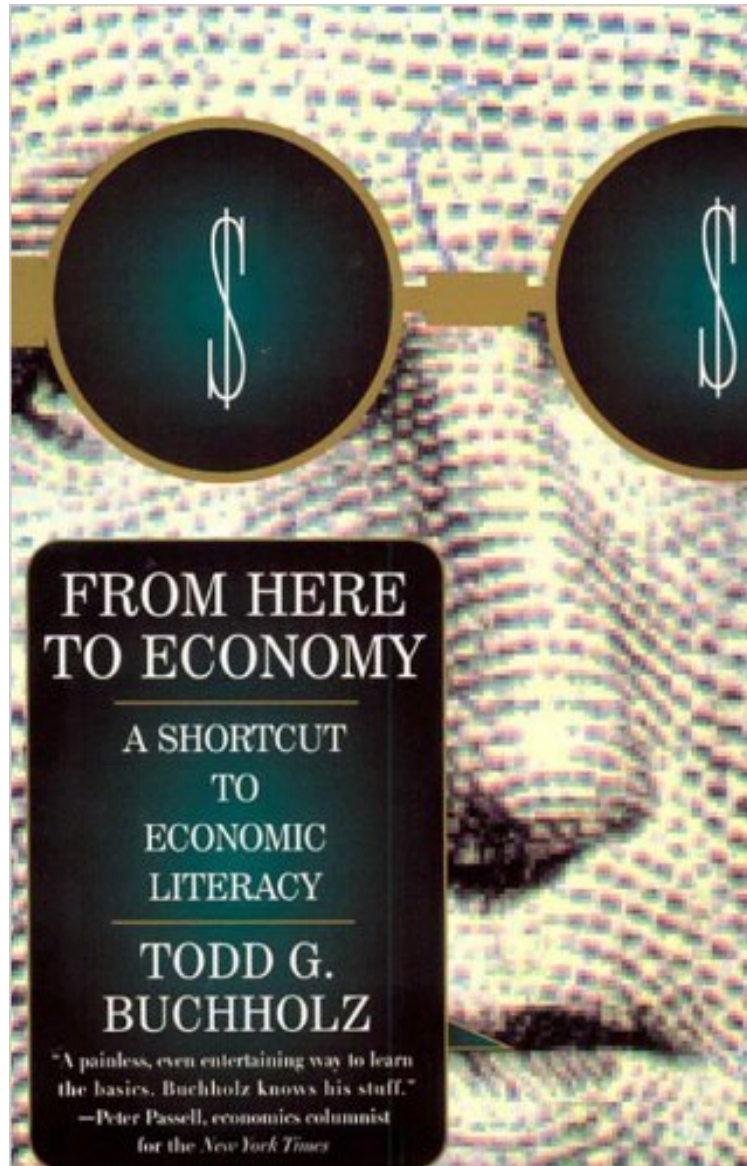


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## From Here to Economy: A Shortcut to Economic Literacy

*Todd G. Buchholz*

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**Todd G. Buchholz : From Here to Economy: A Shortcut to Economic Literacy** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised From Here to Economy: A Shortcut to Economic Literacy:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good purchaseBy Max HeadroomI read a good deal of economics for fun in my spare time (as you can imagine I'm the life of every party). I moved past the basic level this book is aimed at years ago, but nevertheless I still like to pick up a primer on basic economics every now and then just to round things out. This book has been on my wish list for a decade; where I first saw or heard about it I don't even

remember it. Since it is now at a penny used + shipping, I figured what the heck. It started off a little slow, but by the second chapter the humor took off. The author has a good sense of how to make this stuff interesting, to the limited degree that's even possible with economics (I think it was Ezra Pound who said that he knows of no subject other more difficult to arise an interest in people). All in all a satisfying purchase. For those looking to explore further into banking in a way that won't put them into a coma, I would recommend Murray Rothbard's work, much of which can be found for free online. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Timely and Untimely By Zhongxun Guo In these days of economic downturn and stock market flux, all of a sudden everybody seems to become an financial expert, rattling off jargons with ease and confidence. But do they really know what "sub-prime" is? Do they even know why US dollar is "hard currency?" What about the different "indexes," "stats" and "rates"? Do they have any sense of how the economy of today evolved from that of yesterday? This wonderful book provides a much needed and timely primer for basic concepts about economy in layman's language imbued with humor. Read this book three times, and you won't PRETEND to know what you are talking about. However, because it was published more than a decade ago, an updated version is in urgent need. We need a clear and detailed explanation of such popular phenoms as "hedge fund," "sub-prime," "foreclosure," "credit swap," not to mention systems and concepts resulting from globalization. So if the author is reading this, please come up with a revised and updated edition now. The book is due yesterday! 15 of 16 people found the following review helpful. A fine introduction, though now somewhat dated. By Zeldock \*From Here to Economy\* is a concise and entertaining (if you like the author's sense of humor) introduction to economics. Since the book is only about 250 pages long, the coverage of any given topic is not deep, but the author does touch on the key concepts and explain them at a level appropriate for the literate novice. The book divides the subject into 5 sections: macroeconomics, microeconomics, international trade and finance, personal finance and investing, and schools of economic thought. The section on personal finance and investing will, I think, be particularly useful to the average reader, since it ties the broader economic concepts discussed in the rest of the book into the economic questions that most of us face every day. This section is also the one that struck me as dated, in that it does not mention all the investment information (both good and bad) that is now readily available on the Internet. However, that's a minor flaw in an otherwise very useful work. Readers may also want to look at Sowell's \*Basic Economics\* -- Sowell gives a fuller discussion of microeconomics, but he's also much more tendentious than Buchholz, is not so good on international topics, and does not discuss personal finance or the history of economic theory.

What is the GDP, and what does it mean? Why does the stock market go down when interest rates go up? What causes a dreaded recession? Economics impacts everyone's life, but most people take on faith what they read in the newspaper. Now, for anyone who doesn't know much about economics, noted economist Todd Buchholz explains it all simply and clearly. With refreshing wit and irreverence, Buchholz takes readers by the hand and reveals the basic rules behind everything from food prices to trade deficits. Instead of complicated graphs and charts he uses examples from contemporary life and popular culture to demonstrate the principles at work. By cutting through the arcane musings of academicians, the jargon of analysts and advisors, and the rhetoric of politicians, he gives us a precise and accessible understanding of economic ideas, actions, and consequences as they actually exist in the here and now. Here are some of the heretofore unintelligible ideas he helps us to understand: what causes or combats inflation, and why it is so feared; what moves stocks and bonds up and down; and how to invest wisely and safely; whether it is good or bad to "protect" America from foreign goods; and what happens when we do and when we don't; what exactly Social Security is, and whether government spending is good or bad; and how dangerous the national debt is or isn't. In today's confusing economic climate, it has never been more important for everyone from homemakers to small-business owners to individual investors and middle managers to understand the forces at work.