ultimately weak state which must, to survive, squash its opponents like flies. But Alaa will not allow himself to be crushed like that, I know.'

Jillian C. York, director of International Freedom of Expression at the Electronic Frontier Foundation

*"Fix your own democracy," Abd el-Fattah encourages us, from his cell; Egypt's rulers attempt to isolate, fragment and conceal resistance because it needs a global ecosystem to flourish. What can any one person do with a legacy of pain, struggle and courage? There are no easy solutions here, but *You Have Not Yet Been Defeated* is a heartbreaking, hopeful answer.'*

Rachel Aspden, Guardian

Alaa Abd el-Fatta

Alaa Abd el-Fattah is an Egyptian writer, technologist and political activist. He has been prosecuted or arrested by every Egyptian regime to rule in his lifetime and has been held in prison for all but a few months since the coup d'état of 2013. Collected here by his family and friends, for the first time in English, are a selection of his speeches, interviews, social media posts and essays since the outbreak of revolution in January 2011 – many written from inside prison.