



Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand (Ayn Rand Library)

By Leonard Peikoff

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THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION—The definitive statement of Ayn Rand’s philosophy as interpreted by her best student and chosen heir.

This brilliantly conceived and organized book is Dr. Leonard Peikoff’s classic text on the abstract principles and practical applications of Objectivism, based on his lecture series “The Philosophy of Objectivism.” Ayn Rand said of these lectures: “Until or unless I write a comprehensive treatise on my philosophy, Dr. Peikoff’s course is the only *authorized* presentation of the entire theoretical structure of Objectivism—that is, the only one that I know of my knowledge to be fully accurate.”

In *Objectivism*, Peikoff covers every philosophic topic that Rand regarded as important—from certainty to money, from logic to art, from measurement to sex. Drawn from Rand’s published works as well as in-depth conversations between her and Peikoff, these chapters illuminate Objectivism—and its creator—with startling clarity. With *Objectivism*, the millions of readers who have been transformed by *Atlas Shrugged* and *The Fountainhead* will discover the full philosophical system underlying Ayn Rand’s work.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Peikoff, a leading scholar and advocate of Rand's work, offers a lengthy study of her philosophical views.

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From Library Journal

Peikoff, Rand's heir and authorized evangelist, tries to present the definitive apologetic for her individualist gospel. Libraries could certainly use a book explaining a writer whose works still sell half a million copies a year. But Rand's success is rooted in the unsubtle but dramatic *Fountainhead* and *Atlas Shrugged*, not in tracts like *Capitalism, the Unknown Ideal*. And this book mostly summarizes those tracts. There are sophisticated defenses like those in Robert Nozick's *Anarchy, State, and Utopia* (LJ 1/15/75) for some Rand doctrines, but Peikoff, as official expositor, is bound to the received word. Odd claims like, "monopolies achieved under capitalism . . . depend on merit and do no harm" abound. In pursuit of Randian orthodoxy, he must denounce leftists, but he goes further and holds that "historically, from the Sherman Act to Herbert Hoover to the Bush Administration, it is the conservatives, not the leftists, who have always been the major destroyers of the United States."-- Leslie Armour, Univ. of Ottawa

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Review

"A revelation...Peikoff is an extraordinary communicator...He brings the most difficult intellectual ideas within the grasp of the general reader."—**Detroit Free Press**

Praise for Leonard Peikoff

"Offers a truly revolutionary idea...The book is clear, tight, disciplined, beautifully structured, and brilliantly reasoned. Its style is clear and hard as crystal—and as sparkling... As to my personal reaction, I can express it best by paraphrasing a line from *Atlas Shrugged*: 'It's so wonderful to see a great, new, crucial achievement which is not mine!'"—**Ayn Rand**

"Extraordinarily perceptive...frightening insights...Everyone concerned with the collectivist trend in today's world should read this book."—**Alan Greenspan**

"A fascinating weave of German history, philosophic determinism, and Objectivist polemic."—**Chicago Tribune**

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