

## **Yellen: The Trailblazing Economist Who Navigated an Era of Upheaval**

By Jon Hilsenrath

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The book is actually three books in one: an in-depth biography of Janet Yellen; the role her husband (George Akelof) has played in their relationship, and the world of economics, and her career; and a tutorial on the various schools of thought among economists. Our takeaways included: Janet Yellen's life began with excellence; Yellen's empathy gave purpose to her career path; Yellen's endurance advanced her professionally despite workplace bias and discrimination; equality is a pillar of Janet Yellen's work and research; and Janet Yellen's endearing personality sets her apart. Perhaps the most enduring quality that sets her apart is her willingness to say "we got it wrong" when referring to her ideas on inflation.

The first person, and only woman to have served as Chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisors, Chair of the Federal Reserve, and the Secretary of the Treasury. Despite this, or perhaps because of it, we all agreed we'd like to have a glass of wine with her with each of us wearing our Nina McLemore blazer!

Interested in some on-line interviews of her and the author? Check out the following:

Cobert Late Show with Yellen as guest

First segment:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3YEgj\\_Svh78](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3YEgj_Svh78)

explains inflation

Second segment:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jCFyAnCrbVU>

discusses practicing her signature

Wilson Center interview:

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/video/janet-yellen-most-powerful-woman-american-economic-history>

NPR interview

<https://www.npr.org/2023/01/05/1147279945/a-new-biography-of-janet-yellen-offers-a-personal-look-at-the-trailblazing-econo>

Submitted by Joan Apple Lemoine

5:00 group facilitator