

Dorling, D. (2014) Books of the Year, Times Higher Education, December 18<sup>th</sup>,  
<http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/features/times-higher-educations-books-of-2014/3/2017537.article>

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UK academics will end 2014 congratulating each other on just how excellent they have been in another Research Assessment Jamboree; but to find what might have real impact, it helps to widen your view. Michael Roscoe's *Why Things Are Going To Get Worse...And Why We Should Be Glad* (New Internationalist) uses data and sound explanation to show that it isn't possible for us to take more and more of the Earth's finite resources in the hope of producing more goods and creating more wealth, using more energy and generally expecting more of everything for ever. Roscoe also offers optimistic ways out of capitalism's end game.

For those who want to know why it's taken so long to see that the party is over, Darryl Cunningham's *Supercrash: How to Hijack the Global Economy* (Myriad) is a feat of graphic journalism; he draws Ayn Rand, architect of the disaster, with eyes as mad as those of her footsoldier, Margaret Thatcher. If a young person asks why we've bequeathed them such a mess, I suggest offering one of these two books, before saying "Sorry", followed by "Happy Christmas 2014".

