

Pinto, Brian. How does my country grow?: economic advice through story-telling. Oxford, 2014. 249p bibl index ISBN 9780198714675, \$35.00.

In spite of its playful title and easy-on-readers subtitle, economist Pinto's brief book is a sophisticated, engaging odyssey on economic growth and development. Laden with equations, figures, tables, "boxes," annexes (appendixes), notes, and 20 pages of references and index, the book is an authoritative complement to more abstract, theoretical treatments of economic growth. Drawing on models of economic growth and development, his 30 years of professional work at the World Bank, and personal fieldwork observations and knowledge, the author delves into "country economics" to tell the stories and explain in detail the challenges and crises four countries—Poland, Kenya, India, and Russia—faced in their transition from developing nations to market economies in the period from 1990 to the Great Recession (2008–2009). Wrapped around the experiences in these four countries is pragmatic advice and lessons for academic researchers, institutions, practitioners, and policy makers whose purview and interests are in economic growth and development. For those audiences in particular, this is an engaging, well-written volume not to be missed. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above.