



The 2024 Switcheroo

April 3, 2025

The Summer of 2024 was a political maelstrom. It included a near-miss assassination attempt and a withdrawal of a sitting president of the United States from his re-election campaign, almost at the last possible moment.

We still do not know much about Trump's would-be assassin on that roof in Butler, Pennsylvania. Nor does there seem much media interest in that still mysterious criminal episode. But we are learning more about Joe Biden's stepping down from the campaign, and Kamala Harris's taking the reins of the Democratic ticket.

Most recently, from a insider-exposé just out by Jonathan Allen and Amie Parnes, *Fight: Inside the Wildest Battle for*

the White House (April 1, 2025), we learn that Barack Obama, former president and key Democratic Party insider, not only [pressured Biden](#) to step down (along with Nancy Pelosi), but he also [opposed](#) Kamala Harris's hasty top-of-the-ticket switcheroo. Strongly. For five days. Then he gave his endorsement.*

It's widely reported that the Bidens dislike Kamala Harris. It's also well known that Obama is not exactly Joe Biden's biggest fan—the Obama/Biden pairing was political, making the match perhaps the most fraught since Kennedy/LBJ.

We [learn from co-author Jonathan Allen](#) that Obama refused to endorse Ms. Harris on that infamous first day, after Biden's endorsement,* and that Obama was pitching for an open convention.

Obama's political instincts are unmatched within the Democratic Party. That his advice was resisted says a lot about where the party was headed.

And where it's at now.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.

* If you, like me, are looking for why Biden, so soon after stepping down, publicly endorsed Kamala Harris, the [sample](#) on Amazon won't tell you. But Ms. Harris entreated Biden immediately upon his resignation: "You need to endorse me," she said, [according](#) to co-author Amie Parnes. Pressure was applied.