

Why Orwell Matters

By Christopher Hitchens

Donwload Read Online

Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens

In this widely acclaimed biographical essay, Christopher Hitchens assesses the life, the achievements, and the myth of the great political writer and participant George Orwell. In true emulative and contrarian style, Hitchens is both admiring and aggressive, sympathetic yet critical, taking true measure of his subject as hero and problem. Answering both the detractors and the false claimants, Hitchens tears down the façade of sainthood erected by the hagiographers and rebuts the critics point by point. He examines Orwell and his perspectives on fascism, empire, feminism, and Englishness, as well as his outlook on America, a country and culture towards which he exhibited much ambivalence. Whether thinking about empires or dictators, race or class, nationalism or popular culture, Orwell's moral outlook remains indispensable in a world that has undergone vast changes in the fifty years since his death. Combining the best of Hitchens's polemical punch and intellectual elegance in a tightly woven and subtle argument, this book addresses not only why Orwell matters today, but how he will continue to matter in a future, uncertain world.Christopher Hitchens, one of the most incisive minds of our own age, meets Orwell on the page in this provocative encounter of wit, contention and moral truth.

Download Why Orwell Matters ...pdf

Read Online Why Orwell Matters ...pdf

Why Orwell Matters

By Christopher Hitchens

Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens

In this widely acclaimed biographical essay, Christopher Hitchens assesses the life, the achievements, and the myth of the great political writer and participant George Orwell. In true emulative and contrarian style, Hitchens is both admiring and aggressive, sympathetic yet critical, taking true measure of his subject as hero and problem. Answering both the detractors and the false claimants, Hitchens tears down the façade of sainthood erected by the hagiographers and rebuts the critics point by point. He examines Orwell and his perspectives on fascism, empire, feminism, and Englishness, as well as his outlook on America, a country and culture towards which he exhibited much ambivalence. Whether thinking about empires or dictators, race or class, nationalism or popular culture, Orwell's moral outlook remains indispensable in a world that has undergone vast changes in the fifty years since his death. Combining the best of Hitchens's polemical punch and intellectual elegance in a tightly woven and subtle argument, this book addresses not only why Orwell matters today, but how he will continue to matter in a future, uncertain world.Christopher Hitchens, one of the most incisive minds of our own age, meets Orwell on the page in this provocative encounter of wit, contention and moral truth.

Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #62941 in Books
- Brand: Hitchens, Christopher
- Published on: 2003-09-11
- Released on: 2003-09-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .50" w x 5.25" l, .51 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 224 pages

