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"A truly excellent book that explains

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where our pandemic response went wrong, and how we can understand those failings using the tools of economics." [Tyler Cowen, Holbert L. Harris Chair of Economics at George Mason University and coauthor of the blog Marginal Revolution Have you ever stopped to wonder why hand sanitizer was missing

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from your pharmacy for months after the COVID-19 pandemic hit? Why some employers and employees were arguing over workers being re-hired during the first COVID-19 lockdown? Why passenger airlines were able to get their own ring-fenced bailout from Congress? Economics in One Virus answers all these

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pandemic-related questions and many more, drawing on the dramatic events of 2020 to bring to life some of the most important principles of economic thought. Packed with supporting data and the best new academic evidence, those uninitiated in economics will be given a crash-course in the subject through the applied case-

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study of the COVID-19 pandemic, to help explain everything from why the U.S. was underprepared for the pandemic to how economists go about valuing the lives saved from lockdowns. After digesting this highly readable, fast-paced, and provocative virus-themed economic tour, readers will be able to make much better

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sense of the events that they've lived through. Perhaps more importantly, the insights on everything from the role of the price mechanism to trade and specialization will grant even those wholly new to economics the skills to think like an economist in their own lives and when evaluating the choices of their political

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leaders.

Central Bank Policy: Theory and Practice analyses various policies, theories and practices adopted by central banks, as well as the institutional arrangements underlying the principles of good governance in policy-making. It is the first book to comprehensively discuss the latest

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theories and practices of central bank policy.

Mervyn King was governor of the Bank of England from 2003 to 2013, guiding the country through the Great Recession and into the start of the recovery. Taking the long view, King shows that the crisis he faced was only the latest in a long series of

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financial crises since our money and banking systems became the cornerstone of modern capitalism. True, the transformation of precious metals into paper money, and the invention of banking institutions that could spin out long-term loans from short-term deposits, have provided a financial alchemy that has

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spawned two hundred years of economic growth—yet they also create vulnerabilities that have wrought repeated economic disasters, from hyperinflation to banking collapses. In *The End of Alchemy*, King tackles the fundamental question rising out of the Great Recession: are we slaves to the boom-and-bust cycles of money and

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banking, or can we remake these institutions to fashion a more stable future?

The finance sector of Western economies is too large and attracts too many of the smartest college graduates.

Financialization over the past three decades has created a structure that lacks

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resilience and supports absurd volumes of trading. The finance sector devotes too little attention to the search for new investment opportunities and the stewardship of existing ones, and far too much to secondary-market dealing in existing assets. Regulation has contributed more to the problems than the solutions.

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Why? What is finance for? John Kay, with wide practical and academic experience in the world of finance, understands the operation of the financial sector better than most. He believes in good banks and effective asset managers, but good banks and effective asset managers are not what he sees. In a dazzling and revelatory tour

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of the financial world as it has emerged from the wreckage of the 2008 crisis, Kay does not flinch in his criticism: we do need some of the things that Citigroup and Goldman Sachs do, but we do not need Citigroup and Goldman to do them. And many of the things done by Citigroup and Goldman do not need to be done at all.

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The finance sector needs to be reminded of its primary purpose: to manage other people's money for the benefit of businesses and households. It is an aberration when the some of the finest mathematical and scientific minds are tasked with devising algorithms for the sole purpose of exploiting the weakness of

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other algorithms for computerized trading in securities. To travel further down that road leads to ruin. A Financial Times Book of the Year, 2015 An Economist Best Book of the Year, 2015 A Bloomberg Best Book of the Year, 2015
Lords of Finance
The Shifts and the Shocks

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Where Does Money Come From?

