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The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Former United States Secretary of State
Democratic National Convention
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Remarks as Prepared for Delivery

Something's happening across our country. You can feel it. Something we've worked for and dreamed of for a long time.

First, let's salute President Biden, democracy's champion, at home and abroad. He brought dignity, decency, and competence back to the White House. And he showed what it means to be a true patriot. Thank you, Joe, for your lifetime of service and leadership.

Now we're writing a new chapter in America's story.

My mother, Dorothy, was born right here in Chicago before women had the right to vote. That changed 104 years ago yesterday. Tennessee became the final state to ratify the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. The state legislature was deadlocked until one lawmaker's mother—a widow who read three newspapers a day—sent a letter. No more delays, she told her son. Give us the vote.

Since that day, every generation has carried the torch forward.

In 1972, a fearless Black congresswoman named Shirley Chisholm ran for president. Shirley's determination let me and millions of others dream bigger. Not just because of who she was, but because of who she fought for: working parents, poor children, "the last, the least, and the lost."

In 1984, I brought my daughter to see Geraldine Ferraro, the first woman nominated for vice president. "If we can do this," Gerry said, "we can do anything!"

And then there was 2016. It was the honor of my life to accept our party's nomination for president. Nearly 66 million Americans voted for a future where there are no ceilings on our dreams.

Afterward, we refused to give up on America. Millions marched. Many ran for office. We kept our eyes on the future.

Well, my friends, the future is here.

I wish my mother could see us. She would say: "Keep going."

Shirley and Gerry would tell us: "Keep going."

Women fighting for reproductive health care are saying: "Keep going."

Families working to build better lives; parents stretching to afford child care; young people struggling to make rent; they're all asking us to *keep going*.

So with faith in each other and joy in our hearts, let's send Kamala Harris and Tim Walz to the White House.

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The story of my life and the history of our country is that progress *is* possible, but not guaranteed. We have to fight for it and never, ever give up.

There is always a choice. Do we push forward or pull back? Come together as “we the people” or split into “us versus them?”

That’s the choice we face in this election.

Kamala has the character, experience, and vision to lead us forward.

I know her heart and her integrity. We both got our start as young lawyers helping children who were abused or neglected. That kind of work changes you. Those kids stay with you. Kamala carries with her the hopes of every child she protected, every family she helped, and every community she served.

So as president, she will *always* have our backs. She will fight to lower costs for hard-working families. Open the doors wide for good-paying jobs. And, yes, she will restore abortion rights nationwide.

As a prosecutor, Kamala locked up murderers and drug traffickers. She will never rest in defense of our freedom and safety. Donald Trump fell asleep at his own trial. When he woke up, he’d made his own kind of history: the first person to run for president with 34 felony convictions.

As vice president, Kamala sat in the Situation Room and stood for America’s values. I know what it takes and I can tell you: As commander in chief, Kamala won’t disrespect veterans—she’ll revere our Medal of Honor recipients. She sure won’t send love letters to dictators. She will defend democracy and our Constitution. She will protect America from enemies foreign and domestic.

The Constitution says the president’s job is to “take care that the laws be faithfully executed.” Those are the words our founders used: “Take care.”

Just look at the candidates. Kamala cares about kids, families, and America. Donald only cares about himself.

On her first day in court, Kamala said five words that guide her still: “Kamala Harris, *for the people.*”

That’s something Donald Trump will never understand.

So it’s no surprise he is lying about Kamala’s record. He’s mocking her name and her laugh. Hmm, sounds familiar.

We have him on the run right now. But no matter what the polls say, we can’t let up. We can’t get driven down crazy conspiracy rabbit holes. We have to fight for the truth. We have to fight for Kamala as she fights for us.

Because you know what? It still takes a village. To raise a family, heal a country, win a campaign. America needs every one of us—our energy, our talents, our dreams.

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We're not just electing a president. We're lifting our nation. We're opening the promise of America wide enough for all.

Together, we've put a lot of cracks in the highest, hardest glass ceiling.

Tonight, so close to breaking through once and for all, I want to tell you what I see through all those cracks—and why it matters for each and every one of us.

What do I see?

I see freedom.

The freedom to make our own decisions about our health, our lives, our loves, our families.

The freedom to work with dignity and prosper. To worship as we choose or not. To speak our minds freely and honestly.

I see freedom from fear and intimidation. From violence and injustice. From chaos and corruption.

I see the freedom to look our children in the eye and say: In America, you can go as far as your hard work and talents will take you. And mean it.

And you know what?

On the other side of that glass ceiling is Kamala Harris taking the oath of office as our 47th President of the United States.

When a barrier falls for one of us, it clears the way for all of us.

So, for the next 78 days, we need to work harder than ever. We need to beat back the dangers Trump and his allies pose to the rule of law and our way of life. Don't get distracted or complacent.

Talk to your friends and neighbors. Volunteer. Be proud champions for the truth and for this country we love.

I want my grandchildren and their grandchildren to know I was here. That we were here. And that we were with Kamala every step of the way.

This is our time. This is when we stand up. This is when we break through.

The future is here. It's in our grasp. Let's go win it.

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