Download Why Orwell Matters ...pdf

Read Online Why Orwell Matters ...pdf

Download and Read Free Online Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
Vanity Fair and Nation contributor Hitchens passionately defends a great writer from attacks by both right and left, though he also refutes those fans who proclaim his sainthood. George Orwell (1903-1950), a socialist who abhorred all forms of totalitarianism, was, as Hitchens points out, prescient about the "three great subjects of the twentieth century:" imperialism, fascism, and Stalinism. In all things, Orwell's feelings were every bit as visceral as intellectual, and Hitchens devotes some of his best writing to describing Orwell's first-hand experiences with empire in Burma. It was there that he learned to hate racism, bullying and exploitation of the lower classes. "Orwell can be read," notes Hitchens, "as one of the founders of... post-colonialism." Orwell's insights about fascism and Stalinism crystallized in Spain, while he was fighting in the Civil War. Hitchens offers an excellent analysis of the writer's women, both real (his wives) and fictional, to show that the feminist critique of Orwell (that he didn't like strong, brainy women) may be unfair, though Hitchens also points out what feminists have ignored: Orwell's "revulsion for birth control and abortion." Hitchens brilliantly marshals his deep knowledge of Orwell's work. Fans of Orwell will enjoy Hitchens's learned and convincing defense, while those unfamiliar with Orwell may perhaps be induced to return to the source. (Oct.) Forecast: Hitchens has made a splash with recent books (Letters to a Young Contrarian and The Trial of Henry Kissinger). Basic is banking on similar success with a 30,000 first printing.
Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal
Far from being an ordinary biography, this small volume is an in-depth investigation of the essential George Orwell-"the heart on fire and the brain on ice." Hitchens recognizes that Orwell was more than the author of 1984 and Animal Farm. He was a keen critic of Nazism and Stalinism and didn't soften his pictures of them to sell books. His analysis of the grave inequities of those two forms of government is sufficiently acute to apply to the early 21st century's political spectrum. While claiming that Orwell "requires extricating from a pile of saccharine tablets and moist hankies [as] an object of sickly veneration and sentimental over-praise," Hitchens, a columnist for Vanity Fair and the Nation, asserts that in contrast to his many contemporaries who wrote about the era's political issues (e.g., Louis MacNeice, Stephen Spender, and Cecil Day Lewis), "it [is] possible to reprint every single letter, book review and essay composed by Orwell without exposing him to any embarrassment"-a remarkable feat, indeed. The only problem with this study is that it assumes that the reader already knows that Orwell conscientiously overcame his early anti-intellectualism, his dislike of the "dark" people of the English Empire, and his squeamishness about homosexuality-all to become a great humanist. Thus, it is written for readers who have already done their homework. Recommended for large libraries with extensive political science holdings.
Charles C. Nash, Cottey Coll., Nevada, MO
Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Booklist
George Orwell is one of those rare writers who are both artistic and fluent in world events and politics. His shrewd, indelible novels are continually read and discussed all around the world, but Orwell, uncompromising and independent to the point of penury, didn't reach this pinnacle without adversity or controversy. Hitchens, an author and columnist for the *Nation* and *Vanity Fair*, whose combativeness and peppery eloquence are backed by wide-ranging erudition, reasserts Orwell's significance in this impassioned yet pinpoint assessment of the man, his writings, and their reception, which has been by turns sloppily negative or excessively positive. Hitchens dissects in fresh and insightful detail the "extraordinary salience" and ongoing relevance (hence the term *Orwellian*) of Orwell's complex subjects--imperialism, fascism,

Stalinism, nuclear weapons, environmentalism--and parses the prescience that inspired Orwell to invent the expression *cold war* and foresee many of the global conflicts we're currently experiencing. Moving neatly from political commentary to literary criticism and biography, Hitchens clarifies all that Orwell accomplished and, by extension, affirms literature's unique and essential powers. *Donna Seaman*
Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Nathan Herr:

Book is to be different for each grade. Book for children until finally adult are different content. To be sure that book is very important for us. The book Why Orwell Matters has been making you to know about other expertise and of course you can take more information. It doesn't matter what advantages for you. The reserve Why Orwell Matters is not only giving you far more new information but also for being your friend when you sense bored. You can spend your own spend time to read your publication. Try to make relationship while using book Why Orwell Matters. You never sense lose out for everything in case you read some books.

Robert Crawford:

Why Orwell Matters can be one of your basic books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to place every word into joy arrangement in writing Why Orwell Matters although doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource data that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information could drawn you into brand new stage of crucial thinking.

Anne Hahn:

Beside this kind of Why Orwell Matters in your phone, it may give you a way to get closer to the new knowledge or details. The information and the knowledge you can got here is fresh from your oven so don't end up being worry if you feel like an outdated people live in narrow community. It is good thing to have Why Orwell Matters because this book offers to you personally readable information. Do you occasionally have book but you do not get what it's facts concerning. Oh come on, that won't happen if you have this within your hand. The Enjoyable agreement here cannot be questionable, similar to treasuring beautiful island. Use you still want to miss that? Find this book along with read it from at this point!

Kenneth Lambert:

What is your hobby? Have you heard that question when you got pupils? We believe that that question was given by teacher with their students. Many kinds of hobby, Every individual has different hobby. And you also know that little person similar to reading or as examining become their hobby. You have to know that reading is very important along with book as to be the thing. Book is important thing to provide you

knowledge, except your own personal teacher or lecturer. You get good news or update concerning something by book. Many kinds of books that can you choose to use be your object. One of them is niagra Why Orwell Matters.

Download and Read Online Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens #NQVWKX6GHZM

Read Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens for online ebook

Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens books to read online.

Online Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens ebook PDF download

Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens Doc

Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens Mobipocket

Why Orwell Matters By Christopher Hitchens EPub