

Bofa Merrill Lynch Does And Seeks To Do Business 2017

The fascinating story behind the company that revolutionized the financial world *Catching Lightning in a Bottle* traces the complete history of Merrill Lynch and the company's substantial impact on the world of finance, from the birth of the once-mighty company to its inauspicious end. Throughout its ninety-four year history, Merrill Lynch revolutionized finance by bringing Wall Street to Main Street, operating under a series of guidelines known as the Principles. These values allowed the company to gain the trust of small investors by putting the clients' interests first, driving a business trajectory that expanded capital markets and fueled the growth of the American post-war economy. Written by the son of Merrill Lynch co-founder Winthrop H. Smith, this book describes the creation and evolution of the company from Charlie Merrill's one-man shop in 1914 to its acquisition by Bank of America in 2008. Author Winthrop H. Smith Jr. spent twenty-eight years at the company his father co-founded, bringing a unique perspective to bear in telling the story of the company that democratized the stock market and eventually fell from its lofty perch. Learn why the industry initially scoffed at Charles Merrill's "radical" investment ideas Discover the origin of the Principles, and how they drove operations for nearly a century Find out why the author left a successful Wall Street career, and why it was such a smart move Examine the culture and values that built Merrill Lynch into one of the world's most successful and respected companies Revolutionary vision is rare, and enduring success is even rarer. When a single organization demonstrates both of those characteristics, it is felt throughout the world. Discover the fascinating story behind Merrill Lynch and the men who built it from an insider's perspective in *Catching Lightning in a Bottle*.

Delve into ETFs for smarter investing and a weatherproof portfolio *Beyond Smart Beta* is the investor's complete guide to index investing, with deep analysis, expert clarification and smart strategies for active portfolio management. From the general to the obscure, this book digs into every aspect of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) including ETCs and ETNs to break down the jargon and provide accessible guidance on utilizing the indices as part of a more productive investment strategy. Succinct explanations of terms and concepts help you better grasp ETP anatomy, mechanics and practices, while examples, charts and graphs provide quick visual reference for total understanding. The expert author team examines the risks and benefits associated with various indexing approaches, sharing critical review of next-generation methods to help you make well-informed investment decisions. ETFs provide a solid foundation within mature and well-researched markets, allowing investors to focus on areas where active management has the potential to reap higher returns. This book shows you how to take full advantage of the growth of this market to strengthen your portfolio for the long term. Assess the current landscape and the anatomy of ETFs/ETPs Understand ETP handling, costs, trading, and investment Evaluate the pros and cons of next-generation indexing approaches Avoid risk while incorporating indices into an active portfolio management strategy Index concepts have evolved from basic, passive investments through Smart Beta, and are evolving into a third generation of products that will quickly become an important element of investor portfolios. Key benefits have propelled ETFs to surpass hedge funds in global capital, and the growth shows no sign of slowing. *Beyond Smart Beta* provides a primer for investors seeking to understand — and take advantage of — these lucrative new products. A comprehensive look at the world of leveraged buyouts The private equity industry has grown dramatically over the past twenty years. Such investing requires a strong technical know-how in order to turn private investments into successful enterprises. That is why Paul Pignataro has created *Leveraged Buyouts + Website: A Practical Guide to Investment Banking and Private Equity*. Engaging and informative, this book

skillfully shows how to identify a private company, takes you through the analysis behind bringing such an investment to profitability—and further create high returns for the private equity funds. It includes an informative leveraged buyout overview, touching on everything from LBO modeling, accounting, and value creation theory to leveraged buyout concepts and mechanics. Provides an in-depth analysis of how to identify a private company, bring such an investment to profitability, and create high returns for the private equity funds Includes an informative LBO model and case study as well as private company valuation Written by Paul Pignataro, founder and CEO of the New York School of Finance If you're looking for the best way to hone your skills in this field, look no further than this book.

The Concise Encyclopedia of the Great Recession 2007-2012 brings to the present the necessary information for understanding the first major recession of the 21st century and one of the deepest since the Great Depression itself. Its description of recession-related actors and events since its start provides an in-depth understanding of this major rupture in modern economy, forever changing, some have argued, not only the distribution of income in the United States but the balance of economic power across the globe.

