[Ebook pdf] Owning Our Future: The Emerging Ownership Revolution

Owning Our Future: The Emerging Ownership Revolution

Marjorie Kelly
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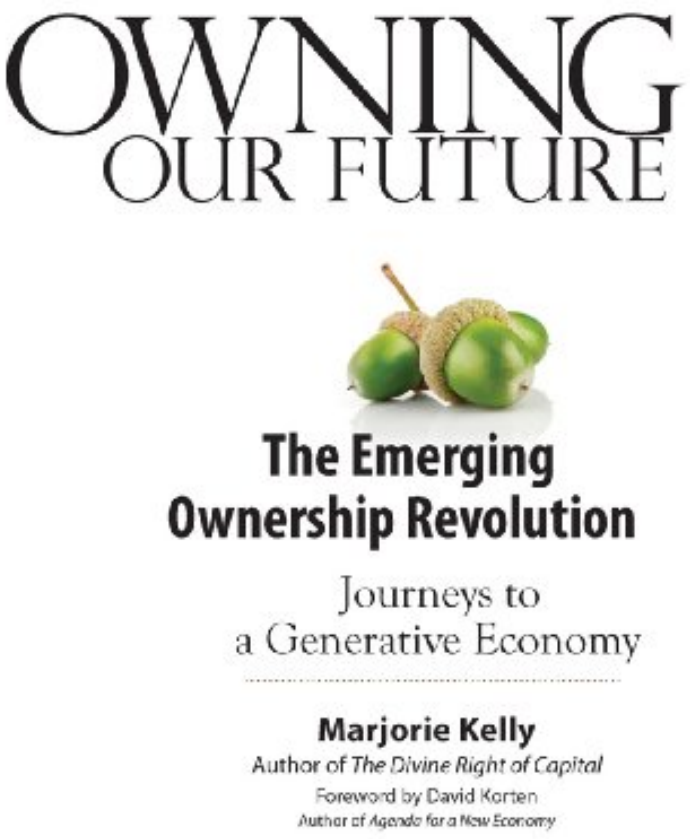

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Marjorie Kelly : Owning Our Future: The Emerging Ownership Revolution before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Owning Our Future: The Emerging Ownership Revolution:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Clarity of VisionBy GreenPeaceOxfamThis is a groundbreaking book, as one of a number of great books. This one stands out for its combining of conceptual innovations with examples. Others here have noted many of the groundbreaking elements in this book. Marjorie Kelly has taken a step beyond her previous book The Divine Right of Capital to begin a process to identify various conceptual elements that make the difference between destructive enterprises and life-sustaining ones. She does it in a brilliant way that intertwines her folk storytelling of her own adventure which reminds me of Annie Dillard, the examples, and the

theoretical considerations. William Greider's fantastic book The Soul of Capitalism spurred me into shifting the focus of my activist thought to the importance of alternative business models. Myself, I was a working member at a Food Co-op in New York at the time. I can't help but notice some important stylistic similarities between Kelly's new book and Greider's 2003 work, but only as a compliment. Moreover, Greider's book was itself inspired by Kelly's first one, I have since discovered rereading his preface in Divine Right of Capital. To Kelly's further credit on one detail, Greider never mentions the historical origins of the employee ownership model in his book, and keeps his focus on the 20th Century innovations by Louis Kelso and Senator Russell Long, and the penetrating insights of David Ellerman and Herman Daly. Kelly refers to the latter two also, but gives a sharp if fleeting mention of the co-ops pioneering accomplishment as a model and practice in history. However, she gives no bibliographical reference. I can only think she is wary of some kind of a reactionary witch hunt to explain this omission. Johnston Birchall's major 1990s work on co-operatives is a good reference to get a look at the history. An article I wrote on Fair Trade and available on line at the university journal Anamesa called The Real Price of Coffee gives a range of references in this area, some thanks to Kelly's first work. I really like Kelly's theoretical umbrella around purpose and design, including catagories like Living Purpose, Rooted Membership, and Generative Ownership. She provides an unhurried and usually clear narrative as she introduces crisis and alternatives, ideas and examples. In the occasional moment where she loses clarity, it is not so difficult to regain your place in the network of ideas and examples Her ideas about design are brilliant, and remind me of William McDonagh's cradle to cradle ideas about green industry. The book is an excellent blend of density and light, with ample material to probe further into the subject. Nevertheless, she only mentions Greider by name, but without any reference to his very unsung work cited above. She does mention Gar Alperovitz's work America Beyond Capitalism. She also makes reference to the Solidarity Economics movement, but while noting its origins and prevalence outside the US, fails to note the progress in the US such as the 2009 SE Conference, following the two US events of the World Social Forum. This is the kind of book I thought David Korten would write in The Great Turning, but didn't. That he does recognize this approach is clear from his introduction,and an especially nice touch I'd say since he did found Yes Magazine along with his books. Dive into this book! I heartily recommend it, since here we have a new conceptual articulation of individuals in co-operation and possibilities for grassroots sustainable development.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very thoughtful and well-researchedBy Jason T. WedenIt was like going through a college class but without the nonsensical academic abstractions. Herein we can find the patterns, the guideposts,, that lead us along the way to understanding a new economy, a generative one. Insights into company operations old and new, big and small are looked at through the eyes of the author that has been researching this topic for years. Her journalism background is well-leveraged as she digs deeper behind what may appear to be working. This book is fantastic for ALL readers as it talks about how to build a new community, a new economy that provides the true wealth of happiness, community, well-being and sustainability. I can't recommend it highly enough.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A True Must Read.By CustomerNot only revolutionary in the field of social enterprise development it provides the reader with specific details and suggestion on how to impact communities in which they live. Models that individuals, corporations, government and politicians should consider in changing the current direction of our country. I will be sharing the concepts with my children and family.

As long as businesses are set up to focus exclusively on maximizing financial income for the few, our economy will be locked into endless growth and widening inequality. But now people are experimenting with new forms of ownership, which Marjorie Kelly calls generative: aimed at creating the conditions for life for many generations to come. These designs may hold the key to the deep transformation our civilization needs.To understand these emerging alternatives, Kelly reports from all over the world, visiting a community-owned wind facility in Massachusetts, a lobster cooperative in Maine, a multibillion-dollar employee-owned department-store chain in London, a foundation-owned pharmaceutical company in Denmark, a farmer-owned dairy in Wisconsin, and other places where a hopeful new economy is being built. Along the way, she finds the five essential patterns of ownership design that make these models work.

ldquo;This magnificent book is a kind of recipe for how civilization might cope with its too-big-to-fail problem. Itrsquo;s a hardheaded, clear-eyed, and therefore completely moving account of what a different world might look likemdash;what it already does look like in enough places that you will emerge from its pages inspired to get involved.rdquo;mdash;Bill McKibben, author of Deep Economyldquo;This book is not only brilliant but also tremendously important. Itrsquo;s one of those rare books that opens our eyes to the fact that something wersquo;ve taken for granted is actually intrinsically destructive and can be replaced by alternative, healthier forms of organization. I found it exhilarating.rdquo;mdash;Fritjof Capra, physicist and author of The Tao of Physics and The Hidden Connectionsldquo;As a serial entrepreneur whorsquo;s started three traditional shareholder-owned businesses, I know from experience whatrsquo;s wrong with that model. The future belongs to the alternative forms of ownership Kelly writes about. This is a book the world desperately needs.rdquo;mdash;Jeffrey Hollender, cofounder and former

CEO, Seventh Generation