



Recommended Reading

Homesteading & Self-Sufficiency: Recommended Reading

Homesteading and Self-Sufficiency are not just a lifestyle, they're a mindset. It includes an evaluation of what's important to you, what you value and where you want to put your energy. Embracing a homesteading and self-sufficiency lifestyle you may look at how the choices you make regarding your food, your labor, your housing, your mode of transportation, etc. impact your life and the greater society as a whole. You might be asking yourself, do I want to be a part of the status quo, or am I willing to re-evaluate my lifestyle with my values as a guide?

The following three books will make you think about some of these issues.

Radical Homemakers: Reclaiming Domesticity From A Consumer Culture, Shannon Hayes, Left to Right Press 2010.

Review by HuffPost.com: *Hayes' book functions as a manifesto, a hard examination of the stagnant creed that the "global economy" is the be all-end all of human existence. The book is an historical account of how American women and men came to accept this self-defeating and dehumanizing view throughout the 20th century. But also, in its second half, it serves as a detailed account of couples, singles and families with young children who have renounced this view and chosen homemaking instead, to promote, as Hayes describes, a "life-giving economy based on the principals of social justice, democracy, care for the planet and its inhabitants."*

Your Money or Your Life: 9 Steps to Transforming Your Relationship with Money and Achieving Financial Independence: Fully Revised and Updated for 2018, by Vicki Robin and Joe Dominquez, Penguin Books, 2018. Originally published in 1992, this book has become a must read for anyone trying to take control of their finances and their life.

Review from www.goodreads.com: *In times like these, it's more important than ever to know the difference between making a living and making a life. Your Money or Your Life is even more relevant today than it was when the book first hit the stands, and a great publicity campaign will bring this already strong-selling book to a whole new audience.*

Bringing It To The Table: On Farming and Food, by Wendell Berry; introduction by Michael Pollan, Counterpoint Press, 2009.

Description from Wright State University: https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/dlpp_all/298/ *Long before organic produce was available at your local supermarket, Wendell Berry was farming and writing with the purity of food in mind. For the last five decades, he has embodied mindful eating through his land practices and his writing. In recognition of Berry's influence, Michael Pollan offers an introduction to this new collection. "To read the essays in this sparkling anthology," he writes, "many of them dating back to the 1970s and 1980s, is to realize just how little of what we are saying and hearing today Wendall Berry hasn't already said, bracingly before."*