The Intellectual Trader is the first book any trader should read when thinking about trading stocks, bonds, currencies, or commodities. Written by thirty-year Wall Street veteran David Hoffman, the book explores the entire gamut of trading using clear, easy to follow stories and analogies. In this book, you will learn the fundamentals of trading, how to develop trading ideas, how to operate in the markets profitably and manage your risk like a professional. You will understand the psychological skills needed to master your trading. Later, you will learn the leading qualitative and quantitative tactics of successful traders, leaving you emotionally and intellectually prepared to trade profitably. The author lays out what is wrong with the trading systems promoted by so many authors and breaks the many myths coming from easy money trading books. Take your trading beyond chat rooms, Reddit, and Robinhood, into the realm where the most successful traders thrive in all market conditions. If you have read other books about trading, you will wish you had read The Intelligent Trader first. This book is genuinely the prequel to every other book about trading. Sure, to become a classic on the subject.

The LIBOR affair has been described as the 'biggest banking scandal in history', a deception affecting not only banks but also corporations, pension funds and ordinary people. But was this just the tip of the iceberg? Was the scandal the work of a few 'bad apples' or an inevitable result of a financial system rotten to its core? Labelled 'one of the world's most infamous rogue traders' in the wake of a mis-marking scandal, Alexis Stenfors went on to rebuild his life and now guides us through the shadowy world of modern banking, providing an insider's account of the secret practices – including the manipulation of foreign exchange rates – which have allowed banks to profit from systematic deception. Containing remarkable and often shocking insights derived from his own experiences in the dealing room, as well as his spectacular fall from grace at Merrill Lynch, Barometer of Fear draws back the curtain to a realm that for too long has remained hidden from public view.

The Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission was created to "examine the causes of the current financial and economic crisis in the U.S." In this report, the Commission presents the results of its examination and its conclusions as to the causes of the crisis. More than two years after the worst of the financial crisis, our economy continues to experience the aftershocks. Millions of Americans have lost their jobs and their homes, and the economy is still struggling to rebound. This report is intended to provide a historical accounting of what brought our financial system and economy to a precipice and to help policy makers and the public better understand how this calamity came to be. Charts and tables. This is a print on demand report.

How the actions of a few in Europe destroyed the prosperity of the many (and how it's happening again now in America) After the fall of the

Roman Empire, vicious barbaric tribes including the Huns led by Attila, the Mongols, Charlemagne and the Vikings invaded Europe, plundering property and destroying homes. But, they didn't just steal and destroy property in the villages; they also stole and destroyed any prosperity the villagers had previously enjoyed. What's worse is the barbarians of the Dark Ages did all of this not out of any deeply held religious or political belief, but, rather, for the oldest reason in the book – their own personal financial gain. Some things never change. *Barbarians of Wealth* examines how the greedy, self-serving decisions of a select group of politicians and financial institutions negatively impacts the economy and, ultimately, destroys America's prosperity and the American way of life. Compelling and engaging, the book details how Goldman Sachs peddled mortgage backed securities up and down Wall Street while secretly betting against their demise. Discusses how Sanford Weill, founder of Citigroup spent \$100 million lobbying for the repeal of the Glass-Steagall Act that prevented the merger of commercial and investment banks and got his way. Examines Christopher Dodd, head of the U.S. Senate Banking Committee, has enriched himself while driving down the prosperity of his constituents. Offers up examples of other modern barbarians, including the Federal Reserve, Alan Greenspan, Hank Paulson, and Timothy Geithner. Highlights greed driven tactics of Wall Street corporations including JP Morgan, Merrill Lynch, and Salomon Brothers. *Barbarians of Wealth* is a timely must read for hard-working Americans concerned with their prosperity, as well as for those fascinated with the inner workings of Washington and Wall Street.

Bank of America and Merrill Lynch: How Did a Private Deal Turn Into A Federal Bailout? Part II, Serial No. 111-41, June 25, 2009, 111-1 Joint Hearing, *Bank of America and Merrill Lynch: How Did a Private Deal Turn Into a Federal Bailout? Serial No. 111-38, June 11, 2009, 111-1 Joint Hearing, *Bank of America and Merrill Lynch How Did a Private Deal Turn Into a Federal Bailout? : Joint Hearing Before the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, House of Representatives, One Hundred Eleventh Congress, First Session Company Profiles: Bank of America Merrill Lynch Crash of the Titans Greed, Hubris, the Fall of Merrill Lynch, and the Near-Collapse of Bank of America Currency

