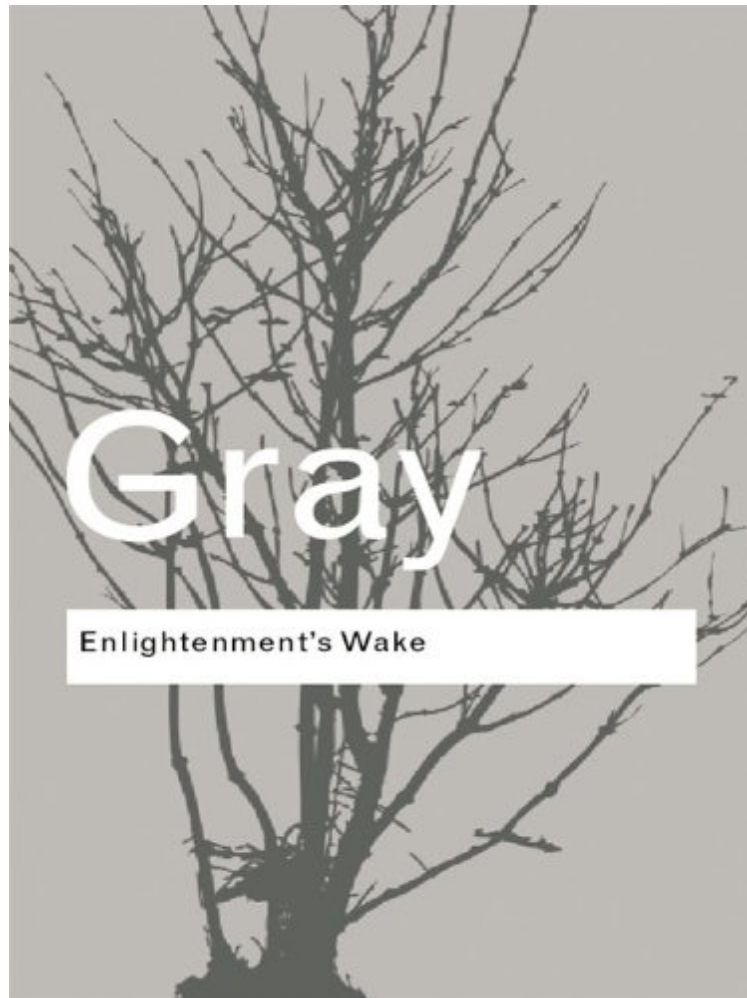


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## Enlightenment's Wake: Politics and Culture at the Close of the Modern Age: Volume 27 (Routledge Classics)

*John Gray*

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**John Gray : Enlightenment's Wake: Politics and Culture at the Close of the Modern Age: Volume 27 (Routledge Classics)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Enlightenment's Wake: Politics and Culture at the Close of the Modern Age: Volume 27 (Routledge Classics):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The view from nowhereBy otto kEnlightenment's Wake delivers a superb account of the fragile philosophical underpinnings of the modern and post-modern world. All the important bases are touched: Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Burke, Herder, Kant, Marx, Nietzsche, Mill, Rawls, Berlin, Rorty , Heidegger...Yes, there are a lot of philosophical bricks in our world. Gray believes that these bricks are are not solid and, in fact, have been crumbling for quite some time. He supports his views with keen and wide-ranging analysis that not only considers our minds and thoughts but also what has actually gone on out there in the "real world"

since Kant awoke from his metaphysical slumber. While his writing style is not as felicitous as Berlin's ( one of the few savants that Gray avidly admires ) he casts a wider net into anthropology, sociology and the modern western mecca of multiculturalism. Unlike most of the twentieth century savants consigned to continental Europe Gray makes his point with aporias, differences, slippages, etc. that encumber much modern thought. The negative in "Wake" is that as a collection of mostly previously published essays, there is a bit of inevitable repetition. All in all a masterful snapshot of the view from nowhere. A must read if you want to unclog your mind from received wisdoms. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Robert P. Worrell Jr. This man could paraphrase a school lunch menu and it would be worth reading..... 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Enlightenment Chickens Have Come Home to Roost By Camille Allensworth Gray has superbly detailed the ghastly long term effects of enlightenment thinking that have carried along Western Civilization for hundreds of years, a path that has led us to what is promising to be the ultimate disaster in the crash of industrial economies and out of control central bankers blinded by their greed and devoid of what was once thought of as ethics.

John Gray is the bestselling author of such books as Straw Dogs and Al Qaeda and What it Means to be Modern which brought a mainstream readership to a man who was already one of the UK's most well respected thinkers and political theorists. Gray wrote Enlightenment's Wake in 1995 ndash; six years after the fall of the Berlin Wall and six years before the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Turning his back on neoliberalism at exactly the moment that its advocates were in their pomp, trumpeting 'the end of history' and the supposedly unstoppable spread of liberal values across the globe, Gray's was a lone voice of scepticism. The thinking he criticised here would lead ultimately to the invasion of Iraq. Today, its folly might seem obvious to all, but as this edition of Enlightenment's Wake shows, John Gray has been trying to warn us for some fifteen years ndash; the rest of us are only now catching up with him.