

# Ayn Rand Atlas Shrugged

Ayn Rand's Atlas ShruggedAtlas ShruggedSummary and AnalysisExploring Atlas ShruggedEssays on Ayn Rand's Atlas ShruggedCliffsNotes on Rand's Atlas ShruggedAyn Rand & Atlas ShruggedAtlas ShruggedAtlas ShruggedWho Is John Galt?Atlas Shrugged (Centennial Ed. )Atlas ShruggedAyn Rand's Atlas ShruggedAn Index to Ayn Rand's Atlas ShruggedAtlas Shrugged (Centennial Ed. HC)So Who Is John Galt, Anyway?Explore Atlas ShruggedAyn Rand & Atlas ShruggedAyn Rand & Atlas ShruggedQuicklet on Ayn Rand's Atlas Shrugged (CliffNotes-like Book Summary) Professor Edward W Younkins Ayn Rand Matt Patterson Edward W. Younkins Robert Mayhew Andrew Bernstein Charles River Editors, Ayn Rand Ayn Rand Timothy Curry Ayn Rand David Kelley Edward W. Younkins Ayn Rand Robert Tracinski Diana Hsieh Charles River Editors Charles River Editors Jason Stewart

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since its publication in 1957 atlas shrugged the philosophical and artistic climax of ayn rand's novels has never been out of print and has received enormous critical attention becoming one of the most influential books ever published impacting on a variety of disciplines including philosophy literature economics business and political science among others more than a great novel atlas shrugged is an abstract conceptual and symbolic work that expounds a radical philosophy presenting a view of man and man's relationship to existence and manifesting the essentials of an entire philosophical system metaphysics epistemology politics and ethics celebrating the fiftieth year of atlas shrugged's publication this companion is an exploration of this monumental work of literature contributions have been specially commissioned from a diversity of eminent scholars who admire and have been influenced by the book the included essays analyzing the novel's integrating elements of theme plot and characterization from many perspectives and from various levels of meaning

ayn rand's epochal novel first published in 1957 has been a bestseller for more than four decades as well as an intellectual landmark it is the story of a man who said that he

would stop the motor of the world and did was he a destroyer or the greatest of liberators why did he have to fight his battle not against his enemies but against those who needed him most and his hardest battle against the woman he loved what is the world's motor and the motive power of every man tremendous in its scope this novel presents an astounding panorama of human life from the productive genius who becomes a worthless playboy to the great steel industrialist who does not know that he is working for his own destruction to the philosopher who becomes a pirate to the woman who runs a transcontinental railroad to the lowest trackworker in her terminal tunnels peopled by larger than life heroes and villains charged with towering questions of good and evil atlas shrugged is ayn rand's masterpiece it is a philosophical revolution told in the form of an action thriller

this is a summary study guide of atlas shrugged atlas shrugged is a 1957 novel by ayn rand and is her fourth and final novel it was also her longest and the one she considered to be her magnum opus in the realm of fiction writing atlas shrugged includes elements of science fiction mystery and romance and it contains rand's most extensive statement of objectivism in any of her works of fiction the book depicts a dystopian united states in which private businesses suffer under increasingly burdensome laws and regulations railroad executive dagny taggart and her lover steel magnate hank rearden struggle against looters who want to exploit their productivity including dagny's brother and hank's wife as dagny and hank fight the looters efforts to control their business operations and confiscate their production they realize a mysterious figure called john galt is convincing other business leaders to abandon their companies and disappear while investigating a strange electric motor found in a ruined factory dagny finds a secret sheltered valley where galt and the missing businessmen have been hiding galt is leading a strike of productive individuals against the looters the strike escalates when galt announces his views in a radio address leading to a collapse of the government the novel ends with the strikers planning to build a new capitalist society based on galt's philosophy of reason and individualism the theme of atlas shrugged as rand described it is the role of man's mind in existence the book explores a number of philosophical themes from which rand would subsequently develop objectivism in doing so it expresses the advocacy of reason individualism and capitalism and depicts what rand saw to be the failures of governmental coercion