Do you want to earn up to a 175% annual return on your money by two trades per day on WisdomTree BofA Merrill Lynch High Yield Bond Zero Duration Fund HYZD Stock? Reading this book is the only way to have a specific strategy. This book offers you a chance to trade HYZD Stock at predicted prices. Eight methods for buying and selling HYZD Stock at predicted low/high prices are introduced. These prices are very close to the lowest and highest prices of the stock in a day. All methods are explained in a very easy-to-understand way by using many examples, formulas, figures, and tables. The BIG DATA of the 1681 consecutive trading days (from December 18, 2013 to August 21, 2020) are utilized. The methods do not require any background on mathematics from readers. Furthermore, they are easy to use. Each takes you no more than 30 seconds for calculation to obtain a specific predicted price. The methods are not transient. They cannot be beaten by Mr. Market in several years, even until the stock doubles its current age. They are traits of Mr. Market. The reason is that the author uses the law of large numbers in the probability theory to construct them. In other words, you can use the methods in a long time without worrying about their change. The efficiency of the methods can be checked easily. Just compare the predicted prices with the actual price of the stock while referring to the probabilities of success which are shown clearly in the book (click the LOOK INSIDE button to read more information before buying this book). Depending on the number of investors who are interested in this book, the performance of the methods from the publication date will be added to the book after one year, and will be stated here in the description of the book too. You will then see that the methods in this book are outstanding or not. The book is very useful for Investors who have decided to buy the stock and keep it for a long time (as the strategy of Warren Buffett), or to sell the stock and pay attention to other stocks. The methods will help them to maximize profits

for their decision. Day traders who buy and sell the stock many times in a day. Although each method is valid one time per day, the information from the methods will help the traders buy/sell the stock in the second time, third time or more in a day. Beginners to HYZD Stock. The book gives an insight about the behavior of the stock. They will surely gain their knowledge of HYZD Stock after reading the book. Everyone who wants to know about the U.S. stock market.

Given the opportunity to describe Apple as a company in just a word or two, most would respond with adjectives like: Innovative. Design-conscious. Iconic. Some would probably even say: Secretive. But here's another: Soulful. Yes, Apple has a soul, and it is not alone in that respect. A select few organizations can similarly be said to exhibit similar qualities of soul that inspire passion in their employees and set them on the path to high levels of sustained organizational performance. But, given that most organizations are plagued by low levels of employee engagement and lackluster organizational performance, how do high-performing organizations do it? How do they ignite and sustain employee engagement and boost individual and overall organizational productivity? That is exactly the question that organizational expert David B. Zenoff sets out to answer in *The Soul of the Organization*. Based on the author's extensive experience consulting to and observing some of the best-known organizations in the world, *The Soul of the Organization* (www.souloftheorganization.com) journeys into eleven high-performing organizations operating in both the for-profit and not-for-profit worlds to determine the underlying elements of soul that foster strong employee engagement at all levels. What Zenoff finds in his inquiry is that organizations as different as home goods retailer Williams-Sonoma and not-for-profit group Larkin Street Youth Services all share in common five key elements of soul that, taken together, are powerful forces for fostering employee engagement, satisfaction, and meaning. And he doesn't stop once he has identified the five core elements of an organization's soul. Instead, he goes on to offer both a conceptual framework and a practical primer on how to leverage these key ingredients to create, sustain, and nourish a soul in your organization. Organizations of all stripes and in all industries and domains have great difficulty motivating their workforces to demonstrate a strong commitment to giving their all in the workplace. As a result, these organizations' overall productivity and growth are compromised, and their employees cannot find meaning or satisfaction in their work. If your organization struggles with sub-par employee loyalty, commitment, and drive, you will find the guidance you need in *The Soul of the Organization*, a guide to infusing into your workplace that "special something" that engages employees, drives their productivity, and taps into their collective well of potential so that your organization can make its mark on the world.

Contents: Executive Summary; Section 1: Reviving Lending to Small Businesses and Families and the Impact of the Term Asset-Backed Securities Loan (TALF) Facility; Introduction: B. Small Business Lending; C. Family Lending; D. Securitization and the TALF; E. Small Business Credit, the TALF, and Other Efforts To Expand Small Business Access to Credit by Jump-starting Secondary Markets; F. Household Lending and the TALF; G. Conclusion; Section 2: Additional Views; Section 3: Correspondence with Treasury Update; Section 4: TARP Updates Since Last Report; Section 5: Oversight Activities; Section 6: About the Congressional Oversight Panel; Appendices. Charts and tables.

