



## The Libertarian Reader: Classic & Contemporary Writings from Lao-Tzu to Milton Friedman

From Simon Schuster



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“The most magnificent collection of libertarian writings ever published” (Laissez Faire Books).

An important collection of seminal writings on a movement that is rapidly changing the face of American politics, *The Libertarian Reader* links some of the most fertile minds of our time to a centuries-old commitment to freedom, self-determination, and opposition to intrusive government. This is the first comprehensive anthology of libertarian thought—from the Bible and Lao-Tzu to Hayek and Milton Friedman—to be published in one volume. The 68 selections from great libertarian writers are an intellectual feast, covering such key libertarian themes as skepticism about power, individual rights, spontaneous order, free markets, and peace.

For all independent thinkers, this unique sourcebook will stand as a classic reference for years to come, and a reminder that libertarianism is one of our oldest and most venerable American traditions.

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

Conceived as the companion volume to David Boaz's *Libertarianism*, this anthology comprising the likes of Lao-tzu and Milton Friedman is a treasure trove. That's because libertarianism touches on such important issues as the nature and extent of individual rights, the proper powers of government, and the virtues and shortcomings of the marketplace, and besides, it has tempted many of history's best minds. Pound for pound, the most impressive piece of reasoning here is philosopher Robert Nozick's attempt to defend a "minimal state, limited to the narrow functions of protection against force, theft, [and] fraud, [and] enforcement of contracts" and the view "that any more extensive state will violate persons' rights not to be forced to do certain things." Still, I wonder if Nozick has always turned down federal research grants and has always refused to pay income taxes, and if he hasn't, *why* not?

#### About the Author

David Boaz is executive vice president of the Cato Institute. He is the author of *Libertarianism: A Primer* (an updated edition to be released in 2015 called *The Libertarian Mind*), and his articles have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. He lives in the Washington, DC, area.

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the reader unforeseen experience.

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