

Wheelan, Charles. *Naked money: a revealing look at what it is and why it matters*. W. W. Norton, 2016. 348p index ISBN 9780393069020, \$27.95; ISBN 9780393292893 ebook, contact publisher for price.

Wheelan (Dartmouth College) has churned out three solid, engaging volumes in the 21st century: *Naked Economics*, *Naked Statistics*, and now *Naked Money*. The author offers factual information for intelligent lay readers, undergraduates, "industry" insiders, and government officials on contemporary and historical topics related to money, commercial banking, and central banking. Somewhat stand-alone chapters cover the basics of what money is and does; inflation and deflation; monetary history, including gold and gold standards; major crash and credit episodes (1929 and 2008); international exchange rate systems; monetary policy; and country- or region-specific case studies such as Japan, the eurozone, and China. He closes with two polar opposite discussions: digital money (Bitcoin at the moment) and ways to improve central banking. Well-referenced, up-to-date, and important, *Naked Money* brings together a set of related threads and a very talented writer. A can't miss. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Lower-division undergraduates through faculty.