The book was found

The Shipwrecked Mind: On Political Reaction





Synopsis

We donâ ™t understand the reactionary mind. As a result, argues Mark Lilla in this timely book, the ideas and passions that shape todayâ ™s political dramas are unintelligible to us. The reactionary is anything but a conservative. He is as radical and modern a figure as the revolutionary, someone shipwrecked in the rapidly changing present, and suffering from nostalgia for an idealized past and an apocalyptic fear that history is rushing toward catastrophe. And like the revolutionary his political engagements are motivated by highly developed ideas. Â Lilla begins with three twentieth-century philosophersâ "Franz Rosenzweig, Eric Voegelin, and Leo Straussâ "who attributed the problems of modern society to a break in the history of ideas and promoted a return to earlier modes of thought. He then examines the enduring power of grand historical narratives of betrayal to shape political outlooks since the French Revolution, and shows how these narratives are employed in the writings of Europeâ ™s right-wing cultural pessimists and Maoist neocommunists, American theoconservatives fantasizing about the harmony of medieval Catholic society and radical Islamists seeking to restore a vanished Muslim caliphate. The revolutionary spirit that inspired political movements across the world for two centuries may have died out. But the spirit of reaction that rose to meet it has survived and is proving just as formidable a historical force. We live in an age when the tragicomic nostalgia of Don Quixote for a lost golden age has been transformed into a potent and sometimes deadly weapon. Mark Lilla helps us to understand why.

Book Information

Paperback: 168 pages

Publisher: New York Review Books; Main edition (September 6, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1590179021

ISBN-13: 978-1590179024

Product Dimensions: 5.6 x 0.5 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #7,902 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Books > Politics & Social

Sciences > Philosophy > Religious #15 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies >

Sociology #17 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Political

Customer Reviews

Mark Lilla's _The Shipwrecked Mind_ examines the coherence of the reactionary mindset on its

own terms. Like Wojak or Pepe the Frog. a reactionary attitude feels a break in the continuity of time that leaves it wandering the deserts of the imagination, alienated in the present from what was once one's own. The romance of reaction is the romance of revolt: dare to make a second break with history and leave the decaying present behind. A traditionalist always faces a paradox: why believe in the deplorable condition of modernity, given the supposed excellence of your culture? A reactionary answers with what Lilla calls the Road Not Taken: a story that identifies the point where rot set in and civilizational decline began. Maistre blamed Francis Bacon; Ayn Rand blamed Kant; Richard Weaver blamed Ockham and the medieval nominalists; Leo Strauss blamed Machiavelli; Heidegger blamed Socrates; Nietzsche blamed Jesus of Nazareth; Allan Bloom more or less blamed the Frankfurt School; Edward Feser like many a Thomist blamed Descartes for breaking with scholasticism. And, of course, the entire crew of Enlightenment thinkers has been a villain for reactionaries such as David Stove, Gerhart Niemeyer, Edmund Burke...What help is it to divide history into discrete slices, and then imagine that a particular slice failed? Is epochal thinking magical thinking? Lilla turns Voegelin's philosophy on its head and suggests reactionaries profess to have an esoteric historical insight that demands wholesale change to realize a Golden Age -- the exact criticism reactionaries level at other ersatz religions. I know you are, but what am I? I'm not convinced this hits bedrock. Consider this. A reporter once asked Pat Buchanan if he was worried about being on "the wrong side of history.

Download to continue reading...

The Shipwrecked Mind: On Political Reaction Four Against the Arctic: Shipwrecked for Six Years at the Top of the World Por una sonrisa, un beso / For a smile, a kiss: El Clan De Los NÃfÂ $_1$ ufragos / the Clan of the Shipwrecked (Spanish Edition) My Shipwrecked Life: My struggle with alcohol, PTSD and depression Understanding the Political World: A Comparative Introduction to Political Science (11th Edition) Rousseau: 'The Discourses' and Other Early Political Writings (Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought) (v. 1) Kant: Political Writings (Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought) The Craft of Political Research (Pearson Classics in Political Science) The Structure and Reaction Processes of Coal (The Plenum Chemical Engineering Series) Ace Organic Chemistry I: The EASY Guide to Ace Organic Chemistry I: (Organic Chemistry Study Guide, Organic Chemistry Review, Concepts, Reaction Mechanisms and Summaries) Food Allergy: Adverse Reaction to Foods and Food Additives Demanding Democracy: Reform and Reaction in Costa Rica and Guatemala, 1870's - 1950's La guerra civil espa $\bar{A}f\hat{A}$ ola (The Spanish Civil War: Reaction Revolution and Revenge) (Spanish Edition) The Art of Writing Reasonable Organic Reaction Mechanisms Organometallic Reaction Mechanisms of the Nontransition Elements

(Organometallic chemistry) Inorganic and Organometallic Reaction Mechanisms Inorganic and Organometallic Reaction Mechanisms (Brooks/Cole Series in Inorganic Chemistry) Understanding Organometallic Reaction Mechanisms and Catalysis: Computational and Experimental Tools Advanced Organic Chemistry: Part B: Reaction and Synthesis Organic Reaction Mechanisms: Selected Problems and Solutions

<u>Dmca</u>