



# Free Market Revolution: How Ayn Rand's Ideas Can End Big Government

*Yaron Brook , Don Watkins*

Download now

Read Online [➔](#)

# Free Market Revolution: How Ayn Rand's Ideas Can End Big Government

Yaron Brook , Don Watkins

**Free Market Revolution: How Ayn Rand's Ideas Can End Big Government** Yaron Brook , Don Watkins  
A look at how our current crises are caused by too much government, and how Ayn Rand's bold defense of free markets can help us change course.

The rise of the Tea Party and the 2010 election results revealed that tens of millions of Americans are alarmed by Big Government, but skeptical that anything can or will be done to stop the growth of the state. In *Free Market Revolution*, the keepers of Ayn Rand's legacy argue that the answer lies in her pioneering philosophy of capitalism and self-interest – a philosophy that more and more people are turning to for answers. In the past few years, Rand's works have surged to new peaks of popularity, as politicians like Paul Ryan, media figures like John Stossel, and businessmen like John Mackey routinely name her as one of their chief influences. Here, Brook and Watkins explain how her ideas can solve a host of political and economic ills, including the debt crisis, inflation, overregulation, and the swelling welfare state. And most important, they show how Rand's philosophy can enable defenders of the free market to sieze the moral high ground in the fight to limit government. This is a fresh and urgent look at the ideas of one of the most controversial figures in modern history – ideas that may prove the only hope for the future.

## Free Market Revolution: How Ayn Rand's Ideas Can End Big Government Details

Date : Published September 18th 2012 by St. Martin's Press (first published 2012)

ISBN : 9780230341692

Author : Yaron Brook , Don Watkins

Format : Paperback 272 pages

Genre : Economics, Politics, Philosophy, Nonfiction, History

 [Download Free Market Revolution: How Ayn Rand's Ideas Can E ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Free Market Revolution: How Ayn Rand's Ideas Can ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Free Market Revolution: How Ayn Rand's Ideas Can End Big Government** Yaron Brook , Don Watkins

---

# From Reader Review Free Market Revolution: How Ayn Rand's Ideas Can End Big Government for online ebook

## Katie Rodemich says

I won this book in a Goodreads Giveaway.

The book was very good and very informative. The book explains how Ayn Rand's morality of selfishness is necessary to direct our political actions toward having an economy of Capitalism. At the same time it shows how altruism, being your brother's keeper, will and necessarily must send us down the road to destruction by sacrificing all the good things we have. I would, however, read Ayn Rand's oeuvre before reading this book to have a better understanding of the philosophy.

---

## Johnrh says

This is an excellent book. I approve its message. (It is presidential election season.) The book is a methodical, reasoned analysis of the self-inflicted big government altruism that is bankrupting us. It offers logical steps to reclaim the good of free market capitalism and individual rights through Ayn Rand's common-sense philosophy of objective, RATIONAL self-interest. I cannot emphasize RATIONAL, and MORAL, enough. It's not rocket science, brain surgery, or too deeeep for any of us to understand. "I swear--by my life and my love of it--that I will never live for the sake of another man, nor ask another man to live for mine." (p.79, from Atlas Shrugged p. 1069.) MORAL in that you will not ask another to live for your sake.

I could write a book about this book but it's in my own best interest to re-read it again at least one more time. It's an easy read, barely over 200 pages. It is very well footnoted which leads me to believe the authors did a LOT of homework. I like that. Facts, not whimsy.

It is a great economics primer. With our economy and personal savings rate being what it is or isn't one can't get too much education in economics. Even you progressive, liberal, european socialist types (you know who you are) might consider reading this just to find out what those evil life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness types are thinking. I mean, seriously, it's not like anyone is asking you to read the individualist's version of Saul Alinsky or Mein Kampf for cryin' out loud. This book is loaded with great thought. You can find generous samplings to preview in online stores. The book isn't expensive to buy and it's available in audio or e-book versions. Give it a shot. It might just be in your own RATIONAL self-interest.

---

## Shea Mastison says

I cannot recommend this book strongly enough! It is no exaggeration to say, this is the best book that I have read so far in 2012. Yaron Brook and Don Watkins tackle altruism as the ideological block to free markets (and free people) in our society while breaking down the altruists main two arguments: the Argument from Greed, and the Argument from Need.