The Secrets of Alchemy

Money, Banking and the Future of the
Global Economy

Theory and Practice

The End of Banking

***Like the proverbial fish who
doesn't know what water is, we***

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swim in an economy built on money that few of us comprehend, and, most definitely, what we don't know is hurting us. Very few people realize that the nature of money has changed profoundly over the

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past three centuries, or—as has been clear with the latest global financial crisis—the extent to which it has become a political instrument used to centralize power, concentrate wealth, and subvert popular government. On

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top of that, the economic growth imperative inherent in the present global monetary system is a main driver of global warming and other environmental crises. The End of Money and the Future of

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Civilization demystifies the subjects of money, banking, and finance by tracing historical landmarks and important evolutionary shifts that have changed the essential nature of money. Greco's masterful work

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lays out the problems and then looks to the future for a next stage in money's evolution that can liberate us as individuals and communities from the current grip of centralized and politicized money power. Greco

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provides specific design proposals and exchange-system architectures for local, regional, national, and global financial systems. He offers strategies for their implementation and outlines actions grassroots

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organizations, businesses, and governments will need to take to achieve success. Ultimately, The End of Money and the Future of Civilization provides the necessary understanding— for entrepreneurs, activists, and

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civic leaders—to implement approaches toward monetary liberation. These approaches would empower communities, preserve democratic institutions, and begin to build economies that are sustainable, democratic,

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and insulated from the financial crises that plague the dominant monetary system.

Expanded and updated, Charles Eisenstein's classic treatise on capitalism, currency, and the gift economy. This revised version

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traces the history of money, from ancient gift economies to modern capitalism, and includes new material on cryptocurrencies and emerging research that has come out since the book's original publication.

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Charles Eisenstein shows how capitalism contributes to alienation, competition, and scarcity; destroys community; and necessitates endless growth at the cost of social and environmental devastation.

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Today, these trends have reached their extreme--and their collapse presents a golden opportunity to transition to a more connected, ecological, and sustainable way of being. Eisenstein describes the deeper

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narratives beneath our economic system, and how we can reimagine it to align with a new story. Applying a broadly integrated synthesis of theory, policy, and practice, he explores avant-garde concepts of the New

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Economics, including negative-interest currencies, local economies, gift economics, cryptocurrencies, and the restoration of the commons. Tapping into a rich lineage of conventional and unconventional

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economic thought, Eisenstein presents a vision that is original yet commonsense, radical yet gentle, and increasingly relevant as the crises of our civilization deepen.

An in-depth look at how to

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account for the human complexities at the heart of today's financial system Our economy may have recovered from the Great Recession—but not our economics. The End of Theory discusses why the

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human condition and the radical uncertainty of our world renders the standard economic model—and the theory behind it—useless for dealing with financial crises. What model should replace it? None. At least

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not any version we've been using for the past two hundred years. Richard Bookstaber argues for a new approach called agent-based economics, one that takes as a starting point the fact that we are humans, not the

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optimizing automatons that standard economics assumes we are. Sweeping aside the historic failure of twentieth-century economics, The End of Theory offers a novel perspective and more realistic framework to help

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***prevent today's financial system
from blowing up again.***

***In this latest installment of his
remarkable series of books of
alternative science and history,
Joseph P. Farrell outlines the
consistent pattern and strategy***

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of bankers in ancient and modern times, and their desire to suppress the public development of alternative physics and energy technologies, usurp the money creating and issuing power of the state, and substitute a

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***facsimile of money-as-debt.
Here, Farrell peels back the
layers of deception to reveal the
possible deep physics that the
“banksters” have used to aid
them in their financial policies.
Feral House also published***

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Alchemy and the Secret
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Inventing English Alchemy,
1300-1700
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Back from the Brink

***The End of Money and the Future
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people including Niall
Ferguson, Larry Summers,
Paul Volcker, Henry Kissinger,
Alan Greenspan and Michael**

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Lewis, this reviewer begs to disagree, not simply with the arguments, but with the whole premise of the book. This is not to say that the book is uninteresting; quite the contrary, I agree with

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Professor Summers that the book deserves to be widely read, but perhaps not quite for the reasons he had in mind. Indeed, it contains much of interest to a general readership which is written by

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an insider and is nothing if not revealing. However, in agreement with the current Chief Economist of the Bank of England, Andy Haldane, and the Global Chief Economist of Citigroup, Willem Buiter, I

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believe that the best path to global financial stability is a sharpening (through regulatory simplification and specificity) of the classical aims of central banks to maintain price and financial

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stability through direct control of interest rates and close monitoring of banking capital ratios and credit expansion in interaction with the financial markets. Arguably this was not the case during the tenure of

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**Mervyn King as Governor of
the Bank.**

**Alistair Darling's long-awaited
book will be one of the most
reviewed, widely discussed,
and saleable political memoirs
of recent years. In the late**

