



Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009

## ANG LEE SHRUGGED: WHO IS JOHN GALT—OOPS, I MEAN...JACK TWIST?

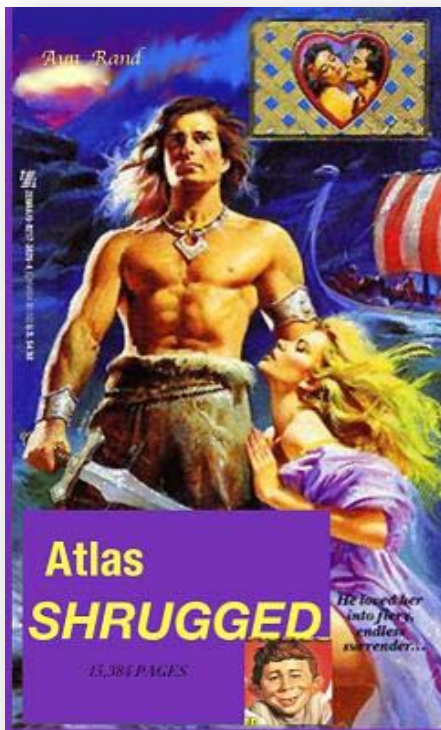
By tellyouwhat

Thanks to [lislis](#) for posting this link in [The General Discussion](#):<sup>(1)</sup> to an article by David Fisco titled [Objectivism on Brokeback Mountain](#):<sup>(2)</sup>

The author says he had preconceived ideas of BBM before he happened to catch the film last year (2 1/2 years after its release.) Like many of us, he was surprised that he couldn't stop thinking about the story. However, with one exception, his questions about the story were different from ours. Have you ever asked yourself—

- **Were Jack Twist and Ennis Del Mar exhibiting social metaphysics?**
- **Were they guilty of reality evasion? And if they were, to what degree?**
- **Were these men guilty of altruism? \***
- **Were these characters even gay? \*\***
- **Which character, if any, exhibited Objectivist behavior?**

\*I don't know if they were "guilty" of altruism (because they stayed with their wives)-- in my philosophy altruism is a good thing but I can see how Ayn Rand might find it outside the basic decency of self-service (which is supposed to promote progress for everyone).



\*\***Were they gay?**<sup>(3)</sup> -- According to our forum poll, most of us would answer yes.

Fisco believes they were not gay, as they both clearly stated to each other on the mountain. They were in love with each other, but not gay.

Can you guess which character exhibits the most Objectivist behavior? Is it:

**a. Alma   b. Jack   c. Aguirre   d. Ennis   e. Bobby**

**Dal posted some comments on the article:**<sup>(4)</sup>

Fisco wrote: *"In an alternate script, the two could have had a denouement discussion about their values and their inability to achieve greatness in the world to which they must return, check into a hotel and suicide. That version of Brokeback Mountain would be much closer to Randian fiction and drama."*



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Dal wrote: Very true. It would be a trifle strange perhaps, to see Ennis and Jack all of a sudden talking existentially about Heroes; but yes, it certainly would put the Rand Touch upon the movie!

...Apparently, Non-romantic Realism strikes no chord with objectivists. *Altas Shrugged* is the world's longest Harlequin romance. For all its grandiosity, I really think it is a teenager's fantasy of the strongest guy in the human race, ready to spit in everybody's eye but... taking her, and her alone, for his own.

For those who wish to hook up with an objectivist, check out [The Atlasphere](#)<sup>(5)</sup>.

David Fisco, if you are reading, welcome to Brokeback Fever! Either join the forum, or take two aspirin and call us in three years.

*Cover art manipped by Dal*

<sup>(1)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=28284.msg1532656#msg1532656>

<sup>(2)</sup> <http://www.davidfisco.com/node/166>

<sup>(3)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=19.6750>

<sup>(4)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=28284.msg1534323#msg1534323>

<sup>(5)</sup> <http://www.theatlasphere.com/dating/index.php?page=index>

## **GAY CANDIDATE ELECTED MAYOR OF OAKLAND PARK, FLORIDA**

"Anthony Niedwiecki has become a city commissioner in Oakland Park, Florida, winning his first race for public office. At the time of this report, he is apparently the highest vote getter, making him the Mayor of Oakland Park, a community of 42,000, for the next four years.

