



The Journals of Ayn Rand

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Rarely has a writer and thinker of the stature of **Ayn Rand** afforded us access to her most intimate thoughts and feelings. From **Journals of Ayn Rand**, we gain an invaluable new understanding and appreciation of the woman, the artist, and the philosopher, and of the enduring legacy she has left us. Rand comes vibrantly to life as an untried screenwriter in Hollywood, creating stories that reflect her youthful vision of the world. We see her painful memories of communist Russia and her struggles to convey them in **We the Living**. Most fascinating is the intricate, step-by-step process through which she created the plots and characters of her two masterworks, **The Fountainhead** and **Atlas Shrugged**, and the years of painstaking research that imbued the novels with their powerful authenticity. Complete with reflections on her legendary screenplay concerning the making of the atomic bomb and tantalizing descriptions of projects cut short by her death, **Journals of Ayn Rand** illuminates the mind and heart of an extraordinary woman as no biography or memoir ever could. On these vivid pages, **Ayn Rand** lives.

The Journals of Ayn Rand Details

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Brynn says

Very interesting...picked this up for an essay I had to write on Anthem and ended up loving it and reading most of the essays. Shows lots of Rand's ideas about her philosophy of objectivism and such. Overall a nice book for any Rand fan.

Samantha Devin says

Como todo el trabajo de Rand este libro no tiene desperdicio. Es fantástico poder ver cómo estructuraba su escritura, cómo pensaba, como organizaba sus ideas. Es asombrosa su lucidez, su claridad mental. Un libro indispensable para los que quieran saber más de Rand, así como para quienes aman la literatura y están interesados en los procesos creativos.

Teri says

So far I'm just reading the *Atlas Shrugged* section, since that is the novel I've most recently finished. This book is a collection of her working notebooks for her novels. If you'd like to see how one author determined her themes and then hashed out her stories to fit them, this is a fun read.

Diane Baker says

This book revealed a few things, but not much more than a thin outline of AR's plans for a final novel, **To Lorne Dieterling** and a few extra characters for **Atlas Shrugged.** There were notes on epistemology, and another book (between **Fountainhead** and **AS**) which would have been nonfiction. Doubtless she used some of this for later non-fiction. It did show how her mind worked to plan her novels, and in a way, shows how limited was her focus. She apparently had no notes for **Anthem** or the editor chose not to include them.

Chris Michael St. Prince says

What a treat to read. Some stunning and refreshing passages.

Shane C says

the book is pretty much unique!!

R says

An insight into one of the most powerful writers involved with the blacklisting of Hollywood. Rand made baseless accusations against people she never met and attempts to explain her reasons in her journals and letters. Her continued power over the American economy and politics is tied to her objectivist philosophy, the cult-like following she created for herself, and the incredible power that she gained over our culture by acting to paralyze it. As a Soviet immigrant, novelist and Hollywood script writer, Rand's resume does not prepare one for the problematic view she had on the world or her vindictive nature. This book also includes some references to her testimony for the House Un-American Committee.

Teresa says

Writers Reference Book. This an awesome book for Ayn Rand fans and anyone aspiring to become a writer. It's a great reference guide with first hand notes of a great American writers.

Greta says

I am falling deeper and deeper into the rabbit hole....

David Glad says

Lot of amazing passages and nice clarity of thought for a woman who did not learn English no earlier than her early teens.

Perhaps one of the most wickedly brilliant lines was when she observed how, while capitalism encourages people to bring forth their best, socialism is a disease that encourages people to appear weak and needy.

Also offered a glimpse into the thought processes that went into her books. (Including some characters being eliminated as she ultimately felt some redundant.) Definitely one of those books that offers some daily insight if you were to only read a couple pages a day.

Amanda Bechtel says

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The creator's greatest tie to the world is the fact that he will not (ital) surrender the world to the parasites. He realizes that it is his proper function to shape the world to his wishes. And he struggles to do it no matter what obstacles the parasites put in his way. But by tolerating them or compromising by accepting their terms, he succeeds only in creating their (ital) world -- or in keeping it going.

?

Noel says

Thought behind fiction and philosophical writings.

Mark says

Tremendous insights! More raw and unvarnished thinking from Ayn Rand. Her journal entries present a personality that is consistent with her published work, but it's so interesting to see her raw and candid thoughts. I especially appreciate her notes on characters and ideas that she goes on to develop in her fiction (notably *Atlas Shrugged* and *The Fountainhead*).
