



# False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World

By Alan Beattie

Download now

Read Online ➔

**False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World** By Alan Beattie

In 2001 Argentina's government bankrupted itself, yet for the past two hundred years it had enjoyed a vista of economic opportunity almost identical to that of the US. Why did the US succeed while Argentina stalled? Botswana and Sierra Leone are both blessed with abundant diamonds. Why did Botswana become the world's fastest-growing economy while Sierra Leone suffered a decade of brutal civil war? The path to prosperity is rarely obvious and the sources of success are often unexpected. Time and again, world leaders have failed to learn the lessons of economic history, and their mistakes continue to have surprising and catastrophic consequences. In *False Economy*, Alan Beattie uses extraordinary stories of economic triumph and disaster to explain how some countries went wrong while others went right, and why it's so difficult to change course once you're on the path to ruin. Along the way, you'll discover why Africa doesn't grow cocaine, why our asparagus comes from Peru, why your keyboard spells QWERTY and why giant pandas are living on borrowed time.

↓ [Download False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of th ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of ...pdf](#)

# False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World

*By Alan Beattie*

## **False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World** By Alan Beattie

In 2001 Argentina's government bankrupted itself, yet for the past two hundred years it had enjoyed a vista of economic opportunity almost identical to that of the US. Why did the US succeed while Argentina stalled? Botswana and Sierra Leone are both blessed with abundant diamonds. Why did Botswana become the world's fastest-growing economy while Sierra Leone suffered a decade of brutal civil war? The path to prosperity is rarely obvious and the sources of success are often unexpected. Time and again, world leaders have failed to learn the lessons of economic history, and their mistakes continue to have surprising and catastrophic consequences. In *False Economy*, Alan Beattie uses extraordinary stories of economic triumph and disaster to explain how some countries went wrong while others went right, and why it's so difficult to change course once you're on the path to ruin. Along the way, you'll discover why Africa doesn't grow cocaine, why our asparagus comes from Peru, why your keyboard spells QWERTY and why giant pandas are living on borrowed time.

## **False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World** By Alan Beattie Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #963835 in Books
- Published on: 2009-04-16
- Released on: 2009-04-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.30" h x 1.15" w x 6.30" l, 1.16 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 336 pages

 [Download False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of th ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World By Alan Beattie

---

### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

*Financial Times* world trade editor Beattie combines economic history, psychology and political analysis to identify the factors that predispose economies to sickness or health. The author takes a human interest, *Freakonomics*-style approach to such economic riddles as why Islamic nations stay mired in poverty (he argues that one reason might be the Qur'an's dictum against usury and interest-earning) and why Africa is dependent on exporting raw materials rather than commercial products (soaring temperatures and shoddy infrastructure). Beattie imbues economics with wonderful mystery as he untangles the mechanisms of the blood diamond trade and Peru's curious stranglehold on the global export of asparagus. Closer to home, Beattie examines the economic rivalry between Argentina and the United States a century ago; when Argentina seemed to be winning, the U.S. made a series of crucial decisions, moved forward and left Argentina poised for financial disaster. Thorough research, eclectic examples and a sprightly tone (Puritans were not big on bling) should make this a hit among those interested in world economics—and a must-read alternative for those who couldn't get through *Guns, Germs and Steel*. (Apr.)

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Booklist](#)

Beattie worked as an economist at the Bank of England and then joined the *Financial Times* in 1998 and is currently the paper's world-trade editor. This is not a criticism of the 2004–07 real-estate debacle that caused the collapse of U.S. and world financial systems, as might be surmised by the title, but rather a historical glimpse at the causes and effects that explain why some economies prosper in certain ways while others do not. Beattie contrasts the economies of Argentina and the U.S., for example, showing why Argentina has prospered even while our economic downturn has seemingly brought down the economies of the rest of the world. He compares the ancient city of Rome to present-day large metropolises; explains how trade routes and climate (both political and meteorological) affect where crops are grown and how they are processed; and looks at some of the idiosyncrasies of corruption and power. By looking back to look forward, Beattie concludes that the experience of history provides hope that we have the ability to make the right choices going forward. --David Siegfried

Review

"Fascinating...the individual stories are mesmerizing...Beattie is a legendary economic journalist, whose analytical judgment is greater than most of his peers by an amount roughly equal to the income difference he reports between Botswana and Sierra Leone. [This] supremely entertaining and informative book is a great reminder that the details of success are often impossible to predict or prescribe." - *Financial Times*

### Users Review

From reader reviews:

**Anthony Pisano:**

Information is provisions for people to get better life, information nowadays can get by anyone with everywhere. The information can be a information or any news even a concern. What people must be consider while those information which is from the former life are difficult to be find than now could be taking seriously which one is appropriate to believe or which one often the resource are convinced. If you get

the unstable resource then you get it as your main information we will see huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen in you if you take False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World as the daily resource information.

**Walter Chacon:**

It is possible to spend your free time to see this book this e-book. This False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World is simple to develop you can read it in the park, in the beach, train and soon. If you did not possess much space to bring the printed book, you can buy often the e-book. It is make you better to read it. You can save the book in your smart phone. So there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

**Raymond Garza:**

Many people spending their time by playing outside along with friends, fun activity along with family or just watching TV all day every day. You can have new activity to spend your whole day by looking at a book. Ugh, ya think reading a book can really hard because you have to take the book everywhere? It fine you can have the e-book, having everywhere you want in your Touch screen phone. Like False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World which is keeping the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's notice.

**Heidi Odom:**

Do you like reading a reserve? Confuse to looking for your preferred book? Or your book ended up being rare? Why so many concern for the book? But any people feel that they enjoy regarding reading. Some people likes reading, not only science book but novel and False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World or others sources were given information for you. After you know how the truly amazing a book, you feel wish to read more and more. Science reserve was created for teacher as well as students especially. Those guides are helping them to include their knowledge. In various other case, beside science e-book, any other book likes False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World to make your spare time much more colorful. Many types of book like this.

**Download and Read Online False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World By Alan Beattie #IARVGNXJ38Z**

## **Read False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World By Alan Beattie for online ebook**

False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World By Alan Beattie Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World By Alan Beattie books to read online.

### **Online False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World By Alan Beattie ebook PDF download**

**False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World By Alan Beattie Doc**

**False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World By Alan Beattie Mobipocket**

**False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World By Alan Beattie EPub**