These staunch defenders of Real Capitalism utterly demolish the idea the state intervention is responsible for the security that many Americans imagined they had prior to the 2008 financial crisis; and they explain how government intervention into the market can only lead to more intervention--and skyrocketing prices.

"Free Market Revolution" is a clarion call to liberty-loving people everywhere; now is the time to defend individual rights and expose the notion of group rights for the sham that it is. Buy this book today, call your library and ask that they get it, and if you're feeling in a more activist mood: buy it, and send it to a local successful businessman.

---

### **D. B. says**

It might sound strange to say this, but my main gripe with *Free Market Revolution* is that it's too optimistic. If that statement turns you off, then you might like this book.

I agree that laissez faire capitalism is the only economic system compatible with individual liberty, and for that reason I champion it. However, I'm a bit more cynical than Brook and Watkins; I think the only way it can succeed is in a rational, honest society. Our country is neither of those things, and it seems to get more irrational and dishonest by the minute. I think the economic and politic systems championed by Ayn Rand in her lifetime are the logical extensions of her philosophy.

This book didn't convince me that it can work the other way around. I don't buy into the premise that switching up the economic system will cause everyone in the country (or the world) to see how great a free market is, and then work backwards to a rational, pro-individual philosophical system. Because of that, I can't accept Brook and Watkins's premise that shifting to a truly free market will solve all of America's problems, and we'll all live happily ever after in a rational Utopia. It'll take a lot more work than that.

---

### **Amy says**

I'm already on board with every idea in this book, and yet I enjoyed reading it as inspiration, clarification, and for the simple pleasure of contemplating what a fully-free, capitalistic society would look and feel like.

---

### **Bakunin says**

Inspiring read! I have long time been a libertarian but now I am leaning more and more towards objectivism. Yaron Brook stresses (as Rand did) the importance of the morality of capitalism; it is a moral good to be selfish. This might seem like a contradiction and reading the book has made me understand what Rand actually meant by selfishness. The way she uses it basically means being rational and trying to the best of your ability make decisions which result in greater happiness for you. This makes sense to me and is what I try to apply in my life. It does not mean that you value money over everything else. Rand valued the creative powers of man and in her view (according to Brook) the money made from a business success is meaningful for an entrepreneur as it gives him or her more money to spend on his or her next creative project. Brook argues that this is the only way to defend capitalism; otherwise the morality of organized religions and ideologies will manage to convince the masses of the inherent evil of making money for yourself. (Footnote: After reading this book I attended a 10-day silent buddhist retreat so now I am trying to work out

in my mind whether or not objectivism is compatible with buddhism.)

---

## **Gerry says**

Ending Big Government? No. Only ending the portion of government spending going to the least well off in America. No mention of reducing corporate welfare, of increasing taxes for those who earn the most but pay less tax than ordinary workers. No mention of cutting defence. Or federal and state bureaucracies. Or doing anything about corporations and the financial services. Or opening up free trade.

Such a poorly written, diatribe against the people who get paid the least, pay out the most by people who would not know what it is like to not know where their next meal came from.

---

## **Ron Housley says**

Free Market Revolution : How Ayn Rand's Ideas Can End Big Government  
by Yaron Brook and Don Watkins

-- a short report by Ron Housley --

I was hoping for a tone that would capture some of Yaron Brook's debates and lectures from over the past few years — Brook has offered up some compelling and passionate presentations in support of individualism and of government organized around protecting individual rights.

Today, leading into the 2012 election, we are confronted with Obama surging in the polls, with the entire media supporting Obama's collectivist vision and with an electorate oblivious to the ideological assault against the individual.

We have the release of D'Souza's movie ("2016: Obama's America") which has been greeted with deafening silence; and, we have the release of Joel Gilbert's DVD ("Dreams From My Real Father") which has attracted even less attention, if that was possible.

The whole thing makes my blood run cold — which is one step down from merely feeling empty.

How could a country with such a long history of stunning individual accomplishment be turned so quickly and so utterly to detest and demonize the very core of its former greatness? How can a people allow a minority of intellectuals to strip them of the very rights that made possible all their former prosperity? Why is their protest so timid and spineless?

Yaron Brook tells us that it is because they have not identified the corrosive effect of their having implicitly accepted the moral code of altruism.

