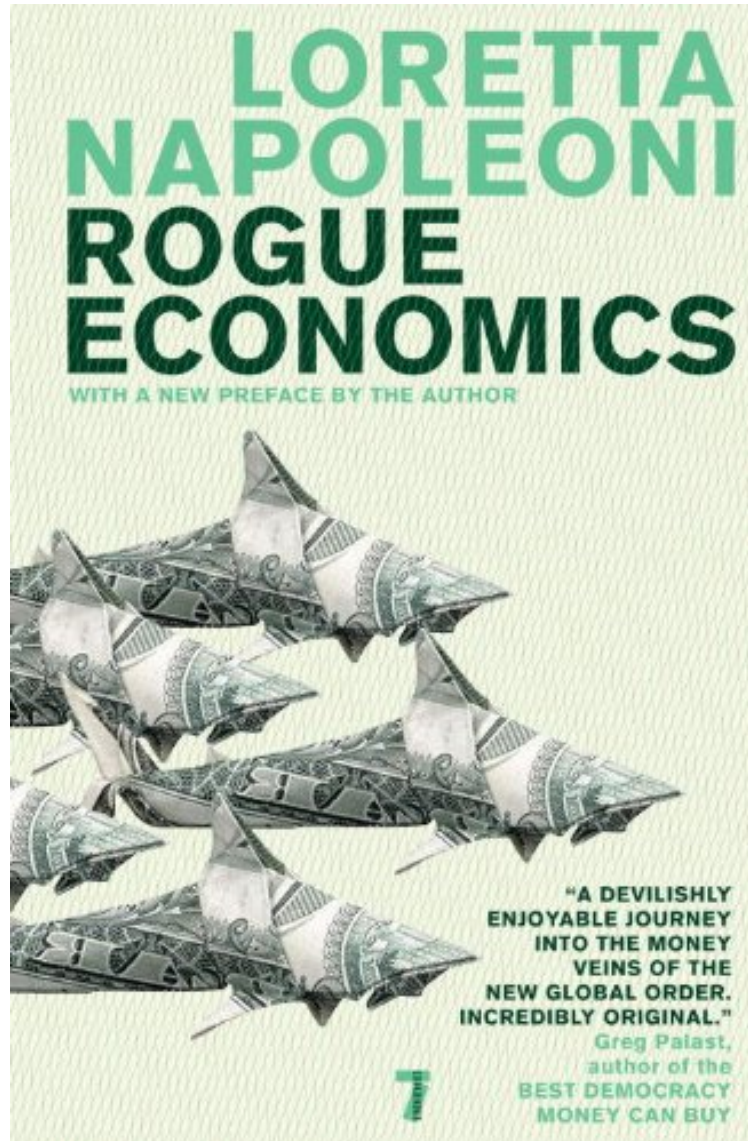


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Rogue Economics

Loretta Napoleoni

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Loretta Napoleoni : Rogue Economics before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rogue Economics:

23 of 24 people found the following review helpful. Eye-opening
By Mark K. Jensen
An interesting, eye-opening, provocative book; very outside-the-box. But also a very self-indulgent one. Conceptually, its oddest feature is the lack of any discussion of the corporation as a socioeconomic institution, with no sustained discussion of the most important political institution, the state. Napoleoni is perhaps typical of certain lightweight Italian intellectuals inclined to portentousness (e.g. Julien Benda, Nicola Chiaromonte). Napoleoni does not use terms precisely and does not define

