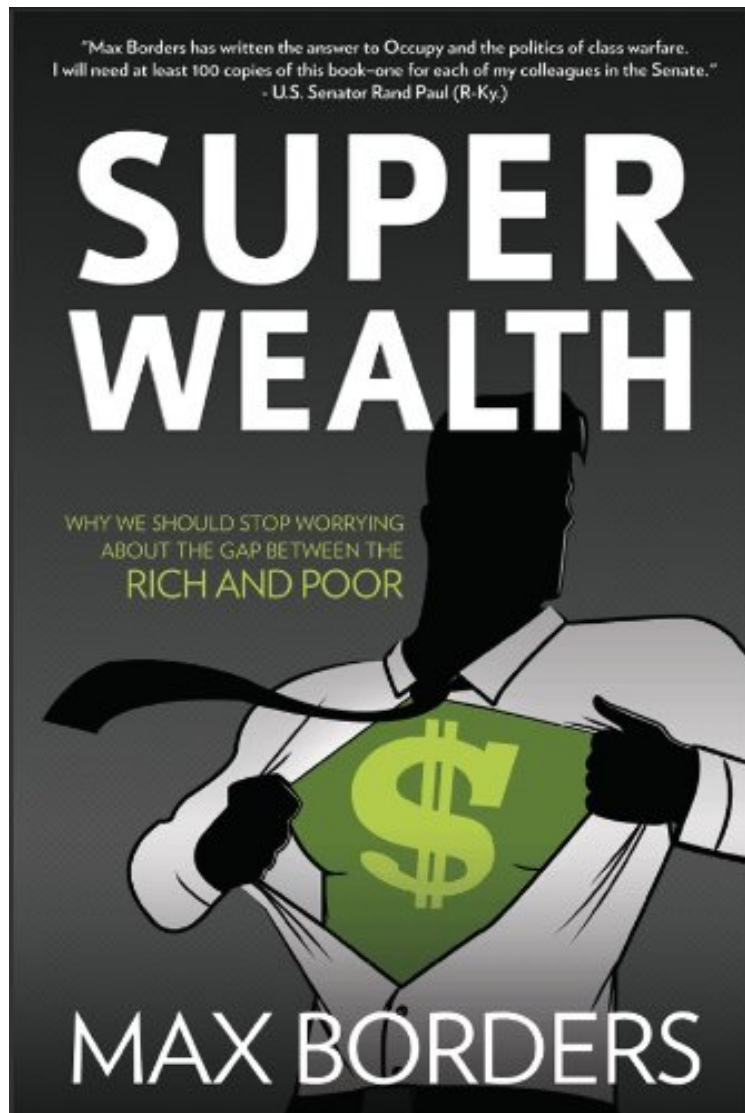


Superwealth

Max Borders

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Max Borders : Superwealth before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Superwealth:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Timely book
By Allen Kraska
With the populist political climate Max Borders seems to have put himself into the future in writing this book. He essentially debunks most of the cures for inequality given by the left. Timely read.
2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic book
By Chad Mercer
Approaches a number of the sacred cows of economics...and smashes them in the face with a hammer. Wonderful deconstruction of the insanity of Keynesians, as well as explanations of ways that government could be reconstructed in ways that would allow for freedom for charities to flourish again. It's also much easier to read

than some of the "high church" economists...although he integrates a lot of their thinking into the book. Highly recommended. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Transform resentment into gratitude. Worth reading twice. By bookfan "Entrepreneurs are the ones who make the pie. Investors are the ones who bake the pie. Consumers are the ones who buy the pie. Then there are those who use the state to take the pie. (They help themselves.) Once we learn to tell the difference among these groups, we can better help those who have a hard time earning a crust." Max Borders is such a good storyteller, he puts this tidy reduction in a freaking footnote. His book is a joy, the sort of read that makes me march around the house giddy while I read it. Superwealth a celebration of failure, entrepreneurial OCD, and a vivid explication of why abundance is increasing all over the world, particularly for the poor, and why we should stop trying to stop it. Starting with his great-grandmother who worked a farm during the Depression, Borders shows me how the gap between the rich and poor is "lag time," and that "today's toddlers will grow up to be better off than today's one percent." (Over 3 million Americans who never did anything to hurt us, most of whom have their wealth because they served us, most of whom will not be in the "one percent" in ten years, because others will find ways to serve us even better.) Most refreshing is Borders doesn't write with a tone of contempt toward those who advocate for economic and moral fallacies, but with an understanding of why our egalitarian values evolved. He tells some of the most evocative stories I've read of why our moral instincts, when enforced through bureaucracies, have the opposite effect we instinctively think. Borders has a real gift for minting parables. He shows how, if wealth is dropped randomly over a town, the increase in overall prosperity creates an instant "wealth gap" that wasn't there when the town was poorer. The story of triplets who succeeded at different rates arguing (and by implication voting) over who should pay for the new roads is an illuminating reduction of our current state of affairs. In the most startling chapter for me, he shows how "constructal theory"—basically any emergent system's access to flow through vascularization—explains not only ecosystems, basketball rankings, the shape of swimming animals, but the distribution of resources among people in a voluntary system that increases overall wealth. Borders puts spiritual virtues in their proper light. Entrepreneurs cultivate the "mindfulness" required to predict people's needs, organize others, assemble resources, and risk their own wealth to fulfill others' desires. This is service to mankind, not exploitation, and profits are a measure of how much others value what the entrepreneur created with self-sacrifice. The audaciously contrarian title would tell you this is a polemic, but it is persuasive because it is infused with a tone not of argument but empathy for the moral instincts that give rise to economic fallacies. I felt like Borders was directly addressing the best in me, my conscience and my capacity for reason. If there is hope to stop the madness into which humanity is hurling, it is in this kind of persuasive writing. My enthusiasm for Superwealth stems from the fact that I had just finished reading a great classic by a legendary economist and philosopher. Superwealth was a much faster and more fascinating read, and I learned more. If you want to understand why we live among such inequality and abundance, transform your resentment into gratitude with this book.

Should we worry about the so-called "wealth gap"? No, argues Max Borders in this powerful book. Weaving threads of narrative, fascinating thought experiments and sharp logic, Borders offers Superwealth: Why we should stop worrying about the gap between rich and poor. Borders's case is not just an answer to Occupy Wall Street and inequality fetishists of the intellectual salon, it is an antidote to status quo thinking. At a time when our political and economic discourse is stuck in old dualisms, Borders's vision of change is strikingly optimistic. He cuts the Gordian knot of wealth and want with keen thinking. He carries the reader with elegant prose. Superwealth readers who really care about the poor will discover that government is not God, attacking entrepreneurs is counterproductive, and we are at our best when we build community from the bottom up. "Whether it's tacos in Texas, tomatoes in California or dentistry in North Carolina," says economist Lawrence Reed, "nobody grabs and keeps your attention better than Max Borders does in this destined-to-be-a-classic volume."