Most law students have never had formal coursework in accounting or finance, yet these areas are integral to so many law school courses including: Business Associations, Securities Regulations, Corporate Finance, Taxation, Banking Law, Financial Regulation, and Business Planning. With math no more difficult than high school algebra, *Essential Concepts of Business for Lawyers*, Third Edition fills in those gaps with an accessible and interactive presentation of accounting, finance, and financial

markets. Each stand-alone chapter provides a complete lesson that will shed light on business courses in law school, as well as business situations in legal practice. New to the Third Edition: Updates for and addition of new cases that illustrate the business concepts Addition of more examples, including information related to more companies such as Google and Uber Addition of new materials on the basic microeconomic concept of supply and demand Professors and students will benefit from: A self-contained course book that supports a 2-credit course on an overview of business concepts, including accounting, finance, valuation, financial instruments, and business strategy Lessons that go beyond the definitions of terms of art and business terminology A book written at an accessible level Edited appellate cases that connect business concepts to the law and legal practice Knowledge of the basic and most essential concepts of business Materials presented in an accessible way including the use of many examples to illustrate difficult concepts Clear explanations of difficult materials and foreign concepts and the use of credit ratings in the securitization markets; lending practices and securitization, including the originate-to-distribute model for extending credit and transferring risk; affiliations between insured depository institutions and securities, insurance, and other types of nonbanking companies; the concept that certain institutions are 'too-big-to-fail' and its impact on market expectations; corporate governance, including the impact of company conversions from partnerships to corporations; compensation structures; changes in compensation for employees of financial companies, as compared to compensation for others with similar skill sets in the labor market; the legal and regulatory structure of the United States housing market; derivatives and unregulated financial products and practices, including credit default swaps; short-selling; financial institution reliance on numerical models,

The essential guide to fixed income portfolio management, from the experts at CFA Fixed Income Analysis is a new edition of Frank Fabozzi's Fixed Income Analysis, Second Edition that provides authoritative and up-to-date coverage of how investment professionals analyze and manage fixed income portfolios. With detailed information from CFA Institute, this guide contains comprehensive, example-driven presentations of all essential topics in the field to provide value for self-study, general reference, and classroom use. Readers are first introduced to the fundamental concepts of fixed income before continuing on to analysis of risk, asset-backed securities, term structure analysis, and a general framework for valuation that assumes no prior relevant background. The final section of the book consists of three readings that build the knowledge and skills needed to effectively manage fixed income portfolios, giving readers a real-world understanding of how the concepts discussed are practically applied in client-based scenarios. Part of the CFA Institute Investment series, this book provides a thorough exploration of fixed income analysis, clearly presented by experts in the field. Readers gain critical knowledge of underlying concepts, and gain the skills they need to translate theory into practice. Understand fixed income securities, markets, and valuation Master risk analysis and general valuation of fixed income securities Learn how fixed income securities are backed by pools of assets Explore the relationships between bond yields of different maturities Investment analysts, portfolio managers, individual and institutional investors and their advisors, and anyone with an interest in fixed income markets will appreciate this access to the best in professional quality

information. For a deeper understanding of fixed income portfolio management practices, Fixed Income Analysis is a complete, essential resource.

Indispensable coverage of new federal regulatory reforms and federal financial issues An essential guide covering new federal regulatory reforms and federal financial issues Financial Institutions, Valuations, Mergers and Acquisitions, Third Edition presents a new regulatory framework for financial institutions in the post-bailout era. Provides valuable guidance to assess risks, measure performance and conduct valuations processes to create shareholder value Covers the protection of other stakeholders, including customers, regulators, government, and consumers Offers an up-to-date understanding of financial institutions, their challenges, and their opportunities in the post-Sarbanes-Oxley era Over the past decade, substantial changes have taken place in the structure and range of products and services provided by the financial services industry. Get current coverage of these changes that have transformed both traditional organizations such as banks, thrifts, and insurance companies, as well as securities providers, asset management companies and financial holding companies with the up-to-the-minute coverage found in Financial Institutions, Valuations, Mergers and Acquisitions, Third Edition.

This collection brings together leading scholarly thinking to understand why CSR failed to prevent the global financial crisis, how corporate social irresponsibility (CSI) contributed to the financial crisis, and how we may reframe CSR or improve CSR frameworks to help prevent or mitigate any future financial and economic crises.

A strategy text on value creation with case studies The ninth edition of Contemporary Strategy Analysis: Text and Cases focuses on the fundamentals of value creation with an emphasis on practicality. Topics in this edition include: platform-based competition and ecosystems of related industries; the role of strategy making processes; mergers, acquisitions and alliances; and strategy implementation. Within the twenty case studies, students will find leading companies that are familiar to them. This strategy analysis text is suitable for MBA and advanced undergraduate students.

