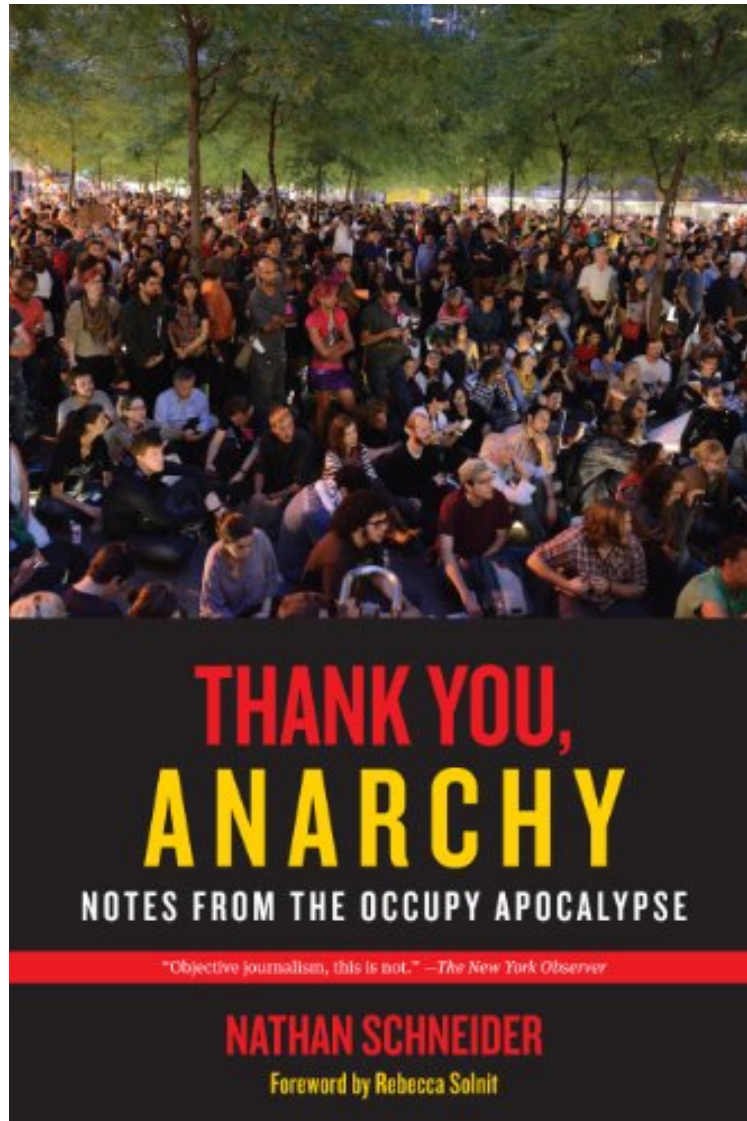


(Download pdf) Thank You, Anarchy: Notes from the Occupy Apocalypse

Thank You, Anarchy: Notes from the Occupy Apocalypse

Nathan Schneider

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Nathan Schneider : Thank You, Anarchy: Notes from the Occupy Apocalypse before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Thank You, Anarchy: Notes from the Occupy Apocalypse:

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Thoughtful relections by an authentic voice from within the movementBy Malvin"Thank You, Anarchy" by Nathan Schneider is an insightful short history on Occupy Wall Street including its legacy. Mr. Schneider is a journalist who became an active participant and chronicler of OWS from the early planning stages to the end. This excellent book will satisfy readers who are interested in thoughtful reflections by

