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Marx: Selected Writings (Hackett Classics)



Synopsis

Featuring the most important and enduring works from Marx's enormous corpus, this collection ranges from the Hegelian idealism of his youth to the mature socialism of his later works. Organized both topically and in rough chronological order, the selections (many of them in the translations of Loyd D. Easton and Kurt H. Guddat) include writings on historical materialism, excerpts from Capital, and political works.

Book Information

Series: Hackett Classics

Paperback: 338 pages

Publisher: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc. (March 15, 1994)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0872202186

ISBN-13: 978-0872202184

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

I just finished this book last night. I read this book because I wanted to learn more about Karl Marx's thoughts on communism. Communism was my ONLY interest in reading this book. A narrow interest? Yes, but that was what I wanted. This book gave me a lot of insight on the foundations of communist thought-alienation of labor, use-values, labor, etc... What it did not include was a very explicit connection between Marx's view of the political economy and how communism addresses these wrongs. It also did not give Marx's vision of a communist utopia in explicit format. To be sure, it gave me glimpses of BOTH-and I can infer a lot from them. His comments on the Paris commune, and some of his other political writings gave a little more insight. But still, any understanding I have is based on inferences and not on concrete explicit writing. This book also included a great deal of material about religion, philosophy (not strictly communist philosophy)-specifically Marx's conflicts with Hegelianism (sp?) Since I did not care about these things, I found them to be very VERY

difficult to get through. Another review had some comments about the editor. I largely agree with that comment-but would expect nothing else. I mean, would you really want to read a book edited by someone who dislikes Marx? I think not. I could do without the pedantic nature, though. A final word about Marx's writing. I understand that a lot of this material was in the form of notes and unedited manuscripts. But that does not change the fact that Marx's writing is incredibly difficult to follow at times. His sentences are incredibly long. They full of parenthetical phrases and clarifications of conditions of the sentence.

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