

[FREE] We the Living

We the Living

Von Ayn Rand

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Von Ayn Rand : We the Living before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised We the Living:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Grandios. Ein Meisterwerk.Von Dr. Claus WunderlichKaum zu glauben, da Ayn Rand einen derartig literarisch

ausgereiften Roman im Alter von Mitte Zwanzig geschrieben hat. Ich habe jede Seite genossen. Spannend, berraschend und an vielen Punkten sicherlich kontrovers. Gerade deshalb auch eine Herausforderung, sich selbst allerhand Gedanken zu machen ber all das, was auch uns von offizieller Seite stndig so an Propaganda ins Gehirn gewaschen wird. Erschreckende Parallelen, die man unweigerlich zwischen den Entwicklungen der UDSSR der Zwanziger Jahre und der Gegenwart in unserem Land ziehen kann, lassen einen beim Lesen fters mal erschauern. Besonder positiv flit auf, da Ayn Rand in 'We the living' noch sehr frisch erzht und unterhaltsam schreibt. Ihre beiden spteren Werke 'The Fountainhead' und 'Atlas shrugged' sind zwar auch geniale Literatur, aber streckenweise etwas anstrengend, da beizeiten fast ein wenig berfrachtet. Das ist bei 'We the living' nicht der Fall, dennoch besitzt es die gleiche intellektuelle Brillanz. 10 von 12 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. I, simply, am not worthy of reviewing this work.. Von howieeI have read virtually all of Rand's works; studied them, in fact and written reviews on most of them (favorably, always). But this book, We The Living, by Ayn Rand, I suggest reading AFTER you have read one of her popular (very popular) fictional works such as Atlas Shrugged or The Fountainhead. My reason for this suggestion of time-ordering your selection of reading is this: Please read all of the reviews in this section and take them as fact (believe them, quite literally), then consider how different this work has been described as compared to Rand's popular fiction and also the fact that "We the Living" was rand's first attempt at making it big (in the sense of getting her message across, which she acomplished Quite well). You will see that she changed her format: We the living was described by Rand "as being the closest she had come to an auto biography." This is the most powerful, moving book that you will experience (period). If you know of another which forms an exception to my statement, please email me. But, THIS, her early life, in Soviet Communist Russia, a hellish (to say the least) existence is what motivated Rand to speak out, to write about philosophy... When you read The Fountainhead, you will have fun, no doubt, and that is why it sold... but we the living is for Lover's of existence, uncoerced existence, which brings me to my final point on this book: NOBODY can disagree with this book; note that no no one has, in the reviews above. In itself, the omission of negative reviews is amazing. If you read this book and are passionately moved (motivated) by it, then then you owe it to yourself to OBJECTIVELY (with an "open/active-mind,") pick up and study another of Rand's non-fictional works such as "the Virtue of Selfishness," or "Capitalism the Unknown Ideal," or "The New Left: the Return of the Primitive". Don't get me wrong: There are plenty of people who will disagree, on first reading her non-fiction (possibly her fiction too), but there are essentially NONE who disagree, upon reading "We the Living,". My point is: They are ALL the same! Only presented in different formats. You won't find anyone, today, who will even attempt to tell you that communist or socialist systems are better than capitalism. 1989, in Russia, was a clear demonstration, and stands as a refutation to any such suggestion. Rand was and is correct. Read her work. This one will bring tears to your eyes, enlightenment to your soul AND will, once and for all... if you have the discipline to think about it long enough, concretize (to use Rand's terminology) exactly why tax-and-spend-big-government is a threat to the best within us: INDIVIDUALITY. A quote from Rand "thinking is not a collective activity." Think about it, PLease. 5 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Kira Argounova - A Heroine For the Ages! Von P. Connors This was the first of Rand's novels to sell fairly well commercially. Initially it did well in Europe and less so in the USA. When the first printing was sold out in the USA, the plates were destroyed and it went out of print for close to 20 years before the combined success of THE FOUNTAINHEAD and ATLAS SHRUGGED cried out for its re-publication in the United States. There is much truth in other reviewers comments here that this book seems to be written so differently than Rand's later novels. I will not disagree with anyone on that. Along with ANTHEM and a play titled THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 16th, Rand used WTL as a laboratory to express her anti-totalitarian ideas in English and in novel form. It should be remembered that Rand came here as a penniless Russian immigrant. She initially lived with relatives in Chicago and then made her way to Los Angeles where she earned her way (and began to write). Rand herself said that this book was the closest she would ever come to writing an autobiography. Obviously, Kira is an idealized fictional symbol of all that Rand held to be virtuous and worth aspiring to. She conflicts good and evil and in the process, we see that even though Kira idolizes freedom (both political and economic), she cannot accept contradictions in the man she has chosen to love. This novel portrays the impact of the Bolshevik Revolution on the lives of three people. Three people who meant very little to the totalitarian Soviet state and the Communist Party but as individual Russians, living through that dark midnight that almost extinguished hope in the hearts of the Russian people, Kira, Leo and Andrei are as alive as any of the classic characters found elsewhere in important literature. Kira comes to the story as part of an affluent Russian family that loses everything after the Bolsheviks seize power during "kraznaya Oktobriana." After the Bolsheviks expropriate all of their property for the "good of the proletariat," their lives change dramatically. Kira, who wanted to be a builder loses her chance for continued education and position because she will not conform to the new "Soviet ideal." Eventually, she meets Leo Kovalensky, a Russian aristocrat who stands unbowed before the altar of Soviet justice. He refuses to recognize the hegemony of the new system over any aspect of his life. Kira, admiring this fierce individuality, falls for Leo and comes to stand by his side. She knows that she has met her "Viking god." Andrei Taganov is the ultimate instrument of the Soviet state. He wears a leather jacket and carries all the authority of the new dictatorship. In ages past, he would have worn the helmet of a Roman Centurion or the armor of a crusading knight.

