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5 pieces worth reading

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The Democratic Senate majority hinges on Catherine Cortez Masto

Christian Paz profiles incumbent Democratic Senator Catherine Cortez Masto's reelection campaign in Nevada against the Donald Trump-endorsed former state Attorney General, Adam Laxalt, and its implications for which of the nation's two major political parties will likely gain control of the Senate. Should Senator Masto not prevail, Paz contends, Congress would lose its only Hispanic woman senator and Nevada's voters will have elevated an individual who worked hard to discredit the 2020 presidential election as "stolen," and who continues to proselytize actively for that lie.

Paz, C. (2022, October 14). "The Democratic Senate majority hinges on Catherine Cortez Masto." *Vox*. Retrieved from <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/23402652/catherine-cortez-masto-nevada-senate>

The U.S. thinks 'it can't happen here.' It already has.

Jamelle Bouie argues that throughout much of this country's history, U.S. democratic institutions have existed alongside forms of exclusion, domination, and authoritarianism, including Jim Crow and active denial or suppression of the voting rights of a long list of minorities. Since authoritarianism has been so enduring a feature of the nation's experience without, ultimately, controlling it, many Americans find it difficult to believe that democracy could be in serious danger, as the November midterm election approaches. Bouie cautions that nothing could be further from the truth.

Bouie, J. (2022, October 18). "The U.S. thinks 'it can't happen here.' It already has." *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/18/opinion/democracy-america-authoritarianism-midterms.html>

The fall of Liz Cheney and the rise of Marjorie Taylor Greene

Michelle Goldberg contends that the Republican Party has moved away from traditional Republicans, including Liz Cheney (R-WY), and toward election deniers, such as Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA), especially in the wake of the January 6, 2021, insurrection at the U.S.

Ut Prosim (That I may Serve)

Capitol. If the Republican Party gains control of the House, Goldberg argues that Greene and others similar to her will gain still more prominent and powerful institutional roles, paving the way for increased GOP attacks on the rule of law, free elections, and other democratic norms.

Goldberg, M. (2022, October 17). *The fall of Liz Cheney and the rise of Marjorie Taylor Greene*. The New York Times. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/17/opinion/cheney-taylor-greene-jan-6.html>

Democrats' failure to make 2022 about the threat to democracy

Aaron Blake argues that Democrats have not successfully made democracy a significant issue of their midterm campaign, despite the prominence of the United States House Select Committee on the January 6 Attack hearings and findings and the fact that the majority of House Republicans and candidates continue to support former president Donald Trump's baseless claims that the 2020 election was stolen. Although a significant share of Americans views him individually as a threat, Blake contends that Democrats have been unable to persuade voters overall that Trump is now the Republican Party.

Blake, A. (2022, October 18). "Democrats' failure to make 2022 about the threat to democracy." *The Washington Post*. Retrieved from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/10/18/democrats-2022-threat-democracy-poll/>

'Some things never leave you': Christian Livermore on poverty's indelible marks

Christian Livermore discusses the ways that growing up in poverty have shaped her sense of self and possibility. She also chronicles why and how she came to give up on the often-vaunted promise of America and move to Europe.

Livermore, C. (2022, October 7). "'Some things never leave you': Christian Livermore on Poverty's indelible marks." *Longreads*. Retrieved from https://longreads.com/2022/10/11/christian-livermore-povertys-indelible-marks/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=pocket_hits&utm_campaign=POCKET_HITS-EN-DAILY-RECS-2022_10_16&sponsored=0&position=4&scheduled_corpus_item_id=0a8a8e73-faf6-4f1b-b3f1-c47f7a268fda%3Fsponsored

Barack Obama talks Trumpism, Advice for Democrats, Ukraine + Russia, and the Supreme Court (Video)

Former President Barack Obama joins four former staffers, Jon Favreau, Jon Lovett, Dan Pfeiffer, and Tommy Vietor, to discuss the upcoming midterm election, the danger of focusing too much on the activities and rhetoric of former President Trump, and how he envisions his post-presidency role and responsibility.

Pod Save America. (2022, October 15). Barack Obama talks Trumpism, Advice for Democrats, Ukraine + Russia, and the Supreme Court (Video). YouTube.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_IOpjrd760