In The President and Immigration Law, Adam B. Cox and Cristina M. Rodríguez chronicle the untold story of how, over the course of two centuries, the president became our immigration policymaker-in-chief. Diving deep into the history of American immigration policy—from founding-era disputes over deporting sympathizers with France to contemporary debates about asylum-seekers at the Southern border—they show how migration crises, real or imagined, have empowered presidents. Far more importantly, they also uncover how the Executive’s ordinary power to decide when to enforce the law, and against whom, has become an extraordinarily powerful vehicle for making immigration policy.

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