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Loewy Online: How "Atlas Shrugged" Became "American Psycho"

By TOM LOEWY

The Register-Mail

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She's back. With a vengeance.

Ayn Rand — that champion of the individual and critic of all things regulatory — has crept back into our political consciousness. It was bound to happen. Every time budget deficits soar, or someone from the Heritage Foundation or the Cato Institute needs to make an eloquent speech about how lower taxes and fewer regulations would unleash the inner "Superman" of every business owner, John Galt and "Atlas Shrugged" are trotted out like the old reliable slugger with the bases loaded.

Two years ago, Stephen Moore, a senior economics writer for The Wall Street Journal editorial page, opined that all this country needed to reverse the economic slide was more Rand. Glenn Back, of course, loves her and her writing, especially "Atlas Shrugged." He went so far as to host a panel discussion that addressed the question of whether Rand's most popular work was fiction or fiction-becoming-fact because of the country's slide toward "socialism."

Read Tom's blog here.

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