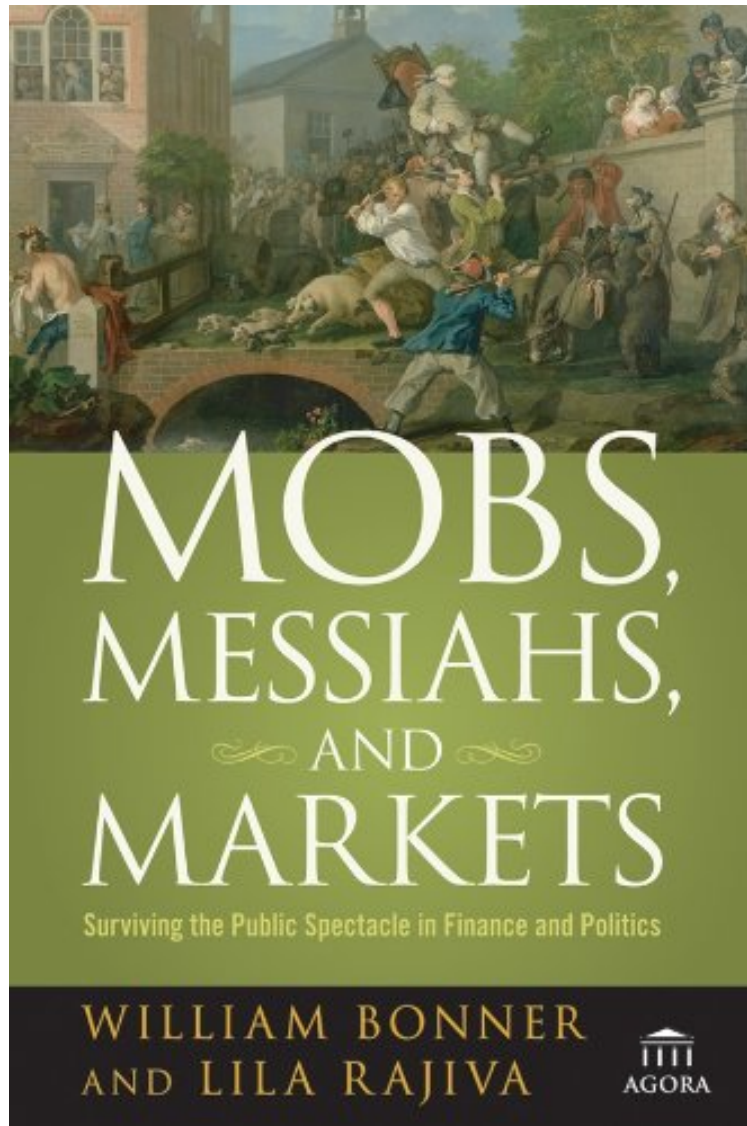


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## Mobs, Messiahs, and Markets: Surviving the Public Spectacle in Finance and Politics (Agora Series)

*Will Bonner, Lila Rajiva*

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**Will Bonner, Lila Rajiva : Mobs, Messiahs, and Markets: Surviving the Public Spectacle in Finance and Politics (Agora Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mobs, Messiahs, and Markets: Surviving the Public Spectacle in Finance and Politics (Agora Series):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The wise curmudgeons strike againBy Rockets Red GlareI enjoyed Empire of Debt so much that I immediately ordered Mobs, Messiahs and Markets, as well as Financial Reckoning

Day. All were exceptional reads! The authors clearly take Thomas Jefferson at his word - a nation is better off avoiding entangling alliances. The authors mock history's "super heroes" for their careless and limitless meddling, and praise the do-nothings of major politics. The obvious benefit to do-nothings is that the citizens remain free to pursue their own happiness, which is what good governance is all about after all. The authors' perspective is engaging. This book, plus their others, are excellent reads, especially for those who may be curious as to how a free, Libertarian USA might function today. Also recommended are Nathan Lewis's *Gold: The Once and Future Money*, Andrew Napolitano's *Constitutional Exile*, and Peter Schiff's *Crash Proof 2.0*. The several States of America were founded on much freer principles than are in operation today. Another read, *The Human Rights Reader* edited by Walter Laqueur includes excerpts from John Locke, Montesquieu, Voltaire on the "purpose of instituting a government being to secure the natural rights of people who organize into a society". We all have a natural right to earn a living to the best of our individual ability. Levying a tax on individual labor was never part of the plan. If that sounds extremist, then you've been caught up with anti-American principles. Our current government has gone beyond securing our natural rights and into invading them. The authors inject humor into their writing - the equivalent of a spoonful of sugar - to help the ugly truth sink in. But the book is far from despairing. For open minds, it is a delightful paradigm shift.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Exposing financial and political Groupthink

By W. B. Perry

George Carlin once said that he could always talk rationally to anyone one on one, but as soon as it turned into a group of three rational thinking seemed to disappear from those he engaged in conversation. Why is it that people become stupid and irrational in groups of three or more? This book sheds light on this sociological phenomenon. This book is invaluable to help you make better financial decisions by not falling into the collectivist trappings. The authors have a great wit, and you will probably find yourself laughing all throughout the book. Congress is nothing more than coercive groupthink writ large, as their policies adversely effect the entire populace. Read this book and you'll realize what a bad idea gov't is and why nothing they do ever works.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Global wisdom

By William Wilcox

I am a consummate William Bonner fan, so [ASIN:0470112328] "*Mobs, Messiahs, and Markets: Surviving the Public Spectacle in Finance and Politics*" was easy and fun for me. In my view, it serves as a cumulative summary of Bill's philosophy, which he has leaked out over the years in his ezine -- the *Daily Reckoning* -- and in his previous books, [ASIN:0471696587] "*Financial Reckoning Day: Surviving the Soft Depression of the 21st Century*," and [ASIN:047198048X] "*Empire of Debt: The Rise of an Epic Financial Crisis*." But he and his co-author Lila Rajiva go even farther in "*Mobs...*" and create an easy-to-read, practical investment guide with an excellent global perspective. Even average and prospective new investors will benefit from their wisdom....and you will laugh out loud often. I strongly recommend it!

An insightful look at how to succeed by going against the crowd

Collectively, people think and act in ways that are different from how they think and act as individuals. Understanding these differences, says William (Bill) Bonner--a longtime maverick observer of the financial world and the vagaries of the investing public--is vital to preserving your wealth and personal dignity. From the witch-hunts of the early modern world to the war on terror, from dot-com mania to the real estate bubble, people have always been caught up in frauds, conceits, and wild guesses--often with devastating results. In *Mobs, Messiahs, and Markets*, Bonner and coauthor Lila Rajiva show groupthink at work in an improbable array of instances throughout history and reveal why swimming against the current pays. Shares the deeper secrets of investing and pushes you to question what this means for your financial well-being

Explains why people so often abandon good sense and good behavior to "follow the crowd"

Offers concrete advice on how you can avoid the "public spectacle" of modern finance

The authors' cautionary tale of bubble economies reveals how the gush of credit let loose by Alan Greenspan has wreaked havoc on our lives--but their thoughtful and always entertaining approach also offers some sound investing principles for avoiding the pitfalls of the public spectacle, thinking for yourself, and protecting your money, your sanity, and your soul.