"It appears that Anthony is the only gay candidate to win in this year's round of elections in this region.

"And everyone at the party was congratulating Bilerico's own Waymon Hudson, Anthony's husband, on becoming First Lady of Oakland Park, Florida."

Read [more](#)<sup>(6)</sup>.

Source: The Bilerico Project

<sup>(6)</sup> [http://www.bilerico.com/2009/03/anthony\\_niedwiecki\\_elected\\_mayor\\_of\\_oakl.php](http://www.bilerico.com/2009/03/anthony_niedwiecki_elected_mayor_of_oakl.php)



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## **NEW LEADERS HIRED TO HELP REGAIN THE FREEDOM TO MARRY IN CALIFORNIA**



"Equality California announced that they hired two new leaders to help regain the freedom to marry in California. Marc Solomon - the highly regarded executive director of MassEquality - will be EQCA's new 'marriage director.'

"EQCA also hired Andrea Shorter, who recently lead the post-Prop 8 Equality Summit. Shorter is co-founder and director of And Marriage For All, a public-education campaign that engages communities of color in dialogue about the freedom to marry for same-sex couples, and the co-founder and chair of the Bayard Rustin LGBT Coalition, the largest African-American LGBT political organization in the Bay Area."

Read more [here](#)<sup>(7)</sup>.

Source: The Bilerico Project

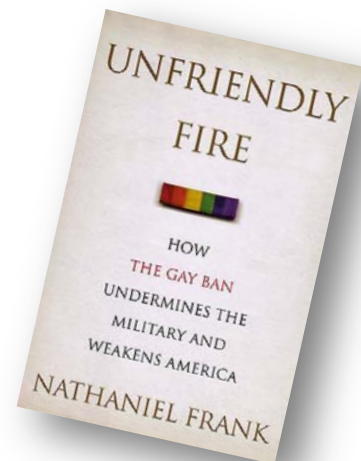
<sup>(7)</sup> [http://www.bilerico.com/2009/03/andrea\\_shorter\\_on\\_her\\_new\\_eqca\\_marriage.php](http://www.bilerico.com/2009/03/andrea_shorter_on_her_new_eqca_marriage.php).

## **BOOK REVIEW: UNFRIENDLY FIRE: HOW THE GAY BAN UNDERMINES THE MILITARY AND WEAKENS AMERICA**

"When the 'don't ask, don't tell' policy emerged as a political compromise under Bill Clinton in 1993, it only ended up worsening the destructive gay ban that had been on the books since World War II. Drawing on more than a decade of research and hundreds of interviews, Nathaniel Frank exposes the military's policy toward gays and lesbians as damaging and demonstrates that 'don't ask, don't tell' must be replaced with an outright reversal of the gay ban.

"Frank is one of the nation's leading experts on gays in the military, and in his evenhanded and always scrupulously documented chronicle, he reveals how the ban on open gays and lesbians in the U.S. military has greatly increased discharges, hampered recruitment, and—contrary to the rationale offered by proponents of the ban—led to lower morale and cohesion within military ranks.

"Frank does not shy away from tackling controversial issues, and he





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presents indisputable evidence showing that gays already serve openly without causing problems, and that the policy itself is weakening the military it was supposed to protect. In addition to the moral pitfalls of the gay ban, Frank shows the practical damage it has wrought. Most recently, the discharge of valuable Arabic translators (who happen to be gay) under the current policy has left U.S. forces ill-equipped in the fight against terrorism.”

“In 1993, when I was Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, I felt that the policy was right for the times. Frank makes a compelling case not only that there has been a shift within our society, but that the time has come to look beyond our preconceptions and focus on capabilities. This book should be mandatory reading for anyone with an interest in the state of our society or the readiness of our military.’ —General John Shalikashvili, former Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, U.S. Armed Forces”

“This book lays out clearly, fairly, dispassionately, and accurately the terrible cost to our national security of this insane policy.’ —Andrew Sullivan, author of The Daily Dish blog and of The Conservative Soul: How We Lost It, How to Get It Back”

“Here is a book from a leading scholar that cuts through the ignorance, the denial, and the prejudice to explain how we got stuck with a policy that was doomed to fail. Our military and our nation owe Frank a debt of gratitude.’ —Dr. Lawrence J. Korb, former Assistant Secretary of Defense under Ronald Reagan”

Read more [here](#)<sup>(8)</sup>.