an authentic voice from within the movement. Part One is Summer to Fall. Mr. Schneider chronicled the foundational stages of the movement, explaining why "small 'a' anarchy" is conducive to direct democracy. Mr. Schneider detailed the historic events of September 17, 2011 and the momentous days and weeks that followed. We learn about the people who made important contributions as OWS grew from an obscure local event to national prominence that successfully drew attention to the realities of corporate power, inequality and class struggle in 21st century America. Part Two is Fall to Winter. Mr. Schneider writes about the sense of optimism that pervaded as the movement attracted hundreds of new participants and inspired other occupations across the country. Mr. Schneider shares OWS' general principles and declarations with us but explains that a conscious decision was made not to make specific demands on the system; confounding libertarians and socialists alike. As the OWS community organized teams to take care of the day-to-day running of the camp, Mr. Schneider imagined how an anarchist utopia of like-minded communities might come about. As police began to violently crack down on the encampments, the author reached out to religious institutions for their support and traveled to occupations on the west coast to better understand their specific struggles. Part Three is Winter to Spring. Mr. Schneider documented the many sporadic fights that erupted between a smaller occupation and law enforcement while Chris Hedges warned participants against instigating violence. Reeling from an attack by police on St. Patrick's Day 2012, occupiers began to obsess about a May Day strike in hopes of revitalizing the movement. As it became more and more evident that the physical occupation would not be able to hold indefinitely, the author came to appreciate the movement for its success in building a virtual activist network that many believe will endure long after the fact of physical occupation has ended. Part Four is Summer to Fall. As the one year anniversary approached, Mr. Schneider talked about how the OWS participants sought to archive the artifacts of the struggle for posterity. The urgency of the task became apparent as the corporate media increasingly turned against OWS. On the anniversary, small OWS groups successfully engaged in 99 direct actions but many were arrested. Looking forward, the author is proud of the many social, economic and environmental justice projects that OWS participants are championing including immigration reform, anti-fracking, debt forgiveness, an end to mountain top removal, and other causes. He believes the lasting legacy of OWS has been the empowerment of a new generation of activists who realize that another world is possible. I am grateful that Mr. Schneider has applied his passion and intellect to capturing these historic events. I believe this important book will inform and inspire all who read it. I highly recommend it to everyone. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Let's have more reporting like this! By SusancsJ I know Nathan Schneider from his experience at OWS and found him to be operating at a high level of integrity, contentions of his role as journalist. Largely independent, he gave himself the time and space to devote himself to covering the movement. Utilizing a reporting style that comes from a relational view in order to SEEK UNDERSTANDING while questioning at times in ways that brought self-critique to some organizers. His reporting reflects the ways that mutual engagement inform each other and he is quite transparent about how this affected him. This style is so much more refreshingly honest in contrast to the main stream which calls itself objective but is really the filtering of observations through a blindspot-ridden-dominant-privileged lens. Truly an apocalyptic view (seeing what has been hidden)! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Incredibly thoughtful, candid, well-written, moving... By John L. Downey If you were to read one book about OWS, this should be the one! I teach undergraduate social justice and religion courses, and just put in an order for my spring semester classes that included this wonderful text. Nathan Schneider is an excellent writer who chronicles the development of OWS from the ground up, and gives an insightful critical analysis -- and incredibly pleasurable, informative, and touching read -- EVEN IF YOU'RE CYNICAL ABOUT OWS AND/OR RADICALISM.

Thank You, Anarchy is an up-close, inside account of Occupy Wall Streets' first year in New York City, written by one of the first reporters to cover the phenomenon. Nathan Schneider chronicles the origins and explosive development of the Occupy movement through the eyes of the organizers who tried to give shape to an uprising always just beyond their control. Capturing the voices, encounters, and beliefs that powered the movement, Schneider brings to life the General Assembly meetings, the chaotic marches, the split-second decisions, and the moments of doubt as Occupy swelled from a hashtag online into a global phenomenon. A compelling study of the spirit that drove this watershed movement, Thank You, Anarchy vividly documents how the Occupy experience opened new social and political possibilities and registered a chilling indictment of the status quo. It was the movement's most radical impulses, this account shows, that shook millions out of a failed tedium and into imagining, and fighting for, a better kind of future. nbsp;

From Publishers Weekly Schneider offers a riveting, yet sometimes frustrating account of Occupy Wall Street's first year in New York. After the foreword by Rebecca Solnit, the book takes readers from the meetings leading up to the occupation of Zuccotti "Liberty" Park on September 17, 2011, to the movement's progress across the country and around the world, up to its first anniversary. Schneider (God in Proof) draws from first-hand reportage, social media, and other sources to depict the spirit, influences, conflicts, and criticisms of the movement. Choosing to describe the movement as an apocalypse will no doubt turn off some readers, but one of the strongest passages in the book

addresses Schneider's faith, and the attempted occupation of property owned by Trinity Church. The tone varies between profoundly earnest and pragmatic, though clearly Schneider stands with the Occupiers. Some of his responses to the criticisms of the movement are less than convincing, but never become dismissive. Still, readers may get the sense that in order to invest in Schneider's passion or disappointments, you needed to have been there. (Sept.) "A fast-moving cinematic chronicle."