

I spent most of the DNC convention week, way too late most nights, listening to nearly every speech. The convention was billed as the way for Kamala Harris to introduce herself to the American people, since apparently, many Americans knew little about her. That wasn't the case with us. We had been awed by the Vice-President since her time as a U.S. Senator. We had admired her clear-eyed, sharp questioning in Senate hearings. It was obvious even then that she was not about to be fooled by anyone. She does not appear to have changed.

But, unexpected people and words made their influence felt during the convention. Doug Emhoff, the man who will become "First Laddie" if Kamala wins the Presidency, gave a speech that was both smart and heartfelt. Amanda Gorman read a poem that was the equal of her poetry at the inauguration of Joe Biden. Pink and her daughter and their group were so good that we had to check it out on youtube a few additional times. The Obamas were great, and Hillary Clinton as well. And, then there was Kamala's choice for her running mate—Tim Walz. The Governor of Minnesota, Walz showed that kind of commonsense, good-natured personality that can stand up for what is right when it is not easy and who can persuade others to do the same. And with that good humor comes also intelligence, ethics, and knowledge. Kamala herself topped off the last night with a speech that promised, above all, that she would work for all of the American people.

And, then there was Gus. The younger child of Gwen and Tim Walz, Gus, filled with pride and emotion, stood and gave his dad a smiling, tearful ovation: "That's my dad!" It was a wonderful display of how families should feel toward each other.

I wish everyone had listened or watched a little of the DNC convention. It was not bitter, nasty, or filled with long discourses of fictional villains. What a contrast to the present GOP.