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# THE *INVESCO* Alternative

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Dedicated to helping you ...

## ... Achieve Financial Independence

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Registered Investment Advisors - Certified Public Accountants - Real Estate Brokers  
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### FREE FINANCIAL LIBRARY

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*INVESCO* is the owner of many financial and self-help books. From time to time our clients borrow them. We have realized that making them available to all of you would be a great way to help you understand better how the financial world works.

We will loan them out for free, but to make sure they come back to be loaned out again, we'll have to charge a late fee of 20 cents a day after three weeks.

Here are some short descriptions of books we highly recommend (\*\*\*\*\*) (more will be coming soon):

\*\*\*\*\* [The Millionaire Next Door](#), by Thomas J. Stanley, Ph.D, and William D. Danko, Ph.D.

The secrets of the millionaires and how they live (pretty much like the rest of us, only without new cars or fancy houses). Nearly anyone with a steady job can amass a tidy fortune. How to NOT make your children financially dependent on you. An 8-hour read. Don't bother with his more recent books.

\*\*\*\*\* [The Richest Man in Babylon](#), by George S. Clason.

"The success secrets of the ancients- the most inspiring book on wealth ever written." Although published in 1926, the book lays out the life of a successful businessman of 2,500 years ago, showing that the "Road to Wealth" has changed very little since then. A "must read". A 3-hour read. Don't bother with his more recent books.

\*\*\*\*\* [Rich Dad, Poor Dad](#), by Robert T. Kiyosaki.

He compares his real father (Poor Dad) to his best friend's father (Rich Dad). Poor Dad had a good education and at least twice the income as Rich Dad, but spent it all and ended up despondent. Poor Dad made much less, but spent only about half. The rest he put into his own businesses and investments and ended up rich. A wonderful comparison of what and what not to do. A 10-hour read.

\*\*\*\*\* Stop Wasting Your Wealth in Mutual Funds, by Don F. Wilkinson.

Lots of research on mutual funds will really open your eyes. He shows how the whole mutual fund industry was set up to make money from the investors, not for them. Quotes: "The S&P 500 index from 1984 to 2000 realized a 16.29% annual return. Mutual fund investors earned only 5.32%." Why you should have a SAM (separately managed account). If you own, or ever contemplate owning mutual funds, READ THIS BOOK. A 10-12 hour read.

\*\*\*\*\* The Lies About Money, by Ric Edelman.

Takes up where Wilkinson left off, showing the billions of dollars siphoned off by mutual funds and how they do it, including a long list of fines, settlements and judgments against virtually every large brokerage house in the country. Why he took ALL his clients out of mutual funds. The first half of the book is great. The second half is his commercial on why you should invest in ETF's with his company. (Don't read the second half- ETF's are sponsored by the same brokerage houses and steal your money the same way. About the only difference is that ETF's are evaluated in real time so you can buy/sell during the days. First half is a 10-hour read.

\*\*\*\* The Retirement Savings Time Bomb, by Ed Slott.

Ed Slott, America's IRA expert, presents a "Five-step action plan for protecting your IRA's, 401 (k)'s and other retirement plans from near annihilation by the taxman." The book is divided into three parts: "What to do with the biggest check you'll ever get", "Five easy steps to protecting your retirement savings", and "When things don't go as planned." If you have a pre-tax nest egg of over \$100,000, you should read this book. It can save you and your heirs many thousands of dollars! A 12-hour read.

\*\*\*\* I Will Teach You to be Rich, by Ramit Sethi.

This book is written for the under- 40 crowd. He suggests online banking, bill paying and automatic savings to several different accounts, enlarging on the pay-yourself-first system. If you're into computerizing all your accounts on-line; this is a very useful tool to help you increase your assets. A 10-hour read.

\*\*\*\* Think and Grow Rich, by Napoleon Hill.

Originally published in 1937, this is a timeless classic. He says "imagine yourself rich; then make it happen." Influence your subconscious mind. Develop your creative facility. The uselessness of wealth without women. Master your fears. Many great ideas to help transform your life and beliefs. A 10-hour read.

\*\*\*\* The Ten Roads to Riches, by Ken Fisher.

Ten careers which lead to a rich life, financially and personally. One of them is "How to marry a billionaire (Men can play, too!)." Lots of good ideas, mostly for those of us under 50. The tenth road is the one we highly advocate: plan, save and invest. A 14-hour read.

\*\*\*\* Automatic Wealth, by Michael Masterson.

The six steps to financial independence: 1) Recognize reality; 2) Plan to become wealthy; 3) Develop wealthy habits; 4) Radically increase your personal income; 5) Get richer while you sleep; and 6) Retire early. More good ideas to get from poor to rich. A 14-hour read.

\*\*\*\*\* Stocks for the Long Run, 4th edition, by Jeremy J. Siegel.

This book is used as a text for many college financial classes. Filled with many years of research showing that stocks are much safer than bonds in the long term. What moves the market? The randomness of stock prices. Why day-trading and market-timing are hazardous to your financial health. A 24-hour read.

\*\*\* Against the Gods, by Peter L. Bernstein.

An eye-opening book reviewing the history of probability and risk measurement, beginning with gambling, of course, about 1,000 years ago. Shows how life insurance premiums are calculated and helps explain how stock and portfolio risk are mathematically determined. Very interesting, not very useful. A 16-hour read.

\*\*\*\* The Wealthy Barber, by David Chilton.

A modern-day version of The Richest Man in Babylon. Each month in his barber's chair, the writer gets a 30-minute lecture on how to acquire wealth. All his recommendations are great, except he advises investing in mutual funds. Please ignore this part. A 12-hour read.

\*\*\*\* The Power of Positive Thinking, by Norman Vincent Peale.

Published in 1952, here's another classic that will never become obsolete. Written by one of the most popular ministers of all time, he preaches self-improvement and prayer. A lot sounds like self-hypnosis (which really does work). A 14-hour read.

\*\*\* I'm O.K.- You're O.K., by Thomas A. Harris, M.D.

Another classic from 1969, written by a psychiatrist. Very useful for those suffering unhappiness, hurt or a depressed ego. A self-help book to solve marital or business stress problems without a psychiatrist. A 14-hour read.

\*\*\* Fart Proudly, writings of Benjamin Franklin.

A wholly irreverent insight into one of the most famous revolutionary heroes, inventors, statesmen of our country. His advice on choosing a mistress: Find an older woman (more knowledgeable, more eager to please you and most of all, grateful!). A wonderfully entertaining summer read. A 10-hour read (of fun).

\*\*\* Paying for College without Going Broke, by Kalman A. Chany.

How to maximize financial aid eligibility, get additional funding from various scholarships and colleges. How to pick the "right" college for your child, and negotiate with that college for a lower tuition. If you have children in junior high or high school, now is the time to begin to reduce their college expense. This book may be invaluable to those in need. A 14-hour read.

\*\*\*\* Enough, by John C. Bogle.

"True Measures of Money, Business, and Life." Bogle, the founder of Vanguard, tells us why all mutual funds are thieves (except Vanguard), why most business leaders are corrupt, and why our politicians can't fix it. The rest of the book shows us that honesty, trust, courage and hard work by our citizens is the only way to save our country. I really enjoyed this one! A 10-hour read.

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*Published by Myron J. Gaylord, Keith B. Nyborg, Paul N. Linzer and Ryan J. McNeilly*

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