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Becoming A Barbarian



Synopsis

Becoming a Barbarian won't teach you how to swing a battle axe or crush your enemies (so that you can see them driven before you and then hear the lamentation of their women). Becoming a Barbarian is a follow-up to Donovan's cult hit, *The Way of Men*. Good, modern, "civilized" Western men today are expected to think like "citizens of the world" - obligated to everyone and no one. Natural, meaningful tribal connections have been substituted with synthetic, disposable consumer identities. Without a sense of who they are and what group they have a place in, modern men are becoming increasingly detached, disoriented, vulnerable, and ever more easily manipulated. Becoming a Barbarian attacks the emasculated emptiness of life in the modern West - "The Empire of Nothing" - and shows men how to think tribally again. It reveals the weaknesses of universalistic thinking, and challenges readers to become the kind of men who could go "all-in" and devote their lives to one group of people above all others. Becoming a Barbarian is about finding a tribe, finding a purpose, and choosing to live the kind of life that undermines the narrative of the Empire.

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Customer Reviews

I got the autographed preorder edition, and finished it in a night. And I saw the article on Mr. Donovan's website in which he asked people to put up a review. So here you go. For starters to the first time Donovan reader, *Becoming a Barbarian* is a follow up to his first treatise, *The Way of Men*. I would highly recommend reading it before reading this book, as Jack clearly states that this book is meant to be read after reading *TWOM*. *The Way of Men* was a fresh new philosophy (or a very old one, depending on how you want to look at it), and I think I was among many others that were thankful to Jack Donovan for putting in his crisp, common sense, no-BS way what many of us had felt but struggled to find the words for. But after reading that book, as with any book that revolutionizes how you view the world (which *The Way of Men* did for me), the next question, is "How?". *Becoming a Barbarian* is based around the premise that the Western world is in decline, drowning under the weight of globalism's soulless short-term self-interest. The governments of the West, be it the EU or the good ol' USA, and the global corporations that run them form what the author refers to as "The Empire of Nothing". The only goal of the Empire is to strip you down to what they seek you to be, a unit of production and consumption, crippled with guilt, dumbed down with technology, caught up in a shallow meaningless identity and completely devoid of any hint of tribalism. So how do you fight against such a purgatory-like existence? Simple. By you and yours rejecting the Empire's constraints and striking out on your own to form your tribe. Mr. Donovan explains how to pull it off in this masterful work.

Nearly everyone will agree that we live in a deeply troubled society. While many Americans respond with escapist attempts to insulate themselves from the stresses of everyday reality, a few actively reject appeals to futility, and are evolving to meet the challenges of life in post-industrial America. Jack Donovan is a theorist on the cutting edge of this trend, which can only expand itself in the near future. This is a diverse collection of 15 essays, each precisely crafted and poignant, all relevant to building a better, more well-rounded worldview. This is not a political or economic work, it is psychological in nature, and intends to lead the reader out of self-defeating ideology, and into a more authentic mode of relating to (and being in) the world.

I read this after reading "*The Way of Men*", a book I 100% agreed with. *Becoming a Barbarian* is a good book too but I identified more with "*The Way of Men*". I'm still on the fence about Mr.

Donovan's take on individualism, though I must admit that I see his point and validate it. I just simply don't think his take on it is all inclusive...myself being highly introverted, particularly outside of my family. I'm a BIG fan on what he terms as the "tribe"....what I term as localism (Family, Neighbors, Neighborhood, Community FIRST). The book is definitely a book to read multiple times and well worth your time. He hits the nail on the head consistently.

Great book. Agreed with just about everything, except one. Donovan talks disparagingly about 'intellectuals.' Judging by the contexts he uses the term in, his definition of an intellectual is more or less a high IQ beta male in a tweed jacket with a bow tie, dispensing leftist b.s. from an ivory tower, or trading snobbish jokes at Upper Manhattan cocktail parties. There's something to that caricature but there's also plenty of counter-examples; like Nietzsche, who was clearly an inspiration for Donovan's books. Or Carlyle, Kipling, etc. Donovan's an intellectual too (a musclebound one), and he's clearly spent a lot of time thinking about these things, and thought about them more deeply than most, which is basically the definition of an intellectual. He's a smart guy, and it shows. And he's right on just about everything.

An excellent read. Here Donovan expands on the themes of the Way of Men. He describes the all encompassing and smothering Empire of Nothing- an empire with no emperor, whose power derives from the influence we give it. If you have read Donovan's previous work (Way of Men, Sky Without Eagles, and any other essays he has written in the past year) you may find some of his points early on in the book a little derivative.... but only a little (He's trying to make this book as accessible as possible to those who haven't read WoM here, folks). The book really comes into its own halfway through, though. This book is a great red-pilling device to hand to your cuckservative friends. Will make liberals and SJWs s*** their pants. Definitely a great addition to your collection.

Jack creates a great follow up to The Way of Men in this creative entry that will make you want to get off the damn couch and create a life that is yours. This is necessary read for anyone that take themselves seriously as a man in today's society as well as anyone who wants to know how to create their own "world" in the "Empire." The idea of masculinity is slowly being withered down to shavings in this "acceptance" world we live in, and Jack is bringing back what we are in dire need of.

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