But always, he would have been the symbol of some governmental oppression. He is a born secret policeman in a system that required men all too willing to torture and imprison their fellow men. As Rand writes about the early Soviet system, it is obvious that this novel could have been set in any system that denied individual freedom. Rand chose to write about Soviet Russia because it was what she knew. Similar stories could have come out of Fascist Italy or Nazi Germany. Rand chose Russia. This is a story of what happens to people when all freedom is lost. It is a marvelous tale of people who struggle valiantly against insurmountable odds to maintain their individuality, dignity and freedom. It is a moral allegory of just what happens to the human spirit when the individual is subjugated to the mind-numbing and degrading indignities imposed from above by second-handers who created nothing but only denied everything. This is one of the finest novels of its type that you will ever read. It is worth reading, especially if the reader has already read *THE FOUNTAINHEAD* and *ATLAS SHRUGGED* if for no other reason than to discover Rand's starting point. If you have not read any of Rand's other works then, this is a great place to start. *WTL* is where she began to formulate her ideas on the ultimate value of the individual and the worth of the reasoning human intellect. To be sure, this is an indictment on the danger to mankind everywhere on the depredations of any collective system. This is an unapologetic damnation of Communism as it was then and what it eventually became. Rand has no mercy and shows no compassion or willingness to understand why men and women would give up themselves to be part of a system that denies basic rights and degrades the individual. Read this book and you will come to understand why Communism was ultimately destined to fail. It failed because it collapsed under the weight of its own inherent internal contradictions. We are all the more fortunate that Rand saw all of this so clearly early on. We are even more fortunate that her predictions for the ultimate demise of Communist tyranny came true and that individual political and economic freedom have taken root throughout countries that once denied even the slightest scintilla of personal liberty. Read *WE THE LIVING* and discover one of the most original minds in the 20th Century.

KurzbeschreibungThe first literary work of one of the most influential philosophers and novelists of the twentieth century-available for the first time in trade paperback. Ayn Rand wrote of her first novel, *We the Living*, "It is as near to an autobiography as I will ever write. The plot is invented, the background is not...The specific events of Kira's life were not mine: her ideas, her convictions, her values, were and are." *We the Living* depicts the struggle of the individual against the state, and the impact of the Russian Revolution on three human beings who demand the right to live their own lives and pursue their own happiness. It tells of a young woman's passionate love, held like a fortress against the corrupting evil of a totalitarian state. This classic novel is not a story of politics, but of the men and women who have to struggle for existence behind the banners and slogans.**Kurzbeschreibung**The first literary work of one of the most influential philosophers and novelists of the twentieth century-available for the first time in trade paperback. Ayn Rand wrote of her first novel, *We the Living*, "It is as near to an autobiography as I will ever write. The plot is invented, the background is not...The specific events of Kira's life were not mine: her ideas, her convictions, her values, were and are." *We the Living* depicts the struggle of the individual against the state, and the impact of the Russian Revolution on three human beings who demand the right to live their own lives and pursue their own happiness. It tells of a young woman's passionate love, held like a fortress against the corrupting evil of a totalitarian state. This classic novel is not a story of politics, but of the men and women who have to struggle for existence behind the banners and slogans.**Synopsis**This is a philosophical book from the Russian-born novelist Ayn Rand, an author interested in the concept of "enlightened self-interest". It portrays the impact of the Russian Revolution on three human beings who demand the right to live their own lives and pursue their own happiness.