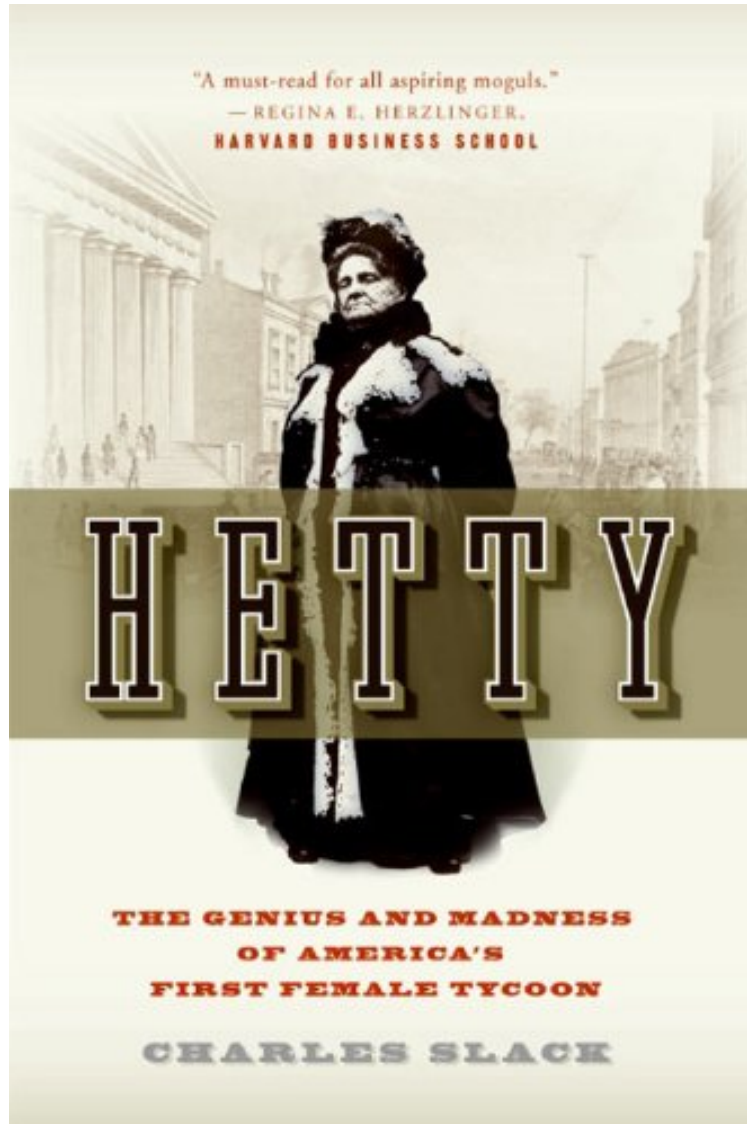


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## Hetty: The Genius and Madness of America's First Female Tycoon

*Charles Slack*

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**Charles Slack : Hetty: The Genius and Madness of America's First Female Tycoon** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hetty: The Genius and Madness of America's First Female Tycoon:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Definitely a break from the ordinary financial tales!By Miller.She didn't win her fortune with her looks! Hetty was a tough old bird and a delight to read. She reigned at a time when the Robber Barons and similar types were ruthless and exclusively male. She was an exception only in the area of sex. She gave no quarter to anyone, definitely not to competitors. Libbers will love her. She should have appeared on a postage

stamp though I am not aware that she ever did. It's fun to read and inspiring in many ways. Even her detractors loved her if only to hate her!<sup>4</sup> of 4 people found the following review helpful. Hetty: The Genius and Madness of America's First Female Tycoon By L. Thompson I was looking for some insight into this woman's character, ie: what made her tick, was she really this big miser they portrayed her to be. I found little snippets here and there. While she had reason, in some cases, to be a tightwad, in other cases there seemed to be no reason for it. As in, when people know you are rich they 'expect' to get something from you and if you don't give it, they just hate you more. First, they hate you for being rich, second, because you don't give it to them. So I can understand her reasoning in the business dealings she did. Being frugal is one thing, searching for hours for a 2 cent stamp is obsessive. This book gives you insight into Hetty's business dealings and a tiny, tiny glimpse into her personal life. Nonetheless, very informative book and an entertaining read. Very well written and hard to put down. Highly recommended. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Not a normal life By Customer So interesting!! She did not have a normal life!! She was absolutely brilliant!! Good story for me since I live close to Dartmouth and went to see her home... the views of the water are just beautiful... they have now built Condominiums there along with her home.. Guess the estate is still earning monies. Good read.

When J. P. Morgan called a meeting of New York's financial leaders after the stock market crash of 1907, Hetty Green was the only woman in the room. The Guinness Book of World Records memorialized her as the World's Greatest Miser, and, indeed, this unlikely robber baron -- who parlayed a comfortable inheritance into a fortune that was worth about 1.6 billion in today's dollars -- was frugal to a fault. But in an age when women weren't even allowed to vote, never mind concern themselves with interest rates, she lived by her own rules. In *Hetty*, Charles Slack reexamines her life and legacy, giving us, at long last, a splendidly "nuanced portrait" (Newsweek) of one of the greatest -- and most eccentric -- financiers in American history. This P.S. edition features an extra 16 pages of insights into the book, including author interviews, recommended reading, and more.

From Booklist Hetty Green (1835-1916) was the only woman to make her mark in the financial markets during the Gilded Age of the late 1800s. She parlayed an inheritance of \$500,000 into \$100 million (\$2.5 billion in current money), amassing fortunes in U.S. bonds and real estate through impeccable timing. Immortalized in the Guinness Book of World Records as the "world's greatest miser," she kept her family living in modest tenements, dressed in drab clothes, and was a notorious penny-pincher. Dubbed the "Witch of Wall Street," she was widely believed to live an unhappy existence despite her riches. Slack's account reveals a much more multidimensional character than Green was popularly believed to be; yes, she was eccentric, but her wry wit and colorful personality bring humor and pathos to this story. She was unfairly vilified because of her sex, and readers cannot help from cheering for her at every turn. David Siegfried Copyright copy; American Library Association. All rights reserved "Slack concentrates on telling a good story and telling it well.... [An] entertaining biography." About the Author Charles Slack is the author of *Noble Obsession: Charles Goodyear, Thomas Hancock, and the Race to Unlock the Greatest Industrial Secret of the Nineteenth Century*, named one of the New York Public Library's twenty-five "Books to Remember" for 2002, and *Blue Fairways: Three Months, Sixty Courses, No Mulligans*. His writing has appeared in many national magazines. He lives in Connecticut with his wife, Barbara, and their daughters, Natalie and Caroline.