Brook's thesis is that the moral foundation of capitalism was never grasped nor accepted by Americans — and that omission has been the seed of America's undoing.

The very soul of Obama now resonates with an increasing number of Americans who never developed a

reverence for individual achievement (“You didn’t build that!”); his soul resonates with those who have been taught in the government schools that capitalism doesn’t work (“The free market: it doesn’t work! It has never worked!” — Osawatomie, KS speech, 2012); his soul supports the flagrant and destructive morality behind the entitlement state (“It’s good to spread the wealth around” and, “I believe in redistribution”).

The soul of Obama has captured the imagination of the millions who have never understood the role of individual rights in creating America’s massive prosperity.

I personally know people who unashamedly support the notion that it is their duty to take care of their fellow man. The notion is not even open for question; and they see no problem in coercing others join them in their chosen duty.

They see no problem when they cross that line from persuading others into forcing others to implement their own notion of moral duty. They see no necessary connection between a little force now and total (dictatorial) force later.

And so here we are on the precipice: The Fed (with majority support) has embarked on QE-Infinity, a program to print money regardless of its effect on the value of the dollar; Obama (with majority support) has embarked on a program of adding over \$1-Trillion to the national debt every year.

The Quantitive Easing has never worked before, and there is no hint that it will “work” this time; but it will help destroy the life savings of honest men everywhere.

The massive spending has never “worked” before, and there is no hint that it will “work” this time; but it will help destroy the life savings of honest men everywhere. And it will help to buy more Democratic votes in the election. And, the ongoing massive DEBT increases will be Obama’s secret weapon to cut America down to size.

Nowhere in the book do the authors point out how altruism aligns with Obama’s clear personal mission to cut America down to size. That would be admitting a conspiracy theory, which may have undermined their attempt to focus on the moral case for capitalism.

But it does seem to me that Brook’s altruism thesis is the main reason why millions have bought into the approach of choosing the path into national bankruptcy. It’s because, as Brook points out, America feels that “it’s the right thing to do,” even if it obviously results in widespread pain, misery and personal destruction.

Few students today ever learn what capitalism even is; many are indoctrinated with the slogans of statism, instead. It is no wonder that our culture continues to move in the same direction.

Millions have been indoctrinated to accept conclusions without evidence. Millions have allowed forced self-sacrifice to be written into American law. And the majority of academics, politicians and journalists continue to support those millions every day.

Combine that with Obama’s quest to cut America down to size and we have a perfect formula for “fundamentally changing America.” As George Bush said, “it’s the vision thing.”

The millions seem to have a vision — and they have no concern that they haven’t thought it through.

## THE DEBT CRISIS

The Media ask whether the debt is “sustainable.” But they never paint a clear picture for us of what “unsustainable” might look like. Yaron Brook tells us that there is now over \$100-Trillion in unfunded government liabilities. In paying those liabilities, at some point we will each be reduced to poverty. A collapse (which has happened in history!) could do it suddenly. It doesn’t matter that the Millions never bothered to think it through.

I ordered copies of this book, sight unread, for distribution to interested friends. I have written a one-page book report. But I still have that sinking feeling going forward, wondering how much of my own life savings will be lost as our government continues to tax, borrow and redistribute.

Consider it your moral obligation to read and understand this book; maybe the two of us can slow down the juggernaut in time to escape with our lives.

It’s time to stop the attack on our pursuit of happiness. As Yaron Brook counsels: learn the case for capitalism and then speak it at every opportunity.

---

### **C Boyd says**

I am not a regular political or even economic reader but found this book exceptionally relevant to the economic problems the USA (and thereby most first world nations) find themselves in at this time (2013). Any Rands's idea are interesting in the perspective of protecting the value businesses bring to society and how we need to better leverage the human spirit and ingenuity to solve our economical problems, not simply discount business as only for profit motivated by greed. RATIONAL self-interest is and has been a part of human motivation since our beginnings, the key is not to try to over "fix" a system when man uses it for harm but rather be aware of its shortcomings and react more promptly when we see its weaknesses being extorted.

---

### **Audrey Custer says**

An interesting book with compelling ideas on how to improve the American economy - basically, roll it back to how it was when we WERE productive (pre-FDR welfare state).