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summer of 2007, shares of Northern Rock went into free-fall, causing a run on the bank - the first in over 150 years. Northern Rock proved to be only the first. Twelve months later, as the world was

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engulfed in the worst banking crisis for more than a century, one of its largest banks, RBS, came within hours of collapse. Back from the Brink tells the gripping story of Alistair Darling's one thousand days in

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Number 11 Downing Street. As Chancellor, he had to avert the collapse of RBS hours before the cash machines would have ceased to function; at the eleventh hour, he stopped Barclays from acquiring

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Lehman Brothers in order to protect UK taxpayers; he used anti-terror legislation to stop Icelandic banks from withdrawing funds from Britain. From crisis talks in Washington, to dramatic

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meetings with the titans of international banking, to dealing with the massive political and economic fallout in the UK, Darling places the reader in the rooms where the destinies of millions weighed

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heavily on the shoulders of a few. His book is also a candid account of life in the Downing Street pressure cooker and his relationship with Gordon Brown during the last years of New Labor. Back from the

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Brink is a vivid and immediate depiction of the British government's handling of an unprecedented global financial catastrophe. Alistair Darling's knowledge and understanding provide a unique perspective

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**on the events that rocked
international capitalism. It is
also a vital historical
document.**

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commentator for the Financial
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many books that have sought**

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to explain the causes and courses of the financial and economic crisis that began in 2007. The Shifts and the Shocks is not another detailed history of the crisis but is the most persuasive and complete

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account yet published of what the crisis should teach us about modern economies and economics. Written with all the intellectual command and trenchant judgment that have made Martin Wolf one of the

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who yearns to travel in
search of a worldly
treasure. His quest will
lead him to riches far
different—and far more
satisfying—than he ever

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imagined. Santiago's
journey teaches us about
the essential wisdom of
listening to our hearts,
of recognizing
opportunity and learning
to read the omens strewn

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along life's path, and,
most importantly, to
follow our dreams.

Everything from home
mortgages to climate
change has become
financialized, as vast

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fortunes are generated
by individuals who build
nothing of lasting
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"extreme money" has
become ever more unreal;
how "voodoo banking"

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continues to generate massive phony profits even now; and how a new generation of "Masters of the Universe" has come to dominate the world.

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From bestselling writer David Graeber—"a master of opening up thought and stimulating debate" (Slate)—a powerful argument against the rise of meaningless,

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unfulfilling jobs...and their consequences. Does your job make a meaningful contribution to the world? In the spring of 2013, David Graeber asked this

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question in a playful,
provocative essay titled
“On the Phenomenon of
Bullshit Jobs.” It went
viral. After one million
online views in
seventeen different

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languages, people all
over the world are still
debating the answer.
There are hordes of
people—HR consultants,
communication
coordinators,

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telemarketing

researchers, corporate
lawyers—whose jobs are
useless, and,
tragically, they know
it. These people are
caught in bullshit jobs.

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Graeber explores one of society's most vexing and deeply felt concerns, indicting among other villains a particular strain of finance capitalism that

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betrays ideals shared by
thinkers ranging from
Keynes to Lincoln.

“Clever and charismatic”
(The New Yorker),
Bullshit Jobs gives
individuals,

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corporations, and societies permission to undergo a shift in values, placing creative and caring work at the center of our culture. This book is for

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everyone who wants to
turn their vocation back
into an avocation and “a
thought-provoking
examination of our
working lives”
(Financial Times).

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Much economic advice is bogus quantification, warn two leading experts in this essential book, now with a preface on COVID-19. Invented numbers offer a false

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sense of security; we need instead robust narratives that give us the confidence to manage uncertainty. “An elegant and careful guide to thinking about personal

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and social economics,
especially in a time of
uncertainty. The timing
is impeccable." –

Christine Kenneally, New
York Times Book Review
Some uncertainties are

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resolvable. The insurance industry's actuarial tables and the gambler's roulette wheel both yield to the tools of probability theory. Most situations in life,

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however, involve a deeper kind of uncertainty, a radical uncertainty for which historical data provide no useful guidance to future outcomes. Radical

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uncertainty concerns
events whose
determinants are
insufficiently
understood for
probabilities to be
known or forecasting

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possible. Before
President Barack Obama
made the fateful
decision to send in the
Navy Seals, his advisers
offered him wildly
divergent estimates of

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the odds that Osama bin Laden would be in the Abbottabad compound. In 2000, no one—not least Steve Jobs—knew what a smartphone was; how could anyone have

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predicted how many would
be sold in 2020? And
financial advisers who
confidently provide the
information required in
the standard retirement
planning package—what

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will interest rates, the cost of living, and your state of health be in 2050?—demonstrate only that their advice is worthless. The limits of certainty demonstrate

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the power of human
judgment over artificial
intelligence. In most
critical decisions there
can be no forecasts or
probability
distributions on which

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we might sensibly rely.

