

Twitter Thread by Ali Velshi



Ali Velshi

@AliVelshi



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I have watched every presidential inauguration that I can remember, since I was a little boy, and long before I ever imagined I would live in America. But I had never watched one the way I watched the inauguration of Joe Biden. #velshi

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I'd never considered the details leading up to an inauguration. I watched this one like a nervous parent, making sure everything went as planned. #velshi

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Thanks to the last four years, everything is different, now. Our demons are on full display, our Union is certifiably imperfect. Our nation is divided. #velshi

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After a year that takes first place in our history for death, destruction, fear and injustice, normalcy is struggling to regain its place. One thing with which we will struggle in this new day for America is the death of shame. #velshi

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In addition to the other norms the former president destroyed, he turned lying - deliberate, casual and often with the force of law - into an art form and, with that, contributed to the death of shame. #velshi

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I've been a business journalist for most of my career. When I'd interview a CEO and they'd tell me something that wasn't true, and I'd have the evidence that it wasn't true, it would make for an awkward moment. #velshi

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The CEOs tried to explain it away. Their people would offer clarifications and maybe, there'd be a statement of clarification. Maybe even an apology. #velshi

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If the lie - or any kind of wrongdoing pointed out by the press, was significant, someone might resign, a red letter of sorts on their chest. A mark of shame. #velshi

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For some people - some liars – there's no shame now. One reason I haven't had Trump officials or allies on [@VelshiMSNBC](#) for the last several months is that confronting them with the truth stopped mattering. When caught lying or distorting the facts, they lied more. #velshi

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To wear a red letter - TWO red letters, in the former president's case - both capitals for impeachment. It means little to him; there is no contrition. #velshi

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He explains it away as partisan or calls it a hoax or a witch hunt. A source of shame once again somehow morphed into to a badge of honor. The death of shame - is the real catastrophe. #velshi

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If we as humans do not feel shame in doing something wrong, or in getting caught doing something wrong, what guardrails exist? #velshi

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When the powerful can't be embarrassed by the bad choices they make, people suffer, democracy erodes, institutions crumble & lies proliferate. This time, people died. If we allow what we've witnessed the past 4 years to go on then shame on us all. #velshi