It would be nice if politicians would listen to the message that this book and many others have made clear - progressivism doesn't work. Social welfare programs serve only one purpose - subtle class warfare.

Ayn Rand seeks to do what others haven't even tried to do: prove a moral basis for selfishness. Rational self-interest is moral - and it helps others to better their own situation, instead of being satisfied with handouts and a victim mentality.

Much food for thought in this one. Read it, then give it to your friends - and tell them to pass it on, too!

I'd recommend this for anyone interested in Objectivism, Ayn Rand, economics, the free market, the liberty movement, anarcho-capitalists - heck, just about everybody that wants to see the size and scope of our government diminish, and our prosperity return.

---

## **Desiree says**

I received a free copy of this book through the GoodReads First Reads program in exchange for an honest review.

Unfortunately, I am not familiar with Any Rand. So, part of the beginning of this book was a bit rough going for me! A lot of the philosophical ideas presented here are very different from the way the United States has evolved. Once I got digested the basic tenets, it was smooth sailing from there. This book is full of wonderful examples of how capitalism is the best system for everyone. It fully endorses laissez-faire capitalism over our current regulatory and entitlement state. It also explains why and covers just about every aspect of commercial endeavor!

The depressing part of that, for me, is to realize just how far away from that ideal state we have become. This process has been ongoing and will not be fixed overnight. The authors do have great ideas on reversing our current path, if only we would listen and change our direction.

Definitely recommended for anyone interested in our economy and reading about how governmental regulations have, and still are, making things worse for all of us!

---

## **David Abraham says**

An easy read. But guilty of the same charges as the lady herself: straw-men, caricatures of ideologies, black-and-white thinking, no real-world exposure, 100% attention to simplistic logic and none to reality.

Addendum: FWIW, I enjoyed Rand's novels and was on her hero's side! But she does not represent reality fairly. Corporations are not interested in "collectivism" except when it bails them out. Socialism is less to be feared than corporate power, at least TODAY and HERE..

---

## **Stephen Bourque says**

This new book by Yaron Brook and Don Watkins appears at a crucially important time, addressing a bewildering question. How, after two centuries of incontrovertible evidence that capitalism works, can the public still demand—or, at least, be intellectually powerless to oppose—the ever-increasing expansion of government force into every corner of our lives?

The authors make the case that the answer is fundamentally a matter of morality. Americans have gradually accepted, perhaps largely through passive absorption, a moral code that is fundamentally opposed to liberty and free markets.

This book is valuable for its untangling of many of the alleged problems caused by the free market (which are invariably either caused by the government or are not problems at all). Its greatest achievement, however, is connecting those examples to the deeper moral issues, and showing that the moral code consistent with freedom and prosperity is one of rational self-interest, as articulated by Ayn Rand. If we are to restore



liberty—or indeed, realize a freedom we have never yet fully achieved—it will require the moral revolution described in this excellent book. Read it.

And, of course, read Ayn Rand.

---

### **Mark Wickens says**

This book makes the case for a radical change in the relationship between the individual and government. Brook and Watkins argue that government should be out of the picture entirely except when it comes to protecting clearly defined rights of individuals — rights that allow individuals to pursue their own happiness. The authors argue also that *only* a morality that upholds your own individual happiness as the ultimate goal—i.e., a morality that recognizes self-interest as a virtue—can get us to a laissez-faire society. This is a controversial idea, at least to those who aren't already fans of the philosopher referenced in the subtitle. But Brook and Watkins take pains to explain *and show* what real self-interest consists of, and what it doesn't. E.g., Bernie Madoff was not selfish. At all.

FMR is very readable, but not because it's a lightweight book with little substance. It's readable because the authors do a masterful job of logically building their case and of illustrating their arguments with real-life examples. The clear explanations of how government destroys by interfering in places it doesn't belong (i.e., most places) will make you angry. The authors' vision of the possibilities of life in a true laissez-faire society will make you eager to achieve it.

---

### **Paul says**

For anyone with any decent understanding of psychology and economics, this book was a review in common sense. For anyone without any decent knowledge of those areas this book is a must read. For those who are completely anti-business, this ought to be required reading before entering into any kind of discussion around politics, economics, or monetary policy. Sadly, there are entirely too few of the first group and entirely too many of the latter groups. Those who read this book are likely to not need to bother, and those who most need to will never bother.

---