Emma Goldman

Early experiences
watching women/children being beaten, peasants whipped, etc. Corruption of officials.
tyrannical father
4 years of elementary school-->mastering German and excelling academically.
Restricted from Gymnasium for a 'failed deportment, behavior and bearing"
1882 Czar Alex II assassinated the year Goldman moves to St. Petersburg by a libertarian
anarchist egalitarian
Got 6 mos. schooling there (at 13 yrs.)
picked up populist/libertarian politics that were in the air
began to idolize Chernichevsky & turgenev & revolutionary female Vera Zasulich, who
shot police chief of St. Petersburg, and Sophia Perovskaya, who was martyred for
conspiring against the Czar.
Father attempts to marry off at 15. Emma flees to America with sister.
At 17 settles in New York and witnesses repression of immigrants and blacks in the NYC
ghettoes.
First job: making overcoats for $2.50 / week.
Learns of Chicago anarchists' trial and conviction-->ideals similar to her Russian
populists. (Chic. Anarch. convicted of throwing bomb into a crowd of police)
Lead to panic in Chicago...anarchist hunt launched. 1887 trial & hanging of 4 convicted
anarchists.
Black Friday: Haymarket Riot on May Day, 1886....Haymarket martyrs were hanged,
Emma becomes a revolutionary.
Emma lead organizer of 1889 cloak-maker's strike
Established several communes; one with Berkman & Fedya with whom she shared
relations.
Outspoken against marriage as a property contract that exploits women as property.
July 23, 1892: Berkman & Goldman rally together to assassinate Henry Clay Frick, the
chairman of Carnegie Steel Corp who had ordered armed Pinkertons to attack
strickers in Homestead, PA. Berkman served 24 yrs & Frick lived.
During Berkman's trial, Goldman relied on the aid of another member of their group
JohannMost. Most spoke out against Berkman and Emma, listening from the
crowed, demanded that he withdraw the slur against Berkman. Most reacted
by mumbling something about an 'hysterical woman', at which point Emma
leapt to the stage, pulled a bull whip from under her cloak, and gave most a
fierce public flogging. When she finished, she broke the whip in two across her
knee and threw the pieces in Most's face.
1893 emma was sent to jail for inciting a riot of the unemployed. She emerged from jail
as "Red Emma".
1894: in prison she mastered English. Always brought boks with her to speeches
expecting to be jailed.
1901: when McKinley was assassinated by Leon Czolgsz, an "anarchist" who admitted having once met Goldman, she was immediately arrested as the most famous and notorious anarchist in America. She had already made an international name for herself in Europe. She studied nursing and midwifery in Europe and had offered to nurse McKinley when she was jailed. She stayed underground as E. G. Smith until 1906, when she came back and started Mother Earth (Berkman released as co-editor).

1917: obstructed the draft in WW I, she and Berkman were sentenced to 2 years. 1918: deported under the Alien Exclusion Act. 1940: 5/14 Goldman suffered a stroke at age 70 and died. Shipped back to Chicago to be buried with the martyrs of the Haymarket Affair and a monument was raised in the Waldheim Cemetery.

II. "What Anarchism Really Stands For"
--Not doctrine of chaos but of freely arranged cooperation, mutual aid, & improvisation
--People left to own devices cooperate rather than the 'state of nature'

2 Objections to Anarchism Addressed: 1) anarchism=impractical beautiful ideal--utopian 2) anarchism=violent & destructive, dangerous

Reply to (1):
a) a practical scheme is one already in existence or one capable of being carried out under current conditions. But current conditions are wrong and foolish, so this is not a practicability worth having.
b) anarchism is practical because it seeks to do away with wrong and foolish conditions and build and sustain new life.

Reply to (2):
a) Power of destruction is what anarchisms wants to challenge
b) Ignorance is the most destructive (cf. Mill)
c) Anarchism urges people to consider every proposition (p. 50...again, cf. Mill on free speech)

Definition of Anarchism (p. 50):
1) New social order with Liberty unrestricted by law (similar to, but different from Mill)
2) All forms of government rest on violence Therefore, government is wrong, harmful, and unnecessary.

Individual and Social Instincts: These are usually seen to be in conflict (cf. Harm Principle/Private Sphere in Mill)
But: Anarchism denies that there is conflict between individual and social interests of man. Individual interests are: personal endeavors, growth, self-realization Social interest are: mutual aid to create social well-being

The individual is the heart of society (p. 51: "the one thing of value in the world ... is the active soul"...Emerson)
"It is the true soul that sees and creates the truth alive, out of which is to come a still greater truth, the re-born social soul."

Anarchism is against:
- Religion--domination of the mind
- Property--domination of needs
- State--domination of human conduct

State exists to organize all authority to maintain wealth, property, and domination of the mass of human beings.

What Anarchism Really Stands For (p. 59):
- liberation from religion, from property, from restraint of government.
- But anarchism is not against a social order (it is not for literal social anarchy):
  "Anarchism stands for a social order based on the free grouping of individuals for the purpose of producing real social wealth; an order that will guarantee to every human being free access to the earth and full enjoyment of the necessities of life, according to individual desires, tastes, and inclinations."[p. 59]

Since Mill promotes government, Goldman is anti-Mill, but she is very much in the libertarian vein that Mill evokes in his own theory of justice. Goldman thinks that anarchism seeks individual liberty and economic equality (see pg. 60). Mill and Goldman are really hoping for the same things. Their disagreement is about how to get them.

Anarchist Methods to achieve these Goals:
- Methods should "grow out of the economic needs of each place and clime, and of the intellectual and temperamental requirements of the individual."
  - Syndicalism (use of strikes to put government and industry under control of labor unions)
  - Barter
  - Guild
- Anarchism uses revolt against all hindrances to human growth.

(Question: would Goldman accept Mill's Harm Principle? Big question!)

Anarchism a la Goldman apparently would not accept the social responsibilities of a) a common defense, or b) government as a source of social change (cf. Roosevelt)

Goldman is anti-parliament. Quotes Thoreau on the failure of voting as a means to good ends (merely serves expediency, and the associated 'machinery of politics' has failed). Key notion: anarchism has never been tried.

Goldman stands in defiance of all laws and restrictions: economic, social, moral.

Note the great faith in the essential goodness and progressiveness of unfettered humanity here.