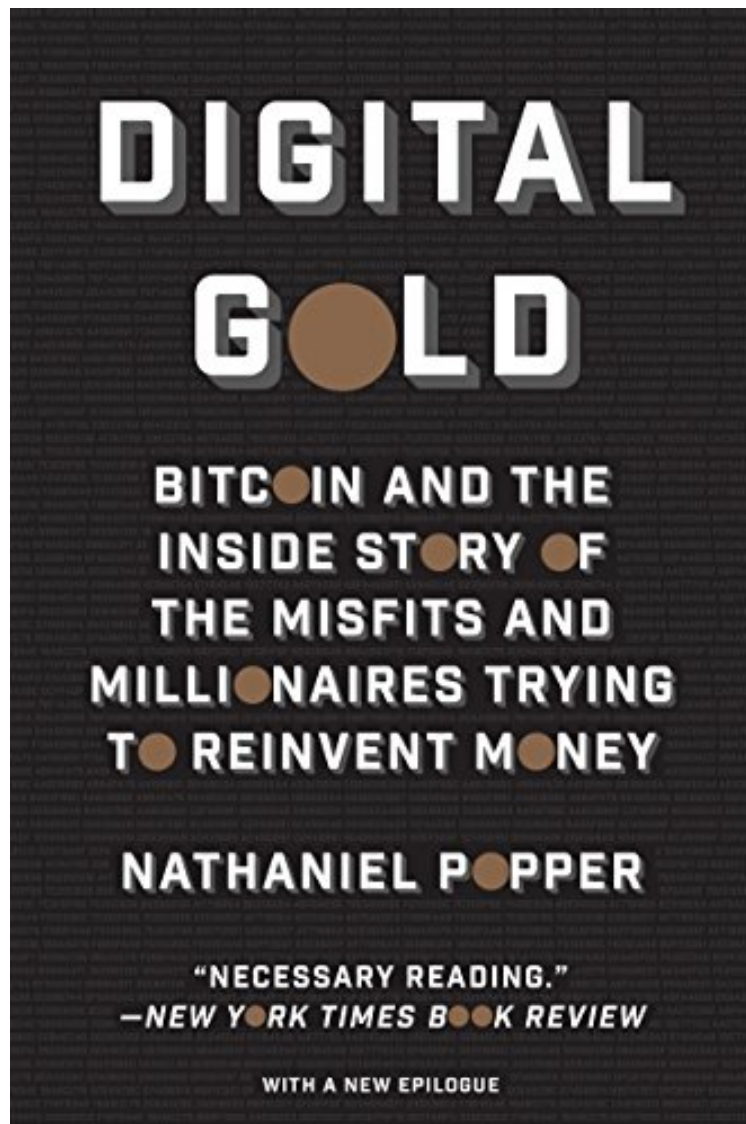


[Ebook pdf] Digital Gold: Bitcoin and the Inside Story of the Misfits and Millionaires Trying to Reinvent Money

## Digital Gold: Bitcoin and the Inside Story of the Misfits and Millionaires Trying to Reinvent Money

*Nathaniel Popper*

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**Nathaniel Popper : Digital Gold: Bitcoin and the Inside Story of the Misfits and Millionaires Trying to Reinvent Money** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Digital Gold: Bitcoin and the Inside Story of the Misfits and Millionaires Trying to Reinvent Money:

46 of 46 people found the following review helpful. Excellent journalism about bitcoin subcultureBy Cemil Sinasi TurunThis book is standing out among other bitcoin books recently published in one important difference: This one is