terms, including "rogue economics" (in her Mar, 31, 2008, interview on Democracy Now! she asserted that "all Western economies are rogue economies," but she does not use the term "rogue economy" in this book); "GDP" is used for for annual growth in GDP (45); she misspells Philip Bobbitt as "Philip Bobbit" (79, 295) but also gets it right once (162); a key reference to Hannah Arendt refers only to an anthology in Italian, not the original (275n.23). Her rambling discursive style may be due to her desire to incorporate topics to which she has devoted journalistic work. Napoleoni also writes in a journalistic style, using short, simplistic, punchy sentences. She tends to toss out statistics, then move on. There is a regrettable tendency to hyperbole in her writing: "American middle-class families cannot plan holidays, birthday parties, even a future for their children, because they do not know if tomorrow they will still have a home" (43). "China's overwhelming and unchallenged absolute advantage revolves around an endless supply of cheap labor, a resource so powerful that it has stripped industrialized economies of their comparative advantage" (35). "It is in the domain of chaos, therefore, that Western thinking fails" (82; actually, Western thinking has been extremely fruitful in the domain of chaos: cf. Henri Poincaré; Jacques Hadamard, G.D. Birkhoff, M.L. Cartwright and J.E. Littlewood, Stephen Smale, Edward Lorenz, Benoît Mandelbrot, James Yorke, Robert Shaw, Albert J. Bichard, Mitchell Feigenbaum, etc.; see James Gleick, *Chaos: Making of a New Science* (1987)); "foreign aid is the true cause of the malaise of Africa" (196); Islamic finance is "growing at the speed of light" (252). 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Par Excellence By modbantam Terrific condition, fast delivery, and WOW ! What a read? You will devour this quick, and it WILL damage your quaint faith and belief in mankind, society, and the Criminal Foodchain from southeast Asian counterfeiter to Russian Pimp to Intellectual Property larcenists-saboteurs to elected officials to the amoral Captains of Industry who puppeteer them like Caligula did on a wedding day if you recall that scene. Elbow deep, readers. Wow. What an author. What a great seller too. Read anything, so you can think, write, or at least spell better. Read this if you want a "Welcome to the Modern Day, Gramps !" moment. The read, the ride, will change you. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Required Reading for everybody By Mike Richards This book should be required reading for anybody who still believes after the GFC that the economic model of globalized free market capitalism is valid. But this is no dry book about economic theory. With virtuosic skill Loretta Napoleoni joins all the dots of the various disasters and scandals that have consumed the West since the fall of the Berlin Wall. The breadth of her vision is astounding. Please beg borrow steal - or even buy this book.

What do Eastern Europe's booming sex trade, America's subprime mortgage lending scandal, China's fake goods industry, and celebrity philanthropy in Africa have in common? With biopirates trolling the blood industry, fish-farming bandits ravaging the high seas, pornography developing virtually in Second Life, and games like World of Warcraft spawning online sweatshops, how are rogue industries transmuting into global empires? And will the entire system be transformed by the advent of sharia economics? With the precision of an economist and the narrative deftness of a storyteller, syndicated journalist Loretta Napoleoni examines how the world is being reshaped by dark economic forces, creating victims out of millions of ordinary people whose lives have become trapped inside a fantasy world of consumerism. Napoleoni reveals the architecture of our world, and in doing so provides fresh insight into many of the most insoluble problems of our era.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . After looking into how terrorism gets paid for (*Terror Incorporated: Tracing the Money Behind Global Terrorism*), Napoleoni tackles the whole of capitalism's dark side: the economics of illegal, criminal and terrorist activities worldwide. There's no shortage of material, including the sex trade of Eastern Europe, internet fraud, piracy (both nautical and intellectual), human slavery, drugs and even the subprime mortgage lending scandal. Unsettling, eye-opening statistics abound—one third of all fish eaten in the UK is illegally poached; today, 27 million slaves worldwide generate annual profits of \$31 billion; up until 9/11, 80 percent of the \$1.5 trillion underworld economy was laundered through the US (the Patriot Act moved much of this business to Europe)—and Napoleoni's bold analysis begs controversy. From page one, she ties the illegal business boom directly to the spread of democracy, pointing to the fall of the Berlin Wall as the moment when "rogue economics" were unleashed in their current, globe-enveloping iteration. Timely and fascinating, Napoleoni's top-notch reporting, in which her attention turns from Viagra to blood diamonds to the banana price wars in a few pages, works in the vein of *Freakonomics* and Eric Schlosser's *Fast Food Nation*, but much grimmer. Like those, this volume doesn't provide many answers, but the questions it raises are profound. Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. About the Author A woman of the Left who garners praise from Noam Chomsky and Greg Palast at the same time as she is quoted respectfully in *Forbes* and the *Wall Street Journal*, LORETTA NAPOLEONI was born in 1955 in Rome. In the mid 1970s she became an active member of the feminist movement in Italy, and later studied as a Fulbright Scholar at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, D.C. She began her career as an economist, and went on to work as London correspondent and columnist for *La Stampa*, *La Repubblica* and *La Paice*. Napoleoni is the author of the international bestsellers *Rogue Economics: Capitalism's New Reality* and *Terror Incorporated: Tracing the Money Behind Global Terrorism*. She has served as the Chairman of the countering terrorism financing group for the Club de Madrid, and lectures

regularly around the world on economics, money laundering and terrorism. Napoleoni lives in London and Montana.nbsp;