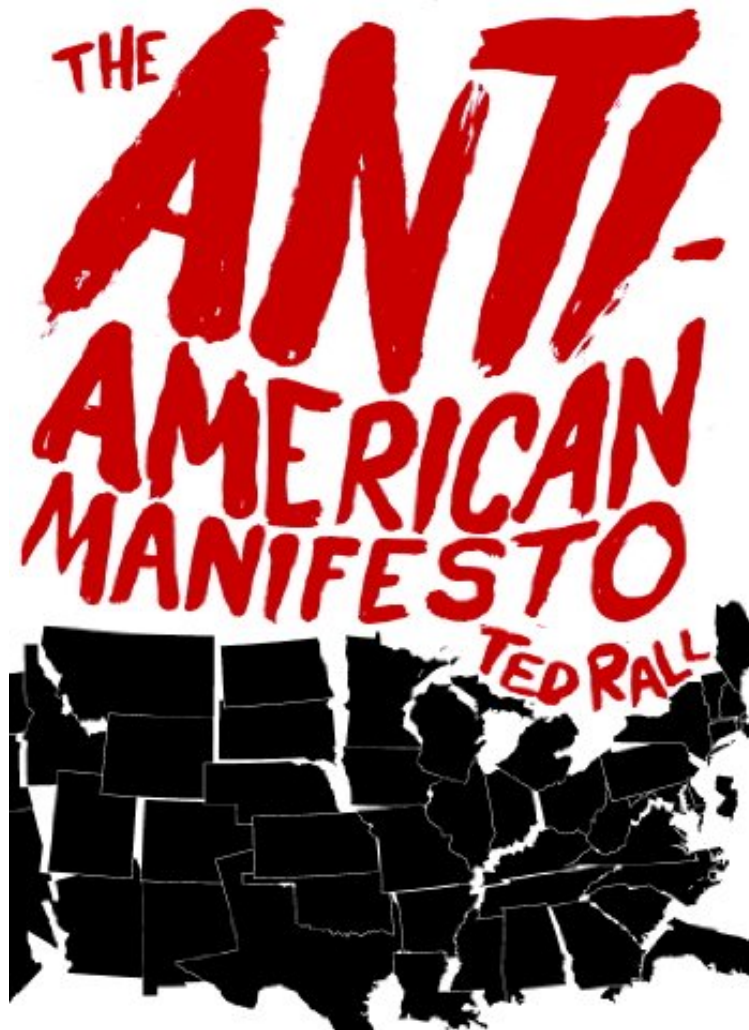


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## The Anti-American Manifesto

*Ted Rall*

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**Ted Rall : The Anti-American Manifesto** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Anti-American Manifesto:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I know the truth...By HodadI know the truth when I see it and this book is full of exactly that. It's as 'they've' been saying for years now, America is on her way down, just as with the 'fall' of Great Britain and Rome and Greece and Egypt and..... It's all a matter of how we deal with it and the potential solutions may be a tad more than painful for a huge number of people. All I can say is I'm glad I'm where I am in my lifetime. Started the 70's last year so I won't have to suffer as much and for that I'm eternally grateful.Enjoy the book.9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Honest observations and an effective polemic.By RedattheblackboardIf you are in the process of deciding weather or not you should buy this book I can give you some