the result of genuine journalism. The writer is not here for attracting the techie crowd who are interested in the fortunes of mining bitcoins every 10 minutes or so. But he does a very good job of digging all the key people (arguably even the main character, Mr Satoshi himself) and putting events in a time-line starting from day one, from early 2009. Before this book, I read three other bitcoin/blockchain books, watched the documentary (The Rise and Rise of Bitcoin) and read lots of web site articles and blogs. I heard lots of things about the main characters, Satoshi, Gavin, Hal, Ross, Erik, Wences, Winklevii, Charlie etc. but after Popper's book, all of them are now linked in an organized story line and they came alive in my mind. In a way this book reads like fiction, almost like the script of an HBO mini series. But all of the events are real and the characters are actual living human beings, sometimes with sad endings. I wonder if the FBI had ever used description of some events in this book as evidence? Or just the opposite, did Popper use legal documents or police reports. How on the earth did he find out all the details of the life of the founder of Silk Road? (Like the thoughts of his former girlfriends) Or details about the "super secret" meeting of Allen Co? Wow! I am shocked, this is journalism at its best, applied to a favourite but difficult to understand contemporary subject. Bottom line: The book is an example of very fine writing and detailed reporting of the bitcoin subculture. Not a book to learn how to mine bitcoins or where to buy them.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. "To the Moon!"...a great story about the foundations of Bitcoin. By Jeffrey Kimelman I read this book as a follow up to what I learned from watching the documentary titled: The Rise and Rise of Bitcoin. That movie was unfortunately made at a time when Bitcoin was growing so fast and the Mt. Gox crash had yet to happen. That said, I was hooked from what I saw and was deeply curious to learn more about Bitcoin. After reading the Satoshi Nakamoto "white paper" as seen here: <https://bitcoin.org/bitcoin.pdf> I was interested in learning more about the people that truly pioneered this great new technological innovation known as Bitcoin and the Blockchain. This book gave me all I was looking for and more! The stories about Charlie Shrem, the Winklevoss brothers, Wences Casares and more were all great to read about. This book has a very similar feel to that of the film "the Social Network" all about the facebook story. I finished it rather quickly and wasn't left feeling like I had missed anything...all I wanted to do when I was done...was buy more Bitcoin!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent By Joe Schuessler Other books would probably provide a better technical introduction to Bitcoin, but Digital Gold was an enjoyable narrative of the story and characters behind the development of this new currency. Popper's background as a reporter for the New York Times allowed him to gather some spectacular material that no one else could; It is doubtful anyone could have put together such an accurate and comprehensive overview that captures the personalities of the key players so well. You can tell Popper really made an effort to get to know them as people. For example, the way he describes Mark Karpeles, a programmer who managed a notorious exchange website Mt. Gox, seemed sort of like the computer nerd character in the original Jurassic Park movie: a sort of slovenly guy who recklessly causes a catastrophic meltdown. Super-competent Roger Ver seems like a real-life Bruce Wayne; Charlie Shrem comes across more like an overgrown kid. Popper includes lots of entertaining details: like how businessman Wences Casares paid \$250k to Eastern European hackers to find flaws in the bitcoin technology, but found that it checked out as sound; how entrepreneur Charlie Shrem's parents only agreed to post a \$1 million bond to bail him out of jail if he broke up with a girlfriend they did not approve of first; or how FBI agents staged the death of notorious criminal Ross Ulbricht's assassination targets. Popper also presents a pretty convincing case that I was not familiar with for the identity of the person he thinks is Satoshi Nakamoto, the mysterious creator of Bitcoin. It remains to be seen whether Bitcoin itself will last long in the future, but the blockchain technology appears to be a real breakthrough in computer science. Nathaniel Popper is a talented non-fiction writer and this was a real page-turner. I gave it five stars because I enjoyed reading it so much.

Bitcoin, the landmark digital money and financial technology, has spawned a global social movement with utopian ambitions. The notion of a new currency, maintained by the computers of users around the world, has been the butt of many jokes, but that has not stopped it from growing into a technology worth billions of dollars, supported by the hordes of followers who have come to view it as the most important new idea since the creation of the Internet. Believers from Beijing to Buenos Aires see the potential for a financial system free from banks and governments, and a new global currency for the digital age. An unusual tale of group invention, Digital Gold tells the story of the colorful characters who have built Bitcoin, including a Finnish college student; an Argentinian millionaire; a Chinese entrepreneur; Tyler and Cameron Winklevoss; Bitcoin's elusive creator, Satoshi Nakamoto; and the founder of the Silk Road online drug market, Ross Ulbricht. With Digital Gold, New York Times reporter Nathaniel Popper offers a brilliant and engrossing account of this new technology. At each step of the way, Bitcoin has provided one of the most fascinating tests of how money works, who benefits from it, and what it might look like in the future.