Instead of inventing numbers to fill the gaps in our knowledge, we should adopt business, political, and personal strategies that will be

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robust to alternative
futures and resilient to
unpredictable events.

Within the security of
such a robust and
resilient reference
narrative, uncertainty

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can be embraced, because
it is the source of
creativity, excitement,
and profit.

Radical Uncertainty:
Decision-Making Beyond
the Numbers

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The Alchemists

The Psychology of Money

Other People's Money

1000 Days at Number 11

An Oral History as Told

by Jon Stewart, the

Correspondents, Staff

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Masters of the Universe
and the Cult of Risk

When the first fissures became
visible to the naked eye in
August 2007, suddenly the most
powerful men in the world were

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three men who were never elected to public office. They were the leaders of the world's three most important central banks: Ben Bernanke of the U.S. Federal Reserve, Mervyn King of the Bank of England,

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and Jean-Claude Trichet of the European Central Bank. Over the next five years, they and their fellow central bankers deployed trillions of dollars, pounds and euros to contain the waves of panic that threatened

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to bring down the global financial system, moving on a scale and with a speed that had no precedent. Neil Irwin's *The Alchemists* is a gripping account of the most intense exercise in economic crisis

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management we've ever seen, a poker game in which the stakes have run into the trillions of dollars. The book begins in, of all places, Stockholm, Sweden, in the seventeenth century, where central banking had its

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rocky birth, and then progresses through a brisk but dazzling tutorial on how the central banker came to exert such vast influence over our world, from its troubled beginnings to the Age of

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Greenspan, bringing the reader into the present with a marvelous handle on how these figures and institutions became what they are - the possessors of extraordinary power over our collective fate. What they chose

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to do with those powers is the heart of the story Irwin tells. Irwin covered the Fed and other central banks from the earliest days of the crisis for the Washington Post, enjoying privileged access to leading

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central bankers and people close to them. His account, based on reporting that took place in 27 cities in 11 countries, is the holistic, truly global story of the central bankers' role in the world

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economy we have been missing. It is a landmark reckoning with central bankers and their power, with the great financial crisis of our time, and with the history of the relationship between capitalism and the

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state. Definitive, revelatory, and riveting, *The Alchemists* shows us where money comes from—and where it may well be going.

A historical epic by an Oxford-educated economist traces the

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development and evolution of money from its origins in the ancient world to the gold standard, challenging conventional understandings while exploring the world's complicated monetary systems.

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75,000 first printing.

The Financial Crisis Inquiry Report, published by the U.S. Government and the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission in early 2011, is the official government report on the

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United States financial collapse and the review of major financial institutions that bankrupted and failed, or would have without help from the government. The commission and the report were

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implemented after Congress passed an act in 2009 to review and prevent fraudulent activity. The report details, among other things, the periods before, during, and after the crisis, what led up to it, and analyses

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of subprime mortgage lending, credit expansion and banking policies, the collapse of companies like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and the federal bailouts of Lehman and AIG. It also discusses the aftermath of

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the fallout and our current state. This report should be of interest to anyone concerned about the financial situation in the U.S. and around the world. THE FINANCIAL CRISIS INQUIRY COMMISSION is an

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independent, bi-partisan,
government-appointed panel of
10 people that was created to
"examine the causes, domestic
and global, of the current
financial and economic crisis in
the United States." It was

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established as part of the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009. The commission consisted of private citizens with expertise in economics and finance, banking, housing, market regulation, and

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consumer protection. They examined and reported on "the collapse of major financial institutions that failed or would have failed if not for exceptional assistance from the government." News Dissector

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DANNY SCHECHTER is a journalist, blogger and filmmaker. He has been reporting on economic crises since the 1980's when he was with ABC News. His film In Debt We Trust warned of the

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economic meltdown in 2006. He has since written three books on the subject including Plunder: Investigating Our Economic Calamity (Cosimo Books, 2008), and The Crime Of Our Time: Why Wall Street Is

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Not Too Big to Jail (Disinfo Books, 2011), a companion to his latest film Plunder The Crime Of Our Time. He can be reached online at www.newsdissector.com.

