

WHAT TO READ 2014

Happy New Year's Eve! And welcome to the third annual TTP What to Read list. We initiated this tradition with a list of the books I read and recommended in 2012, the first [What to Read](#). That was followed a year later with [What to Read 2013](#).

So here we go with what I've read and suggest for your consideration in 2014. I'm sure that on New Year's Eve, you're planning to spend the evening curled up with a good book, right? You better not be...

Tomorrow and beyond is another story. A good book can help clear your brain from the night before - in addition to a lot of the amino *cysteine* to detox your system (best sources: Durk & Sandy's [Party Pills](#), [N-Acetyl-Cysteine](#) at your local GNC, or a multi-egg omelette with plenty of garlic, onions, and ricotta cheese).

All of the books below you can get on Kindle/iPad (instantly and much cheaper). Let's start with the political...

[Is Administrative Law Unlawful?](#) by legal historian and Professor of Constitutional Law at Columbia, [Philip Hamburger](#).

Here's a headline yesterday (12/30): [Obama Imposed 75,000 Pages of New Regulations in 2014](#). Prof. Hamburger explains why almost every single one of these thousands and thousands of rules and regs are illegal and unconstitutional. They have no force of law and there is no legal duty to obey them. They are edicts of the administrative state, *not laws*.

I considered this book so important that I devoted an entire article to it, [The Revolution We Need](#) from last July, the revolution being against The Administrative State.

[Crapitalism: Liberals Who Make Millions Swiping Your Tax Dollars](#). This is by 31 year-old "ambush journalist" [Jason Mattera](#). Here are his [Top Five Ambushes](#) on his YouTube channel (Barney Frank -- asking how to start his own homosexual brothel -- Chris Rock, Michael Bloomberg, Joe Biden, and his favorite, where he asks Hillary Clinton for her autograph signed to Chris Stevens, one of the SEALs killed in Benghazi).

This guy is great. He's funny, gutsy, and doesn't put up with any crap-italists, whether they be Harry Reid, crap singer Jay-Z, Silicon Valley venture crapitalist Vinod Khosia, and so many more from Warren Buffett on down. Most enjoyably infuriating book of the year.

[The KinderGarden Of Eden: How The Modern Liberal Thinks And Why He's Convinced That Ignorance Is Bliss](#), by Evan Sayet. As a conservative comedian, Sayet is both funny and literate. He starts with Voltaire's letter to the father of modern liberalism, Jean-Jacques Rousseau:

"I have received your new book [*The Social Contract*] against the human race and thank you for it. Never was such a cleverness used in the design of making us all stupid."

It is the stupidity, the infantilism, the "pointless point of view" that characterizes the Modern Liberal. The result is a society overwhelmed by the demands of taking care of the permanently infantilized. I'd like to think he was inspired by my [Infantilizomania](#) from September 2005.

[Dead Men Ruling](#), by Gene Steuerle. It's an exceedingly clear and concise explanation of how entitlements have morphed into a monster taking over virtually the entire federal budget, which were locked in and made unchangeable by "dead men," Congresses of years ago.

Unfortunately, Steuerle, an economist and key Treasury official for Ronald Reagan, doesn't provide what he promises in the book's subtitle: *How to Restore Fiscal Freedom and Rescue Our Future*. Yet it is inescapably implied: entitlements have to be scaled back and massively. But how? He leaves that to Congresses of the future, not dead ones. Good luck.

[Treasury's War: the Unleashing of a New Era of Financial Warfare](#), by Juan Zarate. It's expensive even on Kindle and a long tedious read - but you need to be aware of what the architect of the US' financial warfare program has created.

As [Ambrose Evans-Pritchard](#) explained in TTP last April, an elite cell at Treasury has constructed a financial neutron bomb that can bring almost any country to its knees without firing a shot. This is what is happening now to Russia. It's a weapon that can be used against any country - or individual - deemed an "enemy." That can promote genuine national security, or fascism - a dangerous double-edged sword.

On to the geopolitical...

[Why Nations Fail](#), by MIT economics professor Daron Acemoglu and Harvard international government professor James Robinson.

