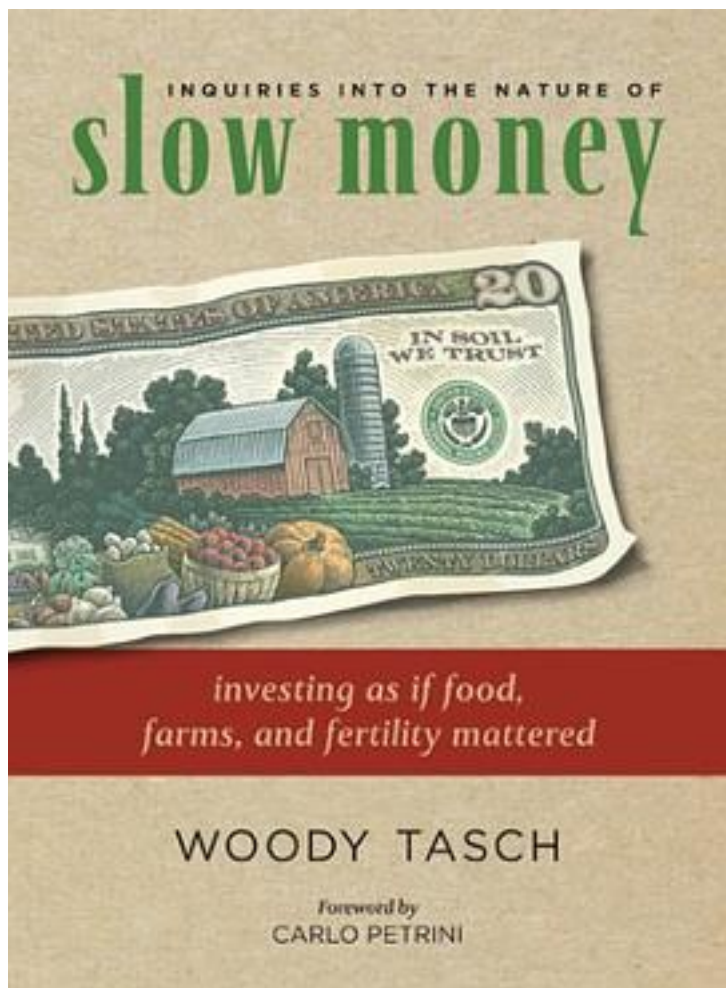


Inquiries into the Nature of Slow Money



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We must bring money back down to earth."Inquiries into the Nature of Slow Money" presents the path for bringing money back down to earth philosophically, strategically

and pragmatically, and with an entrepreneurial spirit that is informed by decades of work by the thousands of CEOs, investors, grant-makers, food producers and consumers who are seeding the restorative economy. The months and years ahead will surely see a flood of books proposing micro- and macro-economic fixes to the financial crises of the day. "Inquiries into the Nature of Slow Money" brings a different vision: a meta-economic vision, looking above the top line and below the bottom line, a new way of seeing what is going on in the soil of the economy. The soil of the economy? Bringing money back down to earth? This is the path towards a financial system that serves people and place as much as it serves industry sectors and markets. To discover this path, and to begin to walk down it, is the mission of Slow Money. This mission emerges from decades of work as a venture capitalist, foundation treasurer, and entrepreneur by Woody Tasch, whose explorations shed new light on a truer, more beautiful, more prudent kind of fiduciary responsibility, a fiduciary responsibility that is not stuck in the industrial concepts of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, but which reflects the new economic, social and environmental realities of the 21st century. These explorations take us from the jokes of his father to the insights of his son, from the Board rooms of foundations and start-up companies to the farm fields of Vermont, from gopher holes in New Mexico to the possibilities of an alternative stock exchange, from Carlo Petrini to Muhammad Yunus, from Thoreau to Soros. "Inquiries into the Nature of Slow Money" investigates an essential new strategy for investing in local food systems, and introduces a group of fiduciary activists who are exploring what should come after industrial finance and industrial agriculture. There is a vision for investing that puts soil fertility into return-on-investment calculations. Could there ever be an alternative stock exchange dedicated to slow, small, and local? Could a million American families get their food from CSAs? What if you had to invest 50 percent of your assets within 50 miles of where you live? Such questions are at the heart of Slow Money: they are the first step on our path to a new economy and a new culture. "Inquiries into Slow Money" is a call to action for designing capital markets built around not extraction and consumption but preservation and restoration. Is it a movement or is it an investment strategy? Yes.

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