"An amazing story. Bitcoin is about to transform both finance and how we use the internet, and this fascinating book chronicles its unlikely genesis. Popper has produced a riveting tale filled with colorful innovators that is crucial reading for anyone who wants to understand the future." (Walter Isaacson, author of The Innovators) Bitcoin may be a product of computer science, but it is a very human story. This highly entertaining history reminds us yet again that truth can be stranger than fiction and can be peopled with even more unusual and

compelling characters." (Larry Summers, former Secretary of the Treasury) "So, yes, it's a totally awesome book" (Justin Fox, Bloomberg) "This excellent work is the book on Bitcoin you've been waiting for" (Tyler Cowen, Marginal Revolution) "An elegant, thrilling tour-de-force. . . . Nathaniel Popper gives us a front-row seat on the origins of Bitcoin and its captivating cast of characters. The fast-paced action never stops." (William D. Cohan, author of House of Cards) "Finally, the book so many of us have been waiting for: A riveting and smart account of the strange history of Bitcoin. You'll start knowing nothing about Bitcoin and finish with deep knowledge, but you won't realize you're learning along the way -- it's just a lot of fun." (Adam Davidson, co-founder of NPR's Planet Money) "An engrossing introduction to one of the most transformative innovations in finance of the last few decades. Digital Gold paints a vivid portrait of the economics and technology of Bitcoin as well as the people behind it." (Susan Athey, The Economics of Technology Professor, Stanford Graduate School of Business and Winner of the John Bates Clark Medal in Economics) "The most compelling and in-depth investigation into the world of Bitcoin and digital currency. Nathaniel Popper charts Bitcoin's fascinating transformation from fringe oddity to a truly global currency. If you want to understand the future of money, read this book." (Joshua Davis, author of Spare Parts) "Nathaniel Popper's new book, Digital Gold, is as close as you can get to being the definitive account of the history of Bitcoin." (Felix Salmon, Fusion) "An engrossing look at a system creatively designed to bring money into the 21st century." (Library Journal) "Necessary reading" (Bethany McLean, New York Times Book Review) "Digital Gold is as strong a narrative achievement as a reporting one" (Chris Wilson, Bookforum) "A vivid guide to the characters who met online and built bitcoin" (John Gapper, Financial Times) "It's a tale told quickly and well" (John Biggs, TechCrunch) "An impressive accomplishment" (Tim Fernholz, Quartz) "Bitcoin may be inherently speculative, but Digital Gold is a sound investment" (Edward Chancellor, Reuters) "A family saga... structured like a tech thriller" (John Naughton, The Guardian) "SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2015 FINANCIAL TIMES AND MCKINSEY BUSINESS BOOK OF THE YEAR" "New York Times technology and business reporter charts the dramatic rise of Bitcoin and the fascinating personalities who are striving to create a new global money for the Internet age. Digital Gold is a brilliant and engrossing history of Bitcoin, the landmark digital money and financial technology that has spawned a global social movement. The notion of a new currency, maintained by the computers of users around the world, has been the butt of many jokes, but that has not stopped it from growing into a technology worth billions of dollars, supported by the hordes of followers who have come to view it as the most important new idea since the creation of the Internet. Believers from Beijing to Buenos Aires see the potential for a financial system free from banks and governments. More than just a tech industry fad, Bitcoin has threatened to decentralize some of society's most basic institutions. An unusual tale of group invention, Digital Gold charts the rise of the Bitcoin technology through the eyes of the movement's colorful central characters, including an Argentinian millionaire, a Chinese entrepreneur, Tyler and Cameron Winklevoss, and Bitcoin's elusive creator, Satoshi Nakamoto. Already, Bitcoin has led to untold riches for some, and prison terms for others. About the Author Nathaniel Popper is a reporter at The New York Times. Before joining The Times, he worked at the Los Angeles Times and the Forward. Nathaniel grew up in Pittsburgh and is a graduate of Harvard College. He lives in Brooklyn with his family.