this book explores ayn rand's monumental work atlas shrugged which presents a revolutionary new philosophical system in the form of an inspiring novel edward w younkins explains how rand's masterpiece is one of the most influential books ever published impacting a variety of disciplines including philosophy literature economics business and political science among others exploring atlas shrugged analyzes the novel's integrating elements of theme plot and characterization from many perspectives and on many levels of meaning the chapters in this book are accessible and rewarding offering fresh insights to both new readers and to scholars who have studied rand's masterpiece over many years it is also a valuable resource for teachers and students who use atlas shrugged in their classes such a rich and complex novel warrants and rewards additional study and critical analysis the author explains how atlas shrugged expounds a radical philosophy presenting a view of man and man's relationship to existence and manifesting the essentials of an entire philosophical system of metaphysics epistemology politics and economics

while the fiction of novelist philosopher ayn rand is extremely popular and enduring little has been written on it so far this book consists of essays most of which are new by

top rand scholars on atlas shrugged her magnum opus the essays deal with historical literary and philosophical topics surpassing related writings in breadth and depth of analysis the historical essays cover the writing of atlas shrugged its publication history and its reception the literary essays cover analysis of the novel s plot theme and characterization comparisons with other works such as the novels of hugo dostoyevsky and joyce and the proper approach to adapting atlas shrugged to film the philosophical essays cover a vast range of topics including the place of galt s speech in the novel the role of the mind in human life and the evil of non objective law some of the essays make use of previously unpublished material from the ayn rand archives

the original cliffsnotes study guides offer expert commentary on major themes plots characters literary devices and historical background the latest generation of titles in this series also features glossaries and visual elements that complement the classic familiar format cliffsnotes on atlas shrugged is your guide to author ayn rand s masterpiece an impassioned defense of the freedom of man s mind she shows that without the independent mind our society would collapse into primitive savagery delve into the post world war ii historical context of atlas shrugged and the modern implications of its conclusions other features that help you study include character analyses of major players a character map that graphically illustrates the relationships among the characters critical essays a review section that tests your knowledge a resource center full of books articles films and internet sites classic literature or modern day treasure you ll understand it all with expert information and insight from cliffsnotes study guides

ayn rand 1905 1982 government help to business is just as disastrous as government persecution the only way a government can be of service to national prosperity is by keeping its hands off ayn rand ayn rand was born in st petersburg russia to jewish parents on february 2 1905 as alisa zinov yevna rosenbaum and she lived through the turbulence and transformation of early 20th century russia her first exposure to reading came after she taught herself how to read at age six and she decided at nine years old to become a writer after a chance encounter with the books of victor hugo the writer she admired most the seminal events in the young would be writer s life came just a few years later when she witnessed firsthand the bolshevik revolution and the ultimate communist victory as a teenager rand s experience with the maelstrom of this revolutionary zeal and cultural breakdown greatly contributed toward the formation of rand s philosophy of objectivism individualism and anti religious ideas during her last year of high school she was introduced to the history of the united states and immediately decided to make america her model of what an ideal society should look like rand came to the united states as a young woman for a visit in 1925 and as fate would have it she never returned to russia in middle age rand continued trying to write in some capacity as a profession but she had also formed her personal philosophy of integrating ethics metaphysics epistemology politics economics and sexuality into what came to be called objectivism or as she called it a philosophy for living on earth rand began writing atlas shrugged her enormous three part major novel each with ten chapters in 1946 nearly 10 years after it was begun she finished what ultimately became her greatest achievement and she poignantly dramatized her unique philosophy though atlas shrugged had been a popular title when ayn rand published it in 1957 it s quite possible that the only reference to it that many americans heard before 2009 came from the hit series mad men however this staple of conservative and libertarian reader took on new life as the new obama administration sought to use government resources to fix financial problems in 2009 with the global economy hemorrhaging jobs and western governments pouring hundreds of billions of dollars in taxpayer money to bail out

troubled financial firms and large companies frustrated people and political analysts turned to a book written over 50 years earlier as a guide out of the abyss conservative politicians like ron paul who named his son after rand and commentators like glenn beck and rush limbaugh publicly praised rand and her works and supreme court justice clarence thomas labeled atlas shrugged one of his favorite novels by january 2009 one article in the wall street journal was titled atlas shrugged from fiction to fact in 52 years over the last few years rand has become a household name and her works have seen their sales spike rand and her work are now some of the most influential and relevant works in america today ayn rand atlas shrugged chronicles the life ideology and writings of the most famous libertarian writer examining her work and her enduring legacy along with pictures of important people places and events you will learn about ayn rand and her magnum opus like you never have before in no time at all

