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記者 Louise Watt

This was always going to be a historic election. The US was either going to vote in its first female president or its first convicted felon. Well, America looks like its chosen the felon. Donald Trump earlier here in West Palm Beach, Florida, claimed victory, thanking the American people for making him the 47th president.

這次大選注定將成為歷史性的選舉。美國要不是選出第一位女性總統，就是選出第一位曾被刑事定罪的總統。現在看來，美國選擇了後者。唐納川普稍早在佛羅里達州西棕櫚灘宣布勝選，感謝美國人民讓他成為第47任總統。

美國準總統 川普

Help our country heal and help our country heal. We have a country that needs help and it needs help very badly.

幫助我們國家痊癒，幫助我們國家療傷止痛。我們的國家需要幫助，而且急需幫助。

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So how did he get to this point in the game? Well, through pretty consistent, clear and simple messaging at his campaign rallies, he would often ask, do you feel better off than you were four years ago? And the simple truth is that for a lot of Americans, they don't. Trump's slogan was life will be better under him, but there'll be a lot of voters feeling uneasy tonight because let's not forget his opponent, Kamala Harris. She accused Trump of being a threat to democracy because he said several times that should he be elected, he would use the institutions of government to go after his political enemies. And before the election survey showed that a lot of Americans feared that there would be political violence after the election results, no matter who won, because the past few months have seen two very different visions for the country, and reconciling them will be extremely difficult during the next four years.

那麼，他是如何走到這一步的？他在競選集會上一再傳達清晰且簡單的訊息，不斷詢問大家：「你覺得自己比四年前過得更好了嗎？」而事實是，對於許多美國人來說，生活並沒有變得更好。川普的口號是「在他領導下，生活會更好」，但今晚會有很多選民感到不安。不要忘了，他的對手賀錦麗曾經指責川普是對民主的威脅，因為他多次表示，一旦當選，他將利用政府機構來對付他的政治敵人。選前的民調顯示，不少美國人擔心無論誰勝選，選後都可能出現政治暴力。因為過去幾個月來，兩方對國家未來的願景截然不同，要在接下來的四年中調合這些分歧將極其困難。