

**Jevons, Marshall. *The mystery of the invisible hand: a Henry Spearman mystery*. Princeton, 2014. 342p afp ISBN 9780691163130, \$24.95.**

The fourth title in the collection by pseudonymous author Jevons, this book is hands down (all wordplay intentional) the best in this delightful murder mystery series. Owing to the 2011 death of William Breit, his coauthor on the first three books, University of Virginia economist Ken Elzinga has their protagonist, Henry Spearman (one should think Milton Friedman), solve yet another murder while dispensing economic instructional pearls—some Holmesque elementary and others quite sophisticated—along the way. With a healthy, entertaining dose of academic mores and foibles (are academics really that strange?) integrated throughout, the campus characters will bring smiles to the faces of current and former undergraduates. Paying implicit homage to his friend and former colleague, Elzinga sets the book in San Antonio, where Breit taught at Trinity University. A suicide or a murder? An art theft or a con? More thoughtful and reflective than the earlier volumes and with more convincing dialogue, this book passes muster as a novel. No footnotes, index, references, figures, or tables—just a good story told by a talented writer who also just happens to be a card-carrying practitioner of the dismal science. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Lower-division undergraduates and above; general readers.