Source: Macmillan.

<sup>(8)</sup> <http://us.macmillan.com/unfriendlyfire>

Buy this book in the **Forum’s Amazon Store.**

<http://astore.amazon.com/davecullencom-20/detail/0312373481/179-2098564-8077021>



## **‘MANLY’ WOMEN CONSIDERED MENACE TO SOCIETY**



“Naji Hay, an official at the ministry of social affairs, said in an article published on the website of the Arab satellite TV channel, Al-Arabiya: ‘The phenomenon of manly women has become apparent in society.... These women are against the normal nature of females. Their deviant behavior threatens other normal girls. This is why we had to launch this initiative to protect society from this menace.’

“The campaign, which involves educational experts and psychologists, will include awareness workshops to explain the phenomenon and ways to face it.

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"Similar calls were heard in neighboring Persian Gulf countries. In Bahrain last year, for instance, a group of lawmakers urged the government to 'punish' kids who 'veer towards homosexuality' in schools.

"Speaking publicly about lesbianism is rare in the Arab world, where the phenomenon is considered simply as nonexistent. Officials in the region unleash their wrath much more often against male homosexuality because of the male-dominated nature of societies here that consider it as a 'disgrace' to manhood.

"In May 2008, Dubai's police carried a one-week operation to crackdown on homosexuals in public spaces around the city."

Read more [here](#)<sup>(9)</sup>.

Source: latimesblogs.latimes.com

<sup>(9)</sup> <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/babylonbeyond/2009/03/uae-manly-women.html>

## REMEMBERING WRITER MILLARD KAUFMAN



"Screenwriter Millard Kaufman, who co-created the cartoon character Mr. Magoo, was nominated for Academy Awards for his screenplays for 'Take the High Ground!' and 'Bad Day at Black Rock' and won a cult following as a first-time novelist at the age of 90, has died, a spokeswoman said. He was 92."

"Kaufman's writing credits also include 'Never So Few,' 'The Warlord,' 'The Klansman' and 'Convicts 4,' as well an episode of the TV series 'Police Story' and the TV movie 'Enola Gay.'

"In 1949, he wrote the screenplay for the short film 'Ragtime Bear,' which featured the first appearance of Mr. Magoo, a short elderly man voiced by 'Gilligan's Island' actor Jim Backus who gets into constant trouble because of his terrible eyesight, which he refuses to acknowledge. Kaufman later co-wrote the 1950 Mr. Magoo short film 'Punchy de Leon.' He was nominated twice for an Oscar — in 1953 for the story and screenplay of 'Take the High Ground' and two years later for the screenplay of 'Bad Day at Black Rock.'"

Read more [here](#)<sup>(10)</sup>.

<sup>(10)</sup> [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/obit\\_millard\\_kaufman](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/obit_millard_kaufman)

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## Forum Footnotes

### DAVE'S ON YOUTUBE

**Ten years in the making:  
The definitive story of an American tragedy...**

Check out the [YouTube trailer](#)<sup>(11)</sup> for Dave's Columbine book.

*"Which makes Dave Cullen's new book, Columbine, an accomplishment that catapults him to the top of the genre. Not since Capote's In Cold Blood do we find such a thoughtful, illuminating, riveting, and disturbing portrait of the criminal mind. Columbine doesn't just explode the myths of what happened that day and why. Instead the book carefully dissects our biases, revealing a populace eager to blame this tragedy on poor parenting, Satan, rock music, or goth kids because it is simpler and more convenient than hearing the truth."*