the astounding story of a man who said that he would stop the motor of the world and did tremendous in scope breathtaking in its suspense atlas shrugged is unlike any other book you have ever read

the decisions of a few industrial leaders shake the roots of capitalism and reawaken man's awareness of himself as an heroic being

in recent press articles and among the general public there is a sense that ayn rand's monumental atlas shrugged is a prophetic work accurately predicting the great recession and the path on which america's economy and society are set but atlas shrugged is a difficult book to read many are daunted by its extreme length rand's prose style interminable speeches where the action stops cold the author's atheism and the sexuality of its characters rand references economists and philosophers such as smith mill marx nietzsche and aristotle without attribution as a result much of rand's message goes over the head of the average reader this makes it difficult for the reader to understand the main point of rand's book precisely what is it that happens when atlas shrugs and how does a society change over the course of that event is it merely fiction or is atlas shrugging now the purpose of this book is to simplify the reader's task in understanding what rand is saying and the philosophical and economic sources she mined with increased interest in rand's book on the part of book clubs reading circles and now a three part movie this book will aid casual and serious readers book clubs high school and college classes moviegoers and home schoolers to master rand's work there are 30 chapters each one matched to the 30 chapters rand utilized for atlas shrugged each chapter starts with a synopsis and detailed discussion of rand's source material and the points she wishes to make there may be one or more essays explaining arcane points of railroading american society of the fifties or historical characters thinly disguised by rand for the book rather than didactically draw open parallels to current events each chapter closes with discussion topics posed to the reader class or book club to encourage independent thought this book will be an outstanding aid to comprehending one of the most discussed books of this era

peopled by larger than life heroes and villains charged with towering questions of good and evil atlas shrugged is ayn rand's magnum opus a philosophical revolution told in the form of an action thriller nominated as one of america's best loved novels by pbs's the great american read who is john galt when he says that he will stop the motor of the world is he a destroyer or a liberator why does he have to fight his battles not against his enemies but against those who need him most why does he fight his hardest

battle against the woman he loves you will know the answer to these questions when you discover the reason behind the baffling events that play havoc with the lives of the amazing men and women in this book you will discover why a productive genius becomes a worthless playboy why a great steel industrialist is working for his own destruction why a composer gives up his career on the night of his triumph why a beautiful woman who runs a transcontinental railroad falls in love with the man she has sworn to kill atlas shrugged a modern classic and rand s most extensive statement of objectivism her groundbreaking philosophy offers the reader the spectacle of human greatness depicted with all the poetry and power of one of the twentieth century s leading artists

ayn rand s atlas shrugged is one of the great american novels of the twentieth century published in 1957 it continues to sell hundreds of thousands of copies per year it has inspired millions of readers with its themes of independence and achievement its call for freedom has helped create a vibrant movement to promote economic and personal liberty and it has finally been adapted as a film trilogy if you love the novel and want to reenter the world rand created to appreciate her literary craft to relive the drama to enjoy once again the company of the characters or to study the ideas this book is for you if you have seen the films and are reading the novel for the first time this book is for you too it contains expert analysis of the themes and philosophy the most complete list of characters and exclusive material on the films

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ayn rand s masterwork atlas shrugged is a rich and complex novel with an intricate plot in which dozens of moving parts mesh together and many minor themes are woven in amongst the novel s big philosophical issues this is a guide to the literary historical and philosophical significance of atlas shrugged offering deeper insights for those who are new to the novel as well as new observations for longtime fans find out for example the real life parallels to characters and events in atlas shrugged how the novel s plot seems to be opposite from that of ayn rand s previous bestseller the fountainhead what ayn rand has in common with the epic poets homer and hesiod how atlas shrugged is both a historical novel and futuristic work of science fiction how ayn rand was a philosopher in the tradition of the enlightenment why atlas shrugged is not a political novel why all an ayn rand hero really wants is love and the question posed in the title the key to the mysterious figure of john galt and the meaning of one of the most famous questions in literature who is john galt

