



Minority Report

By H.L. Mencken

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In the fall of 1948 H. L. Mencken, then at the top of his unmatchable form (he had spoken at a meeting of the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia only a little while before), suffered a stroke. He soon recovered his physical vigor, but writing was for him a thing of the past. Some months before his death, in going through some papers that he was putting in order for deposit in his beloved Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, his long-time secretary discovered these Notebooks. Mencken meant to publish them, as he makes clear in the preface, which also describes them better than I can.

Suffice it to say that here is one more generous sampling of the old Mencken battling fearlessly for the freedom and dignity of the individual and for the general decencies of life and attacking all that seems fundamentally hostile to man: government, organized religion, professional philosophers, and pedagogues above all. It shows his restless and inquiring mind ranging over many of the problems that beset all of us who ever take time out to think, all in his unmatchable style, which, however much it crackles, has the supreme virtue—which Henry always found in his own great model, Thomas Henry Huxley—that of never leaving you in doubt of its meaning.

Read the preface and note that this book is precisely what its title suggests; it consists of hundreds of notes—some only a few lines in length, some running to several pages, all reflecting a rigorous and exhilarating mind and personality. It may be a long time before another like him crosses our path.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

The great skeptic and prose stylist H.L. Mencken had a lifelong habit of keeping notebooks that he'd plumb for ideas. He eventually collected many brief essays from his notebooks and published them as *Minority Report*, claiming in the book's introduction that the pieces had been selected at random. That may be true, but as Mencken's writing discipline seemed to require him to always produce elegant prose, it's fair to say that his random notebook entries are superior to the polished essays of many other writers. Mencken was simply a national treasure, and *Minority Report*, as it contains a great many of his observations on a wide variety of subjects, is a good place to begin to get a taste of his eccentrically intelligent style.

Review

He is a delight to read?a little at a time, which one must do in order to fully enjoy the old master's sledgehammer effect.

(San Francisco Chronicle)

From the Back Cover

In 1956 Mencken could look back on a long and distinguished career that included years at the top of his profession, the publication of three volumes of memoirs, and a steady stream of journalism that made him loved and hated, sometimes by the same person. For *Minority Report*, he read through his notebooks, extracting those pieces he thought most true, most pertinent, most precise, or most likely to blow the dust out of a reader's brain.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Victor Willis:

Here thing why this particular *Minority Report* are different and reliable to be yours. First of all looking at a book is good however it depends in the content of computer which is the content is as delicious as food or not. *Minority Report* giving you information deeper since different ways, you can find any publication out there but there is no reserve that similar with *Minority Report*. It gives you thrill reading through journey, its open up your current eyes about the thing this happened in the world which is probably can be happened around you. It is easy to bring everywhere like in park your car, café, or even in your means home by train. In case you are having difficulties in bringing the paper book maybe the form of *Minority Report* in e-book can be your choice.

John Herrera:

Minority Report can be one of your nice books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to place every word into pleasure arrangement in writing *Minority Report* however doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the

hottest and based confirm resource information that maybe you can be among it. This great information can certainly drawn you into brand new stage of crucial pondering.

Brenda Hedstrom:

Reading a book to become new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to learn a book. When you go through a book you can get a great deal of benefit. When you read textbooks, you can improve your knowledge, mainly because book has a lot of information into it. The information that you will get depend on what types of book that you have read. If you wish to get information about your research, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself you can read a fiction books, these kinds of us novel, comics, as well as soon. The Minority Report provide you with a new experience in looking at a book.

Diana Johnson:

As a college student exactly feel bored to help reading. If their teacher questioned them to go to the library in order to make summary for some publication, they are complained. Just very little students that has reading's spirit or real their interest. They just do what the professor want, like asked to the library. They go to generally there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that looking at is not important, boring along with can't see colorful photographs on there. Yeah, it is to become complicated. Book is very important for you. As we know that on this age, many ways to get whatever we would like. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore , this Minority Report can make you sense more interested to read.

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