idea of what to expect. This book is not an academic treatise or analysis of the dynamics of the latest economic recession or American foreign policy; it is an polemic on the general state of affairs in America and how revolution is the only solution. If you want to read an extensively documented, academic text about how capitalism and the Anglo/American neo-liberal world order is exploiting us, destroying our economic prospects and our environment you can read some of the latest work by a distinguished anthropologist David Harvey (City University of New York). However, if you are already convinced that electoral politics is an elaborate theatrical performance and popularity contest, if you understand that nothing can be done by voting for councilman A or B, if you know that passing some legislation cannot help us retake control of our political system, economy, environment and lives than this is the book for you. Some of the previous reviewers accuse Ted Rall of not offering an alternative to the current system. I assume that they failed to read the bit about "...a transition to socialism". Indeed, Rall is a socialist and the alternative according to him is a transition to a system that operates in accordance with the principle of fulfilling basic human need through a democratically and centrally-planned system of production. Rall understands that social revolution and serious business and points out that the immediate consequences might be civil war or even the breakup of the country--as it has been the case in history. He warns us against pacifist wishful thinking--common among the American left--that widely spread belief that system will simply run it's course and collapse under the weight of it's own internal and irreconcilable contradictions. He points to the example of the Soviet Union where the collapse of a corrupt and degenerated socialist state lead to capitalist counter-revolution and an system in which the working people of Russia suffer even more terribly than under the previous regime. Rall has some choice words for the left. He is especially critical of the anarchists in the deep green movement who believe that after the collapse of industrial capitalism--which they deem inevitable--they will live in peaceful, isolated and self-sustaining communes. Rall points out that reactionary forces of the right (well funded, organized and concentrated in the bastions of American Evangelical right-wing conservatism) will never allow this, and that if American anarchists persist on turning their back on revolution, counter-revolution will come to them. His argument why revolution is necessary now and not in some undetermined point in the future can be summed up in the famous quote by V.I. Lenin, "We can have socialism, or barbarism". This book will not be well received by left-of-center liberals or nationalists (all liberals are nationalistic to some degree) as they will brand the book as Anti-american. They will not respond well to the parts where parallels are made between the genocide and aggression of Nazi Germany and American foreign policy in our period--even after they are reminded the American military operations during the 20th century have resulted in over 10 million deaths. Their intellectual conditioning has thought them that America plays an essentially positive role in global affairs (despite the occasional shortcomings), that the constitution is a sacred document containing eternal truths about life and politics, and that this is their government that has been temporarily overtaken by evil and greedy people; they will never understand that that the entire system that was erected on the principle of capitalist private property is flawed and needs to be replaced with something better. This is ok as Rall writes, we do not need them and we who have the courage need to take up our historical responsibility and save the human race from the ravages of the capitalist world order orchestrated and maintained by the United States. If you believe that you are up to the task, read this book and discuss it with your friends and loved ones. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This book should be in every americans home. By che handala. No i have not read every word in this work yet but i am almost done with it and find it refreshing and very needed in this day and age in america. We are not free, and we are losing more and more rights during to our employees (politicians) acting like they are the parent and we are children and it should be the other way around. We have the right to abolish tyranny and we must do it soon.

In arguably the most radical book published in decades, cartoonist/columnist Ted Rall has produced the book he was always meant to write: a new manifesto for an America heading toward economic and political collapse. While others mourn the damage to the postmodern American capitalist system created by the recent global economic collapse, Rall sees an opportunity. As millions of people lose their jobs and their homes, they and millions more are opening their minds to the possibility of creating a radically different form of government and economic infrastructure. But there are dangers. As in Russia in 1991, criminals and right-wing extremists are best prepared to fill the power vacuum from a collapsing United States. The best way to stop them, Rall argues, is not collapse; but revolution. Not by other people, but by us. Not in the future, but now. While it's still possible.

From Publishers Weekly. Is Rall serious about launching a revolution to overthrow the government of the United States? The cartoonist describes the problems confronting America today as if they were the four horsemen of the apocalypse: wars, financial crises, unemployment, and oil (spills); and revolution, even a violent one, is the only way. Rall acknowledges the chaos that typically ensues after the collapse or overthrow of an empire, saying that whatever follows will likely, for a time, be worse: "The Terror followed the French Revolution. Stalin's purges followed the Russian Revolution." When it comes to what follows, Rall, like many revolutionaries, has less to say: "We must take the chance." His revolutionary rants and belief in a green, egalitarian world are compelling, yet a stubborn truth remains: most Americans don't want to revolt, a fact about which Rall seems oblivious, making his

Manifesto inadvertently ridiculous. While the cartoonist is right about much of what is wrong with America today, it's hard to take this seriously. For once, the joke's on him. Illustrations. (Sept.) (c) Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. About the Author Twice the winner of the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award and a Pulitzer Prize finalist, TED RALL is a political cartoonist, opinion columnist, graphic novelist and occasional war correspondent whose work has appeared in hundreds of publications, including the New York Times, Washington Post, Village Voice, and Los Angeles Times.