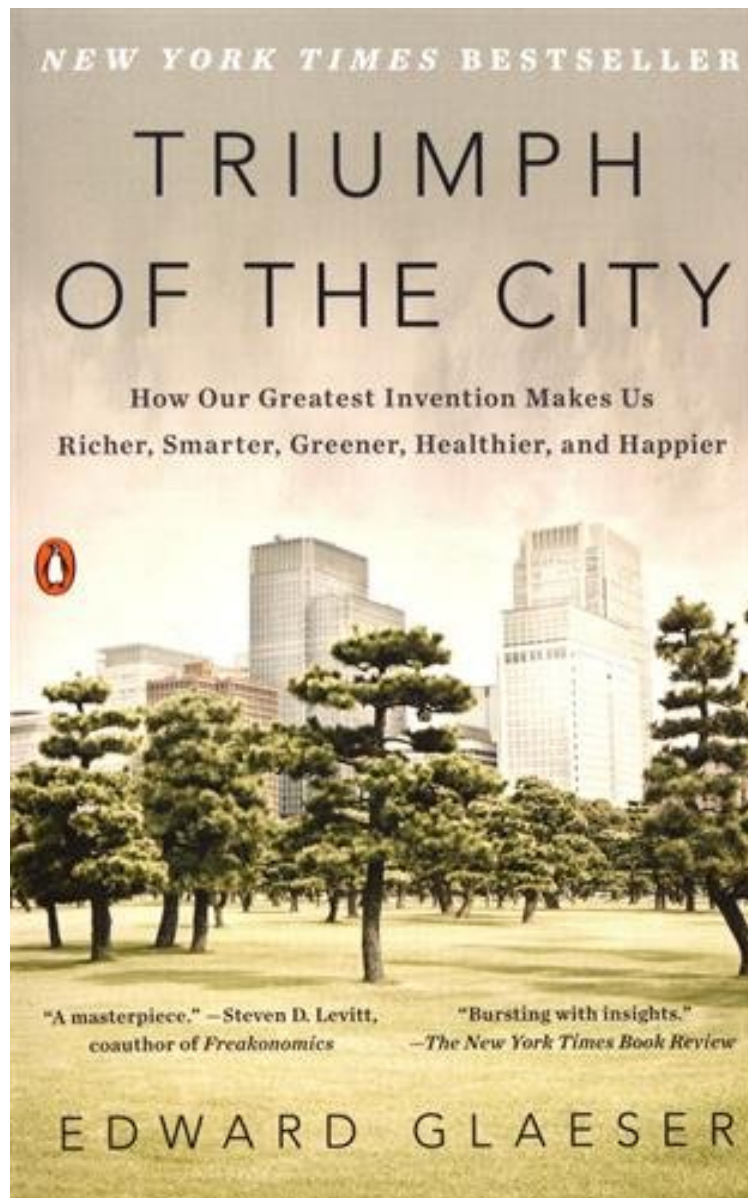


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Triumph of the City: How Our Greatest Invention Makes Us Richer, Smarter, Greener, Healthier, and Happier

Edward Glaeser

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praised *Triumph of the City: How Our Greatest Invention Makes Us Richer, Smarter, Greener, Healthier, and Happier*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Urban living is the FutureBy M. A. MeredithNo more timely a book could be read during the summer than this one. With the obvious schism between the urban and the rural becoming of greater and greater import, learning as much as you can about the city as the engine of economic change and drive is even more critical.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. thoughtful and honest discussion of cities and their importanceBy CustomerA very thoughtful discussion of urban development, import, poverty and prosperity. Professor Glaeser takes us through history, psychology, policy, environmentalism, and economics. You will not agree with the author on every point, but an honest reading will force any reader to recognize the thought, passion, and hard work behind Professor Glaeser's views. In the end, most of us will recognize that the good professor is right most of the time.The book is entirely narrative, so there is no math or quantitative skills required (for those who have read or are aware of the author's academic work and are worried). Certain parts are repetitive but overall a great read that will challenge preconceived notions and leave you with a better appreciation of both cities and the author.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Human society is strengthened by the presence of cities.By Kevin KingI thought this book presented the case for cities well in that they're the economic engines that drive nations and the entire world for that matter.

A pioneering urban economist presents a myth-shattering look at the majesty and greatness of citiesAmerica is an urban nation, yet cities get a bad rap: they're dirty, poor, unhealthy, environmentally unfriendly . . . or are they? In this revelatory book, Edward Glaeser, a leading urban economist, declares that cities are actually the healthiest, greenest, and richest (in both cultural and economic terms) places to live. He travels through history and around the globe to reveal the hidden workings of cities and how they bring out the best in humankind. Using intrepid reportage, keen analysis, and cogent argument, Glaeser makes an urgent, eloquent case for the city's importance and splendor, offering inspiring proof that the city is humanity's greatest creation and our best hope for the future."A masterpiece." -Steven D. Levitt, coauthor of *Freakonomics*"Bursting with insights." -The New York Times Book Review

From BooklistGlaeser's academic specialty, urban economics, informs his survey of how cities around the world thrive and wither. Using a range of expository forms—history, biography, economic research, and personal story—he defines what makes a city successful. That changes through time, and a flourishing Industrial Age model may not work in the service-age economy, as rust-belt towns like Detroit have learned. One thing constantly attracts people to one city rather than another—how much housing construction is permitted. Restrictive places, such as New York City, coastal California, and Paris, have a tight housing supply with prices only the wealthy can afford. Hence, middle-class people move to the suburbs or cities like Houston. Other features of metropolises—their incidences of poverty and crime, traffic congestion, quality of schools, and cultural amenities—also figure in Glaeser's analysis. Whatever the city under discussion, Mumbai or Woodlands, Texas, Glaeser is discerning and independent; for example, he believes that historic preservation isn't an unalloyed good and that bigger, denser cities militate against global warming. Thought-provoking material for urban-affairs students. --Gilbert Taylor "A masterpiece." -Steven D. Levitt, coauthor of *Freakonomics*"Bursting with insights." -The New York Times Book Review

About the AuthorEdward L. Glaeser is the Fred and Eleanor Glimp Professor of Economics at Harvard University. He studies the economics of cities, housing, segregation, obesity, crime, innovation and other subjects, and writes about many of these issues for *Economix*. He serves as the director of the Taubman Center for State and Local Government and the Rappaport Institute for Greater Boston. He is also a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1992.