It is a *tour de force* of the economic and political history of the world from the Neolithic through Rome and all of the West, of Africa, Asia, and Latin America up to the present day. Their answer to why nations succeed or fail throughout history is the extent to which they have and maintain either "inclusive" political/economic institutions resulting in widespread prosperity, or "extractive" ones that result in widespread poverty.

I could not encourage you more strongly to read it entire, if only for the fascinating wealth of historical examples. But let's cut to the chase. What everything boils down to - whether a people, a society, a culture, a nation can become and keep being rich or poor is the extent to which it permits *creative destruction*. A true Must Read of the year.

And science and history...

[Dark Winter: How the Sun Is Causing A 30-Year Cold Spell](#), by NASA scientist John Casey. This is just out and driving warmists crazy. TTP has been explaining the fraud of warmism and how the sun is responsible since [Solar Warming](#) in September 2005. Casey's book is the latest nail in warmism's coffin.

[The Neglected Sun: Why The Sun Precludes Climate Catastrophe](#), by Professor Fritz Vahrenholt, a German scientist known as "The grandfather of global warming" who realized he had been duped by warmist fraudsters. A great companion piece to Casey.

[Lucky Planet: Why Earth Is Exceptional - And What That Means For Life In The Universe](#), by David Waltham, Professor of Geophysics and Astrobiology at the University of London.

After a delightfully lucid and entertaining tour through astronomy, geology, climatology, biology and cosmology, Dr. Waltham concludes that "the four-billion-year stretch of good weather that our planet has experienced is statistically so unlikely that chances are slim that we will ever encounter intelligent extraterrestrial others."

He is a solidly serious scientist presenting a clear case for human uniqueness in the universe. He attributes this to sheer good luck on our and our planet's part, not to a Creator. Won't Edd Forke have a field day with *that!*

[Quantum: Einstein, Bohr, and the Great Debate about the Nature of Reality](#), by Manjit Kumar. Physicist-philosopher Kumar describes the "clash of the titans" like a novelist, that between the iconic Einstein and his nemesis Niels Bohr, the principal proponent of quantum theory refuting Einstein. Yet Kumar shows, Bohr was a jerk, and Einstein may be proven right in the end.

[Groundswell: The Case for Fracking](#), by Ezra Levant. A great debunking of all the anti-fracking myths of the Eco-Luddites.

[A Troublesome Inheritance: Genes, Race, and Human History](#), by Nicholas Wade. For having the courage and intellectual integrity to write honestly about the evolutionary and genetic basis for racial differences between humans, Wade was fired as science editor by the New York Times. Wade is illuminating, thoughtful, and thoroughly demolishes libtard political correctness on the evolution of human nature and why races differ.

[1177 BC: The Year Civilization Collapsed](#), by Eric Cline. A look at one of history's real puzzles - the sudden collapse of the entire Bronze Age world from Greece to Mesopotamia in 12th century BC. The Minoans, Mycenaeans, Trojans, Hittites, Babylonians and others simply vanished into the "First Dark Ages." Even the strongest civilization of all, Egypt, went into decline.

The collapse is most often attributed to multiple invasions of mysterious "Sea Peoples" from the Mediterranean - but no one knows who they really were. It's a great whodunit of history.

[The Lost History of Christianity: The Thousand-Year Golden Age of the Church in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia--and How It Died](#), by Phillip Jenkins.

We Europeans focus on the history of Christianity in the West, but for well over a thousand years various Christian churches were deeply embedded throughout the Middle East, North Africa, Central Asia, and into China, India, and Japan. It's a history that's tragically unknown to most Christians, particularly since it presages a resurgence in many places in Asia and Africa today.

There are more, but I'm starting to eat into your New Year's Eve, so I'll call a halt here. Feel quite free to add your favorites of the year on the Forum. I have to give a plug, however, for...

[The Jade Steps.](#)

The one book on this list I most encourage you to read - and buy a copy for every friend you have in the world! Don't hesitate to write your own Customer Review!

Happy New Year to all TTPers! Have fun tonight!

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