



Give War and Peace a Chance: Tolstoyan Wisdom for Troubled Times

Andrew D. Kaufman

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From a popular Tolstoy scholar: an entertaining, thought-provoking, and accessible argument for why *War and Peace* is more relevant to readers now than ever.

"Nothing less than inspiring."--*Jay Parini, author of The Last Station*

"Mischievously compelling....An attaboy to Kaufman for reminding us of this novel's relevance to our anxious century." --*The Miami Herald*

"This lively appreciation...should persuade many hesitant readers to try scaling the heights of *War and Peace* sooner rather than later.--*Publisher's Weekly*

Considered by many critics the greatest novel ever written, *War and Peace* is also one of the most feared. And at 1,500 pages, it's no wonder why. Still, new editions keep appearing. In July 2009 *Newsweek* put *War and Peace* at the top of its list of 100 great novels and a 2007 edition of the *AARP Bulletin*, read by millions, included the novel in their list of the top four books everybody should read by the age of fifty. A *New York Times* survey from 2009 identified *War and Peace* as the world classic you're most likely to find people reading on their subway commute to work. What might all those *Newsweek* devotees, senior citizens, and harried commuters see in a book about the Napoleonic Wars in the early 1800s?

A mirror of our times.

War and Peace is many things. It is a love story, a family saga, a war novel. But at its core it's a novel about human beings attempting to create a meaningful life for themselves in a country torn apart by war, social change, political intrigue, and spiritual confusion.

Give War and Peace a Chance takes readers on a journey through *War and Peace* that reframes their very understanding of what it means to live through troubled times and survive them. Touching on a broad range of topics, from courage to romance, parenting to death, Kaufman demonstrates how Tolstoy's wisdom can help us live fuller, more meaningful lives. The ideal companion to *War and Peace*, this book will also be enjoyable to those who have never read a word of Tolstoy, making that masterpiece more approachable, relevant, and *fun*.

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