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10 Best Books of 2021 * One of
NPR's Best Books of 2021 *
New York Times Book Review
Editors' Choice * Long-listed for
the Center for Fiction First
Novel Prize "Dizzyingly
original, fiercely funny, deeply

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wise.” —Celeste Ng, #1

bestselling author of Little Fires

Everywhere “Sanjena Sathian’s

Gold Diggers is a work of

24-karat genius.” —Ron

Charles, The Washington Post

How far would you go for a

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piece of the American dream? A magical realist coming-of-age story, Gold Diggers skewers the model minority myth to tell a hilarious and moving story about immigrant identity, community, and the underside

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of ambition. A floundering second-generation teenager growing up in the Bush-era Atlanta suburbs, Neil Narayan is funny and smart but struggles to bear the weight of expectations of his family and

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their Asian American enclave. He tries to want their version of success, but mostly, Neil just wants his neighbor across the cul-de-sac, Anita Dayal. When he discovers that Anita is the beneficiary of an ancient,

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alchemical potion made from stolen gold—a “lemonade” that harnesses the ambition of the gold’s original owner—Neil sees his chance to get ahead. But events spiral into a tragedy that rips their community apart.

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Years later in the Bay Area, Neil still bristles against his community's expectations—and finds he might need one more hit of that lemonade, no matter the cost. Sanjena Sathian's astonishing debut offers a fine-

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lamp and stumble over the furniture." —William Bonner, President and CEO, Agora Inc., and author of *Dice Have No Memory* and *Empire of Debt*
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that, but Mervyn King knows it firsthand; his ten years at the helm of the Bank of England, including at the height of the financial crisis, revealed profound truths about the mechanisms of our capitalist

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society. In The End of Alchemy he offers us an essential work about the history and future of money and banking, the keys to modern finance. The Industrial Revolution built the foundation of our modern capitalist age. Yet

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the flowering of technological innovations during that dynamic period relied on the widespread adoption of two much older ideas: the creation of paper money and the invention of banks that issued credit. We take

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these systems for granted today, yet at their core both ideas were revolutionary and almost magical. Common paper became as precious as gold, and risky long-term loans were transformed into safe short-term

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bank deposits. As King argues, this is financial alchemy—the creation of extraordinary financial powers that defy reality and common sense. Faith in these powers has led to huge benefits; the liquidity they create

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has fueled economic growth for two centuries now. However, they have also produced an unending string of economic disasters, from hyperinflations to banking collapses to the recent global recession and current

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stagnation. How do we reconcile the potent strengths of these ideas with their inherent weaknesses? King draws on his unique experience to present fresh interpretations of these economic forces and to point the

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Almost overnight, belief turned into incredulity. Most accounts of the recent crisis focus on the symptoms and not the underlying causes of what went wrong. But

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Doing well with money isn't

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**necessarily about what you know.
It's about how you behave. And
behavior is hard to teach, even to
really smart people.**

**Money—investing, personal finance,
and business decisions—is typically
taught as a math-based field, where
data and formulas tell us exactly**

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what to do. But in the real world people don't make financial decisions on a spreadsheet. They make them at the dinner table, or in a meeting room, where personal history, your own unique view of the world, ego, pride, marketing, and odd incentives are scrambled

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the human body? To defend such claims, alchemists turned to the past, scouring ancient books for evidence of a lost alchemical heritage and seeking to translate their secret language and obscure imagery into

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*European central banker, author of
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Human Wealth" .*

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night as they looked up at the moonless
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as opposed to a system of commodity money of essentially fixed supply—are inherently unstable and why they must lead to economic disintegration. These highly controversial conclusions clash with the present consensus, which holds that elastic state money is

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superior to inflexible commodity money (such as a gold standard), and that expanding money is harmless or even beneficial for as long as inflation stays low. Contradicting this, Paper Money Collapse shows that: The present crisis is the unavoidable result of

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