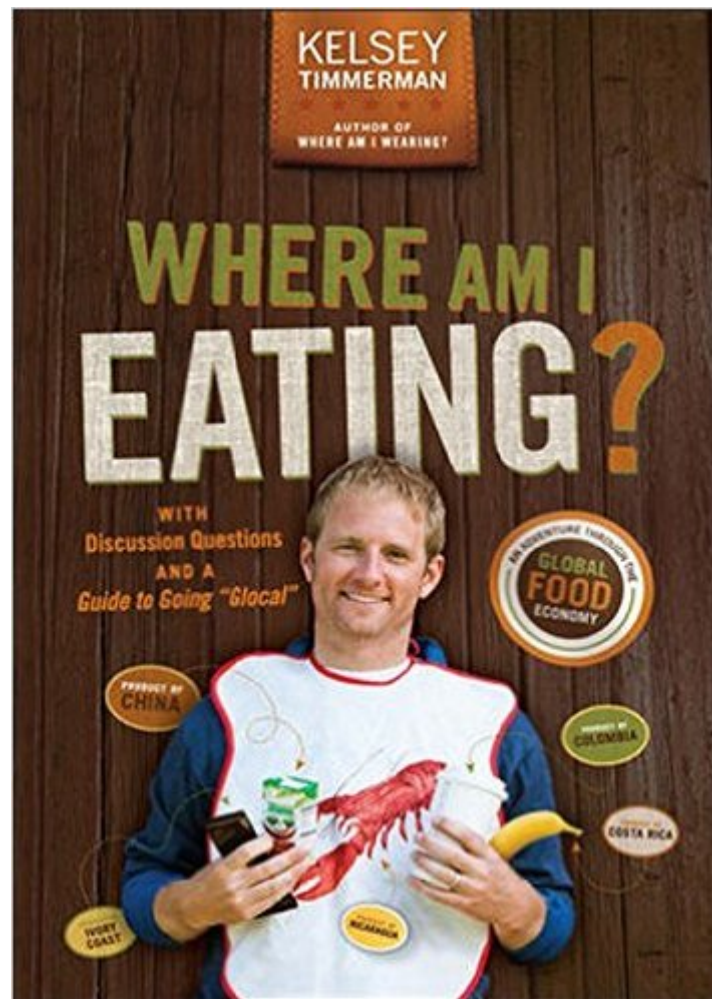


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# Where Am I Eating?: An Adventure Through The Global Food Economy With Discussion Questions And A Guide To Going "Glocal"



## Synopsis

A deeply human-centered perspective on the origins of America's food *Where Am I Eating?* bridges the gap between global food producers and the American consumer, providing an insightful look at how our eating habits affect farmers and fishermen around the world. Follow the author on his global quest to meet the workers that nurture, harvest, and hunt our food, as he works alongside them—loading lobster diving boats in Nicaragua, harvesting bananas in Costa Rica, lugging cocoa beans in Ivory Coast with a modern-day slave, picking coffee beans in Colombia and hauling tomatoes in Indiana. This new edition includes a study guide, a deeper explanation of the "glocal" concept, and advice for students looking to become engaged as both local and global citizens. Arguing neither for nor against globalization, this book simply explores the lives of those who feed us. Imports account for eighty-six percent of America's seafood, fifty percent of its fresh fruit, and eighteen percent of its fresh vegetables. *Where Am I Eating?* examines the effects of this reliance on those who supply the global food economy. Learn more about the global producers that feed our nation, and learn from their worldviews intensely connected to people and planet Discover how food preferences and trends affect the lives of farmers and fishermen Catch a boots-on-the-ground glimpse of the daily lives of food producers on four continents Meet a modern-day slave and explore the blurred line between exploitation and opportunity Observe how the poorest producers fare in the global food economy This book takes a human-centered approach to food, investigating the lives of the people at the other end of the global food economy, observing the hope and opportunity—or lack thereof—that results from our reliance on imports. *Where Am I Eating?* is a touching, insightful, informative look at the origins of our food.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have read *Where Am I Wearing* many times and used it in classes, given it as gifts, and praised it to my friends to the point they have asked if I am being paid for selling the book. *Where Am I Eating* is just as good as the previous book. Timmerman does an excellent job of showing how we are all connected. He does an equally good job of showing how the people who feed us and the people who make our clothes are being exploited and mistreated while they lack options to do much else. At the same time, we are buying these products that are damaging and many of us lack options. The book also stimulates discussion on the ethics of food, a discussion that is long overdue. Much of what he writes is not new but he puts the information in one book and makes it accessible. Read this book before you buy apple juice again.