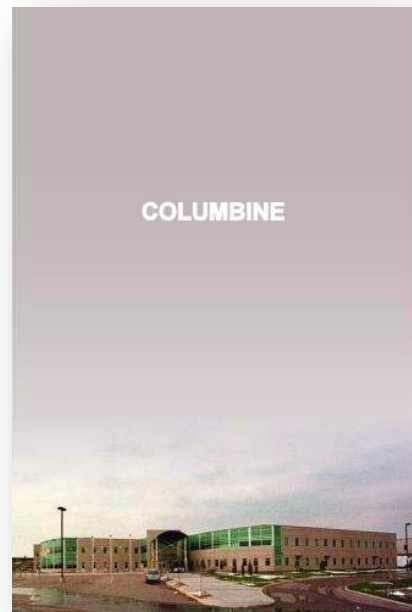
-- Crime Critics

Read more [here](#)<sup>(12)</sup>.  
[Buy](#)<sup>(13)</sup> Columbine

<sup>(11)</sup> [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6\\_BUR8u8a0Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_BUR8u8a0Q)

<sup>(12)</sup> <http://tinyurl.com/cr4hyt>

<sup>(13)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/columbine/buy.htm>



### A FOND FAREWELL

**Melisande** is stepping down from her position as forum Chief Moderator. Please leave your **thoughts and well-wishes**<sup>(14)</sup> for her and for a job well done!

### A WARM WELCOME

TDS would like to extend a warm welcome to the new Chief Moderator, longtime forum member and moderator, **BrokeOkie**/Glenn.

<sup>(14)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=35519.msg1543352;topicseen#msg1543352>



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**FUN QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

**This week's Question:** Who are these people?  
Leonard, Minnie, Herbert, Simon, Arthur, Milton, Manfred, Julius



Let us know the answer on the **response thread**<sup>(15)</sup> .

**Answer to last week's Question:** Congratulations to **tfferg** (who posted the answer within thirty minutes!): "The holey dollar and dump, made from Spanish silver dollars worth 5 shillings each, were issued by New South Wales Governor Macquarie in 1813 to over come a shortage of currency. The holey dollar was worth 5 shillings and the dump 1 shilling and 3 pence. Another advantage of punching the dump out of the dollar was that the coins couldn't leave the colony, having no value anywhere else.

"Incidentally the first generations of non-Indigenous people born in New South Wales were called Currency Lads and Lasses. At one time in the early years in NSW, because of the shortage of legal tender people in the colony used rum as currency."

<sup>(15)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=8377.msg1498323#new>

**POSTS OF THE DAY**



Posted by **rolie** in **Planet Heath - Magical, Mystical Volume 13**<sup>(16)</sup>



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"I was just watching an episode of 'History Detectives' from June 2006 - there is a segment on a marker for the Chisholm trail. This line caught my attention: 'From Gene Autry to John Wayne to Heath Ledger, the cowboy is a staple of American culture.' Already part of the archetype in June 2006 - how very cool."

Posted by **michaelflanagansf** in **TV Right Now**<sup>(17)</sup>

For more information, visit **PBS.org**<sup>(18)</sup>

<sup>(16)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=32545.msg1530762#msg1530762>

<sup>(17)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=5736.msg1529419#msg1529419>

<sup>(18)</sup> [http://www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/investigations/401\\_chisholm.html](http://www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/investigations/401_chisholm.html)

## **PHOTOCAPTION OF THE DAY**

**By BayCityJohn in Photo Captioning Fun 4**



**Jack, in his dark camp, saw Ennis as night fire, a red spark on the huge black mass of mountain.**

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## **QUOTE OF THE DAY**

**Laughter is the closest distance between two people.**

*~ Victor Borge*

Contributors: **tellyouwhat, michaelflanagansf, elena, testadura, KittyHawk, BayCityJohn, Little Darlin**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

If you have ideas about initiating a gathering, go to **Start Your Own Threads** and get the ball rolling to plan a get-together near you.

### **MAN DANCE COMPANY**

**San Francisco - July 10-12, 2009**

<http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=31466.0>

**Let us know** of any events you'd like listed here

The Daily Sheet is a production of The Ultimate Brokeback Forum  
at [www.davecullen.com/forum](http://www.davecullen.com/forum).

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We count on you to send us your news items, questions, and nominations for posts of the day.  
If you have items you'd like to see published, send them to [tds@davecullen.com](mailto:tds@davecullen.com).

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