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## THE BEST CANDIDATE

The way American citizens elect a president in November is enshrined in the Constitution and has remained unchanged for two hundred years. By contrast, the rules by which American political parties nominate their presidential candidates have evolved dramatically over this time. In recent years, these byzantine rules have allowed a number of unexpected candidates to win a party's presidential nomination. In *The Best Candidate*, a roster of leading election law scholars from across the political spectrum—true-blue Democrats, die-hard Republicans, and everyone in between—illuminate the law behind the modern presidential nomination process and offer ideas for how it can be improved. This book offers a blueprint for how American voters and their parties could nominate the best candidate for the presidency, and it should be read by anyone who cares about the occupant of the Oval Office.

Eugene D. Mazo is Visiting Associate Professor of Law at Rutgers University and a nationally recognized scholar of election law. He is the co-editor of several books, including *Democracy by the People: Reforming Campaign Finance in America* (2018) and *Election Law Stories* (2016). He is the chair of the Section on Election Law at the Association of American Law Schools (AALS), where he also serves on the executive committee of the Section on Constitutional Law. A graduate of Columbia College, Professor Mazo received his master's degree from Harvard University, a doctorate in politics from Oxford University, and his J.D. from Stanford Law School.

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# The Best Candidate

PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION IN POLARIZED TIMES

Edited by

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In memory of  
Dr. Robert Clifton Parker  
of Morrisville, Vermont  
(1933–2020)

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