do you want to better understand and appreciate the complex events characters and ideas of ayn rand s epic novel atlas shrugged explore atlas shrugged is an in depth course consisting of study questions podcasts and other resources by philosopher dr diana hsieh the course breaks atlas shrugged into 20 manageable sessions each covering about 65 pages of the novel the study questions found within this book over 1400 in total will help you better understand the novel on your own as well as enable you to lead a successful reading group or class on atlas shrugged in addition you ll find plot synopses character summaries questions for a book club and a faq on creating an atlas shrugged reading group the online version of explore atlas shrugged also includes over 22 hours of lively and engaging podcasting each podcast one per session is an in depth look at the events characters and ideas from those chapters of the novel to purchase access to those podcasts and other online resources visit exploreatlasshrugged com explore atlas shrugged will help you gain fresh insights into the complex events characters and ideas of ayn rand s epic novel whether you ve read it just once or a dozen times before

includes a full length biography of ayn rand that examines her life works philosophy and legacy includes a primer on atlas shrugged that will quickly bring readers up to speed on the plot characters themes symbols and philosophy of rand s classic novel includes pictures of rand and important people in her life includes many of rand s most famous quotes from atlas shrugged and other works includes a bibliography for further reading government help to business is just as disastrous as government persecution the only way a government can be of service to national prosperity is by keeping its hands off ayn rand ayn rand was born in st petersburg russia to jewish parents on february 2 1905 as alisa zinov yevna rosenbaum and she lived through the turbulence and transformation of early 20th century russia her first exposure to reading came after she taught herself how to read at age six and she decided at nine years old to become a writer after a chance encounter with the books of victor hugo the writer she admired most the seminal events in the young would be writer s life came just a few years later when she witnessed firsthand the bolshevik revolution and the ultimate communist victory as a teenager rand s experience with the maelstrom of this revolutionary zeal and cultural breakdown greatly contributed toward the formation of rand s philosophy of objectivism individualism and anti religious ideas during her last year of high school she was introduced to the history of the united states and immediately decided to make america her model of what an ideal society should look like rand came to the united states as a young woman for a visit in 1925 and as fate would have it she never returned

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includes a full length biography of ayn rand that examines her life works philosophy and legacy includes a primer on atlas shrugged that will quickly bring readers up to speed on the plot characters themes symbols and philosophy of rand's classic novel includes pictures of rand and important people in her life includes many of rand's most famous quotes from atlas shrugged and other works includes a bibliography for further reading government help to business is just as disastrous as government persecution the only way a government can be of service to national prosperity is by keeping its hands off ayn rand ayn rand was born in st petersburg russia to jewish parents on february 2 1905 as alisa zinov yevna rosenbaum and she lived through the turbulence and transformation of early 20th century russia her first exposure to reading came after she taught herself how to read at age six and she decided at nine years old to become a writer after a chance encounter with the books of victor hugo the writer she admired most the seminal events in the young would be writer's life came just a few years later when she witnessed firsthand the bolshevik revolution and the ultimate communist victory as a teenager rand's experience with the maelstrom of this revolutionary zeal and cultural breakdown greatly contributed toward the formation of rand's philosophy of objectivism individualism and anti religious ideas during her last year of high school she was introduced to the history of the united states and immediately decided to make america her model of what an ideal society should look like rand came to the united states as a young woman for a visit in 1925 and as fate would have it she never returned to russia in middle age rand continued trying to write in some capacity as a profession but she had also formed her personal philosophy of integrating ethics metaphysics epistemology politics economics and sexuality into what came to be called objectivism or as she called it a philosophy for living on earth rand began writing atlas shrugged her enormous three part major novel each with ten chapters in 1946 nearly 10 years after it was begun she finished what ultimately became her greatest achievement and

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about the book it's not surprising that one of the of the twentieth century's most enduring and controversial figures ayn rand produced one of the twentieth century's most enduring and controversial books atlas shrugged in the novel's fifty plus years of existence atlas shrugged has been both lauded and vilified credited with creating a new paradigm of social and political thought by supporters and denounced by detractors as a rehashed reactionary appeal to selfishness and greed rand in the course of her life as a writer intellectual and political theorist embraced all of these labels whether from critic or supporter alike fittingly her novel is infused with the same elusive qualities whether loved or hated it is because of this clash of ideas that atlas shrugged has endured to take its place with the important novels of the last century meet the author jason stewart is san francisco area public relations marketing professional with degrees in political science and comparative religion he writes two semi regular blogs at criticstudio.com his short fiction has appeared on line and in print and his first novel the eyes of the stars will be released in late 2012 follow him on twitter sabbathsoldierfacebook j malcolm stewart email jason criticstudio.com

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