*Where Am I Eating* is a book that can be read for pleasure over the period of a weekend, or it can be used with groups as an educational tool. Half-part investigative and half part personal story, Kelsey's words dance with the reader, providing an opportunity for careful analysis of the topic without being subjected to boring text. From the stories of farmers around the world who tell us what their experiences are like to the stories of modern-day slaves who harvest what becomes our chocolate, *Where Am I Eating* is an adventure you won't want to miss -- it will forever change how you shop and eat.

You may have seen news stories about the horrendous working conditions for those who produce our coffee, chocolate and other foods. Maybe you have even signed a petition, written a letter to a corporate executive, or tried to look for products that seem to be made without the exploitation of laborers in other parts of the world. No matter how much you might have thought you already knew about these problems, Kelsey Timmerman has added an incredibly personal narrative to the basic, dismal facts and statistics. Not only did he travel to the places where coffee, bananas, chocolate, "rock lobster," and yes, even apple juice are produced. He sometimes worked alongside those with little choice but to labor under horrific conditions. He confronts a modern day slavery situation and has to make some decisions about how much he can and should get involved. He introduces us to families who have been involved in this same kind of agriculture for generations but then helps us to see how the changing climate (both weather and economic) has made many of their situations increasingly difficult. The book also includes an appendix of some of the many groups that are

working toward bettering conditions for workers in all of these areas. Timmerman's style is informal but intense, and he provides plenty of statistics to back up his story. Even with lots of footnotes, however, this reads like a novel that is hard to put down, and it could be a great choice for a family with middle-school and older kids to read and discuss together. Definitely a must-read for anyone interested in trying to make their food choices better for those who are responsible for producing some of our favorite foods.

Timmerman nailed another great novel about human rights and global issues. He opened my eyes in our global economy and where or stuff is made now with his new insights in *Where am I eating*, he takes you on another adventure of knowledge and change.

I loved this book. It sheds light on the global food economy through personal stories of the people who grow our food. It changes the way you think about what (or where) you are eating but doesn't pretend to have all of the solutions. Having grown up on a small dairy farm in Michigan I can relate to some of the stories and how hard my parents worked to make ends meet. If you enjoy adventure, touring, agriculture, and revelations about the corporations that most of us buy from, this is the book for you!

Every American, perhaps every human being, should read this book. It amazes me how little most of us care about where our food comes from. This book will certainly change how I see food and eat in the future. Thank you, Mr. Timmerman. Well done.

This book is so much more than finding out where our food comes from. It is an extension of who we are, where we are raised and how we spend our hard earned money. Picking up fruit grown in another country now has a whole new meaning. I am now a more thoughtful consumer.

Another extraordinary book by an extraordinary author! This is a book that begged to be written. Just as we met the makers of our clothing in his first book, *WHERE AM I WEARING?*, the author in *WHERE AM I EATING?* introduces his readers to the faces and families and lives of those who provide our food and the risks they must take. We readers easily recognize them as part of our global family and we are the better for knowing them and their stories. Author Kelsey Timmerman is intelligent, courageous, endlessly curious, compassionate, and exudes the essence of camaraderie. He is a remarkable storyteller who invites his readers along on his journey of discovery. And what a

journey it is! Don't miss this one!

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