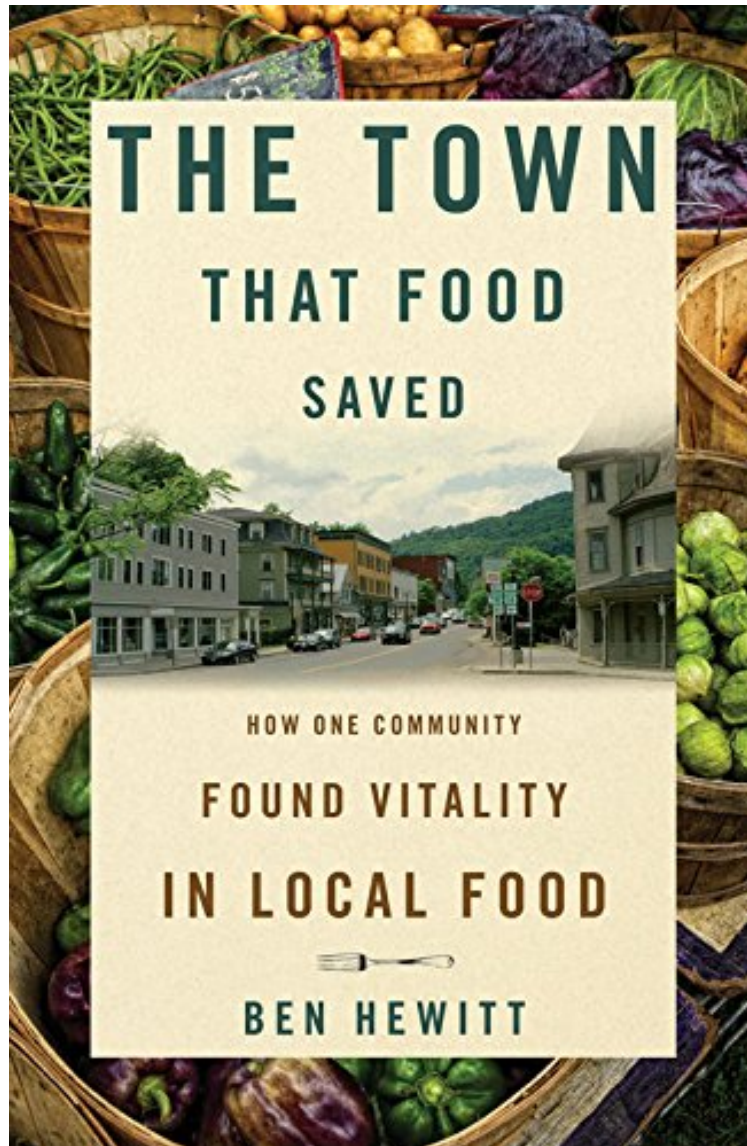


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The Town That Food Saved: How One Community Found Vitality in Local Food

Ben Hewitt

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Ben Hewitt : The Town That Food Saved: How One Community Found Vitality in Local Food before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Town That Food Saved: How One Community Found Vitality in Local Food:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. True Enough By Mr. Fishscales This is a somewhat glib, but lively look at a fascinating local economy in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. Hewitt's profiles of the people he talks with

are often funny and a little edgy, but his "what do I know about any of this" attitude wears a little thin over the course of the book. This may be a generation gap issue; his tone seemed very, very familiar and typically Millennial. There is a lot of information here that you would be hard pressed to find anywhere else (other than by visiting yourself), so in that sense it is an invaluable account. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Being a neighbor...By BeeGeel live only 14 miles from the town of Hardwick and have witnessed its amazing transformation - in a good way. I love how the author shows both sides of this transformation because it's so apparent that the citizens of the surrounding (as well as the citizens of Hardwick) area have been so supportive of all that's going on there--both in purchasing the local products as well as supporting the new businesses, in word and deed. I wanted to read this book because I've noticed how things have changed in Hardwick and am delighted it is so. Onward and upward Ben Hewitt...am loving your books! Thank you for your keen sense of observation and the gift of knowing the right questions to ask. But best of all, you know you don't have all the answers, but by putting this type of work out there, I believe the right answers will unfold all by themselves. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. a pragmatic look at local agricultureBy Dirk AndersonLocally raised and produced food is a hot topic, but much of what has been written about it is either hopelessly theoretical and preachy, or too personalized to be of much use (i.e., "I grew an amazing tomato and connected with the soul of my dead grandmother"). Mr. Hewitt starts from the premise that local food is better food, and some might fault him for that. But if you are in general agreement, then this book is a welcome examination of whether food can be raised, processed, and marketed locally in a way that benefits the entire community. The author thinks it can, and he makes his case through the stories of the individuals in an unlikely rural town who somehow came together to start a small, yet significant, revolution of sorts. Will it last? Can it be replicated elsewhere? These questions are, as yet, unanswered. Nonetheless, the success of Hardwick to date makes a fascinating case study, and a very engaging read. An additional bonus: Mr. Hewitt writes with a real wit and economy of style.

Over the past few years, Hardwick, Vermont, a typical hardscrabble farming community of 3,000 residents, has jump-started its economy and redefined its self-image through a local, self-sustaining food system unlike anything else in America. Even as the recent financial downturn threatens to cripple small businesses and privately owned farms, a stunning number of food-based businesses have grown in the region. The Town That Food Saved is rich with appealing, colorful characters, from the optimistic upstarts creating a new agricultural model to the long-established farmers wary of the rapid change in the region. Hewitt, a journalist and Vermonter, delves deeply into the repercussions of this groundbreaking approach to growing food, both its astounding successes and potential limitations. The captivating story of an unassuming community and its extraordinary determination to build a vibrant local food system, The Town That Food Saved is grounded in ideas that will revolutionize the way we eat and, quite possibly, the way we live.