



The Portable Atheist: Essential Readings for the Nonbeliever

By Christopher Hitchens

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From the #1 *New York Times* best-selling author of *God Is Not Great*, a provocative and entertaining guided tour of atheist and agnostic thought through the ages--with never-before-published pieces by Salman Rushdie, Ian McEwan, and Ayaan Hirsi Ali. Christopher Hitchens continues to make the case for a splendidly godless universe in this first-ever gathering of the influential voices--past and present--that have shaped his side of the current (and raging) God/no-god debate. With Hitchens as your erudite and witty guide, you'll be led through a wealth of philosophy, literature, and scientific inquiry, including generous portions of the words of Lucretius, Benedict de Spinoza, Charles Darwin, Karl Marx, Mark Twain, George Eliot, Bertrand Russell, Emma Goldman, H. L. Mencken, Albert Einstein, Daniel Dennett, Sam Harris, Richard Dawkins, and many others well-known and lesser known. And they're all set in context and commented upon as only Christopher Hitchens--"political and literary journalist extraordinaire" (*Los Angeles Times*)--can. Atheist? Believer? Uncertain? No matter: *The Portable Atheist* will speak to you and engage you every step of the way.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Hitchens, an avowed atheist and author of the bestseller *God Is Not Great*, is a formidable intellectual who finds the notion of belief in God to be utter nonsense. The author is clear in his introduction that religion has caused more than its fair share of world problems. "Religion invents a problem where none exists by describing the wicked as also made in the image of god and the sexually nonconformist as existing in a state of incurable mortal sin that can incidentally cause floods and earthquakes." The readings Hitchens chooses to bolster his atheist argument are indeed engaging and important. Hobbes, Spinoza, Mill and Marx are some of the heavyweights representing a philosophical viewpoint. From the world of literature the author assembles excerpts from Shelley, Twain, Conrad, Orwell and Updike. All are enjoyable to read and will make even religious believers envious of the talent gathered for this anthology. What these dynamic writers are railing against often enough, however, is a strawman: an immature, fundamentalist, outdated, and even embarrassing style of religion that many intelligent believers have long since cast off. It could be that Hitchens and his cast of nonbelievers are preaching to the choir and their message is tired and spent. However, this remains a fascinating collection of readings from some of the West's greatest thinkers.

Review

"Hitchens has returned to the Belief Wars backed by a full army...the Godless Warrior marshals in an Atheist A-Team...to buttress his own arguments...Hitchens is the guide as well as the commentator linking it all together."--"San Diego Tribune"

About the Author

Christopher Hitchens is a contributing editor to *Vanity Fair*. His numerous books include *Letters to a Young Contrarian* and *Why Orwell Matters*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Alma Bulger:

Exactly why? Because this The Portable Atheist: Essential Readings for the Nonbeliever is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap that but latter it will shock you with the secret that inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who write the book in such amazing way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book get such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking means. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I were you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

Betty Borgen:

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to share. You can find a lot of referrals to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. The book that recommended to you is The Portable Atheist: Essential Readings for the Nonbeliever this publication consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. This book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The dialect styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. Typically the writer made some research when he makes this book. Here is why this book acceptable all of you.

Ann Morgan:

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