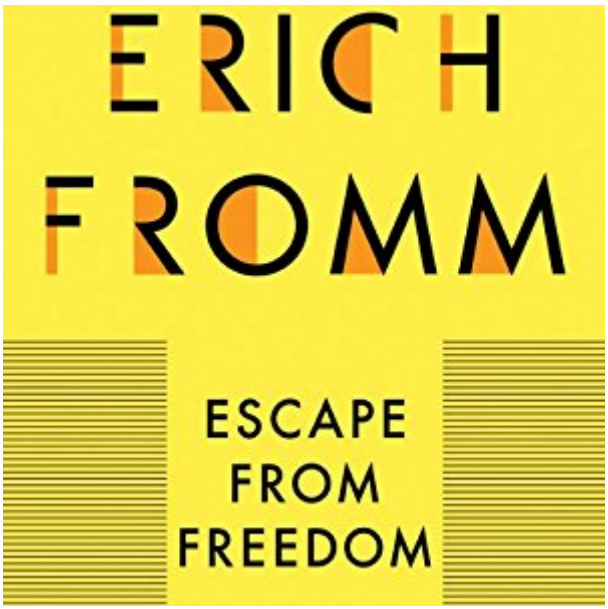
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Escape From Freedom



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Synopsis

If a man cannot stand freedom, he will probably turn fascist. This, in the fewest possible words, is the essential argument in this modem classic, Escape from Freedom. The author, Erich Fromm, is a distinguished psychologist, late of Berlin and Heidelberg, now of New York City. He applies the psychoanalytical method to the illness of our civilization which expresses itself in an abject submission to dictatorship. It is true that the rise of democracy set men free and brought to an end the authority of the medieval state and the medieval church. But it brought into existence a society where a man feels isolated from his fellows, where relationships in an industrial age are impersonal, where insecurity replaces a sense of belonging. This sense of isolation may drive an individual to one of various forms of escape. It may drive a people to seek escape in blind devotion to a leader, in utter submission to an all-powerful state, into a barbarous and sadistic program of aggression against minority groups or neighbor nations. Few books since the rise of the dictators have thrown such light upon our times. Few books have penetrated so clearly into the causes of fascism and Nazism - and into the inherent qualities of a democracy. In his psychoanalysis of the social scene, the author makes a new contribution to psychology by modifying the basic concepts of Freud in placing a purely biological orientation by a cultural one. To all who see that democracy today faces its gravest hour, Dr. Fromm illustrates the essential character of the danger and the nature of democracy’s responsibility. By its brilliant exposition of the modern social scene Escape from Freedom will help clarify many of today’s most perplexing problems.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

it seems to me that this book is his best,I was sorry that ig.n the Kindle addition you left out the epilogue which is brillilant to understand the differences in culture and his explanation.His view why people followed Hitler is extremely convincing,and as it came out in 1941 one didn’t know yet what the future would bring.It certainly made Fromm famous and I dare say that even today people who haven’t read the book should do so as it will enrich them,historically,sociological and psychologically

One of the greatest, and now most timely, books ever written. A must have for any engaged citizen.

This book caused me to think deeper. 3 dimensions deep. It caused me to question my motivations for and definitions of, success.

Excellent book. Like it was written yesterday. Amazing.

So you think you’re free just because you have the freedom to do and say whatever you want? Erich Fromm shows how this idea of freedom comes as a result of many illusions. Human beings shaped now in modern capitalist democracies are at risk because they are attached to the results that they get within the systems limitations. They have become cogs in a big machine and function only as such. The "gears" psychologically turn us into automatons. All we think about is money. The more the elite can deceive, the more the masses work to please them. Is this this price of progress, or is it sacrificing the beauty of one life, multiplied over and over, for the sake of a few? Oh, this is a worthy read because Fromm really writes well and follows psychological intricacies of awareness and shows historically what happened to lead us to escape from freedom and struggle to embrace it socially and politically.

Classic book. Highly recommended.

This book is amazing. It has such a strong effect on me that I feel like highlighting 50% of the whole text, which makes my reading process a bit distracted.I’m amazed about how relevant this book is and about the wast knowledge of psychology Erich Fromm had. I only wonder how the modern achievements like Internet have influenced the problems discussed in the book.This is by far the most valuable book for my personal enlightenment I have ever read.

When I first read it I was enlightened. To me most people want freedom, but are afraid of the results of their actions. To avoid a bad chose people will let someone else choose for them. That's the origin of Fascism,Communism and other totalitarianisms. in everyEscape from FreedomÃ Â cultures you have people that just "Don't Rock the Boat." or "Go with the flow." It makes them feel safe. To be free you have the right to be right or wrong. That's scary for most people.

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