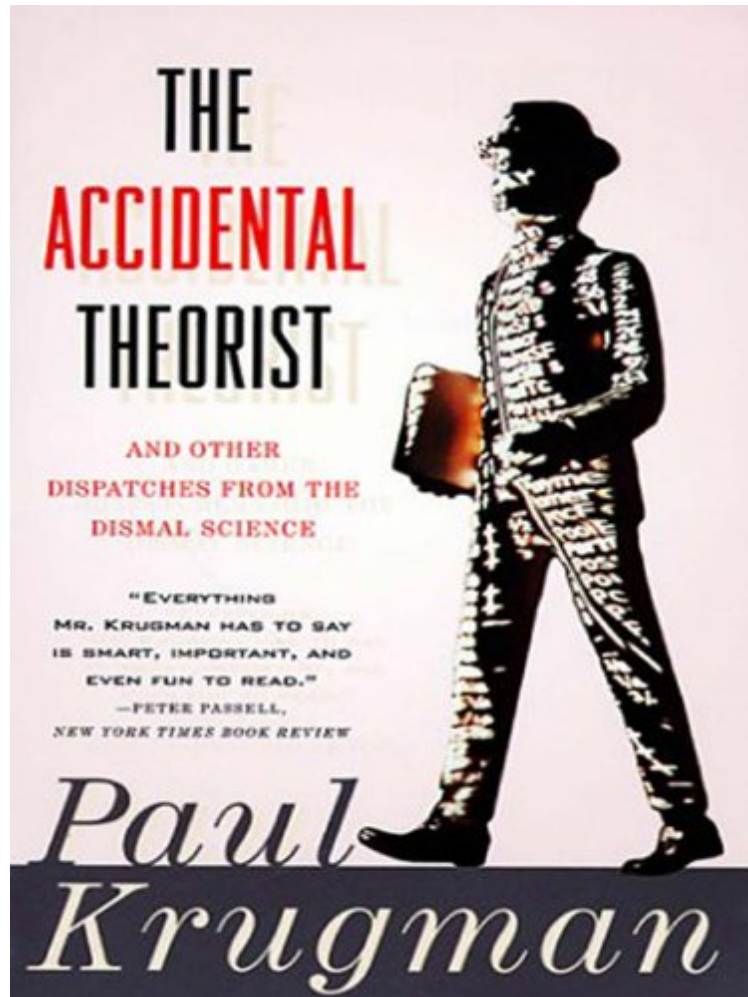


The Accidental Theorist: And Other Dispatches from the Dismal Science

Paul Krugman

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Paul Krugman : The Accidental Theorist: And Other Dispatches from the Dismal Science before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Accidental Theorist: And Other Dispatches from the Dismal Science:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great, quintessential Krugman By Landon Lockhart If you're looking for a wide range of brief essays that basically give you Paul Krugman's (Nobel Prize winning Economist) basic ideas on economic policy, this is a good place to start. He is brilliant! Being a frequent reader of Krugman, there are a couple things that he has since changed views on, for example, he used to call the people who wanted 4% inflation, "The 4 percenters." And he didn't mean it nicely. Now he is arguing for four percent inflation, the caveat being we are in a recession and it is necessary now. He also has a dim view of what technology has done for our economy. I

disagree with him on this particular point, but nonetheless it is a convincing, well written chapter. He takes on the Gold Standard, Cap and Trade and many other things. It's a great read and I recommend it to anyone interested in upping their knowledge base in economic issues. If nothing else, you will have some good debate points against the Austrians. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Book but Paul Krugman does not Believe some of this NowBy GWDThis book was very good. He explains clearly why certain ideas are wrong. The book is outdated now due to content but due to Paul Krugman shifting political opinions some of the essays represent views that he does not have anymore. This includes the essays on foreign labor. Other than that it is a great book person to understand why supply side economics and the gold standard will not work. 5 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A dismal start, an excellent endBy Rodrigo SilveiraI'm an aspiring economist; my first economics teacher referred this book to me as good summer reading material. I had a hard time reading the first half of the book; it felt like I was listening to someone running his or her fingernails on a blackboard. Mr. Krugman's comes across a bit to strident and fails to make it interesting reading for someone curious about economics. To his credit, starting with the articles in Part 4: Delusions of Growth, Mr. Krugman changes his tack and manages to captivate the reader with increasingly more interesting and relevant material. The last article, Looking Backward, is a masterpiece that is very provocative and deserves being revisited and thought about many times over.

"Everything Mr. Krugman has to say is smart, important and even fun to read . . . he is one of a handful of very bright, relatively young economists who do everything well." mdash; Peter Passell, New York Times Book ReviewIn this wonderfully cohesive set of sharp and witty essays, Paul Krugman tackles bad economic ideas from across the political spectrum. In plain English, he enlightens us on the Asian crisis, corporate downsizing, and the globalization of the American economy, among other topics. The writing here brilliantly combines the acerbic style and clever analysis that has made Krugman famous. Imagine declaring New York its own country and you get a better picture of our trade balance with China and Hong Kong. Try reducing the economy to the production of hot dogs and buns and yoursquo;ll understand why common beliefs about the impact of production efficiency on labor demand are wrong. This is a collection that will amuse, provoke, and enlighten, in classic Paul Krugman style. "[Paul Krugman] writes better than any economist since John Maynard Keynes." mdash; Rob Norton, Fortune "[Paul Krugman is] probably the most creative economist of his generation." mdash; The Economistnbsp;Winner of the John Bates Clark Medal

.com When economics and ideology mix, the results often sound plausible, but in fact can be terribly wrong and lead to ill-conceived and sometimes dangerous economic policy. For several years, Paul Krugman, author of *The Accidental Theorist* and one of the most celebrated economists of the '90s, has been punching holes in fashionable ideas such as the logic of supply-side economics and the evils of globalization. *The Accidental Theorist* is a collection of Krugman's best published and unpublished essays that cover everything from the Asian financial crisis to inflation in America. Krugman's cause is neither left or right; rather it's the pursuit of clear thinking about economics that's unfettered by ideology. He writes, "But we should never be surprised when prominent people say foolish things about economics. The history of economic doctrines teaches us that the influence of an idea may have nothing to do with its quality--that an ideology can attract a devoted following, even come to control the corridors of power, without a shred of logic or evidence in its favor." If you've read and enjoyed Krugman's regular column for Slate, "The Dismal Science," or have admired his work in the New York Times, *The Washington Monthly*, and *Foreign Affairs*, you'll find that the *The Accidental Theorist* is a must read. The essays in this book reflect a clairvoyant and playful mind that's patient enough to unravel and simplify--not dumb down--the arcane and lofty ideas of economics to something that the rest of us can understand. Highly recommended. --Harry C. EdwardsFrom *Library Journal*Krugman brightens the "dismal science" of economics with this essay collection clarifying an array of topics from general monetary policy to downsizing to wealth inequality, liquidity, even economic "crank doctrines." Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.From *Booklist*In *Peddling Prosperity* (1994), Krugman skewered economic shibboleths espoused by both the Left and the Right; the collected essays here both confirm his iconoclastic stance and demonstrate that economic prose needn't be dull. Culled mainly from the online magazine *Slate*, the pieces key off some topical event--headlines about downsizing, supply-side economics, or globalization of markets. Observing prominent people seemingly self-confidently expounding on such issues, Krugman likes to puncture their proclamations as the posturing of ignorance. In France, for example, socialists devoutly believe that the solution to that country's chronic unemployment is shortening work hours and increasing government handouts. It never works, and every economist agrees why. In America, an opposite article of faith for conservatives, that current tax rates stifle growth, doesn't explain the present boom. Krugman spices these 25 articles with pungent opinions and clearly explained principles that should enlighten those rightly skeptical of politicians' sound-bite assertions masquerading as economic facts. Gilbert Taylor