Do you want to earn up to a 169% annual return on your money by two trades per day on WisdomTree BofA Merrill Lynch High Yield Bond Negative Duration Fund HYND Stock? Reading this book is the only way to have a specific strategy. This book offers you a chance to trade HYND Stock at predicted prices. Eight methods for buying and selling HYND Stock at predicted low/high prices are introduced. These prices are very close to the lowest and highest prices of the stock in a day. All methods are explained in a very easy-to-understand way by using many examples, formulas, figures, and tables. The BIG DATA of the 1632 consecutive trading days (from February 28, 2014 to August 20, 2020) are utilized. The methods do not require any background on mathematics from readers. Furthermore, they are easy to use. Each takes you no more than 30 seconds for calculation to obtain a specific predicted price. The methods are not transient. They cannot be beaten by Mr. Market in several years, even until the stock doubles its current age. They are traits of Mr. Market. The reason is that the author uses the law of large numbers in the probability theory to construct them. In other words, you can use the methods in a long time without worrying about their change. The efficiency of the methods can be checked easily. Just compare the predicted prices with the actual price of the stock while

referring to the probabilities of success which are shown clearly in the book (click the LOOK INSIDE button to read more information before buying this book). Depending on the number of investors who are interested in this book, the performance of the methods from the publication date will be added to the book after one year, and will be stated here in the description of the book too. You will then see that the methods in this book are outstanding or not. The book is very useful for Investors who have decided to buy the stock and keep it for a long time (as the strategy of Warren Buffett), or to sell the stock and pay attention to other stocks. The methods will help them to maximize profits for their decision. Day traders who buy and sell the stock many times in a day. Although each method is valid one time per day, the information from the methods will help the traders buy/sell the stock in the second time, third time or more in a day. Beginners to HYND Stock. The book gives an insight about the behavior of the stock. They will surely gain their knowledge of HYND Stock after reading the book. Everyone who wants to know about the U.S. stock market.

"Quer fazer um pitch ou apresentação que conquiste de vez a atenção das pessoas, em uma época em que se tem cada vez menos tempo de concentração? Deixe de lado os slides coloridos e a linguagem empolada. E siga uma única regra simples: transmita apenas o que precisa ser dito, de forma clara, convincente e concisa, em três minutos ou menos. Esse é o pitch de 3 minutos. Ele vai mudar a maneira como você se comunica, tanto pessoal quanto profissionalmente. Deixe de lado a encenação, os slides chamativos e as explicações prolixas. A abordagem inovadora de Brant Pinvidic para fazer pitches e apresentações prova que, se você simplifica suas informações, tudo de que você precisa são três minutos. Sem truques, apenas resultados. Tony Robbins, autor best-seller e palestrante Já vi Brant em algumas das reuniões mais difíceis. Você simplesmente não consegue encontrar ninguém melhor em fazer pitches. Este livro é leitura obrigatória para quem deseja fazer apresentações memoráveis e mais eficazes. Liz Gateley, diretora de desenvolvimento criativo do Spotify O pitch de 3 minutos é uma obra essencial para toda a minha equipe. Foi um divisor de águas para nossos trabalhos de comunicação, vendas e marketing. Joe Santos, diretor e executivo regional do Bank of America Merrill Lynch Brant é o melhor com quem já trabalhei, e O pitch de 3 minutos é o que ele já fez de melhor até agora. Hank Cohen, ex-presidente da MGM Television Entertainment"

For more than 40 years, Computerworld has been the leading source of technology news and information for IT influencers worldwide. Computerworld's award-winning Web site (Computerworld.com), twice-monthly publication, focused conference series and custom research form the hub of the world's largest global IT media network.

RAMADy, Mahdi OPEC in a SHALE oil world –where to NEXT? With PREFACE by Dr. Sadad Al Hussein , former Board Member and Executive Vice President , Saudi Aramco. "OPEC has played an important role since its founding and continues to do so, but it has to recognize that this role has now changed and the organization has to adapt to new challenges. This book provides some possible solutions" Abdulsamad Al Awadhi, former Kuwait National Representative at OPEC . "Authoritative, well-informed, and excellent account of the role of OPEC in managing the oil market, present, past, and future" Hassan Qabazard, former Director of Research Division , OPEC. ". The call for action by Mohamed Ramady and Wael Mahdy in this book makes it clear that time, and

not oil, is the precious commodity that is running out fast on OPEC's side", Sadad Al Hussein, former Board Member and EVP Saudi Aramco "OPEC is dead. Long live OPEC". The organization is now going through a mid life crisis in its 54 years of existence trying to figure out where it goes next in a world where OPEC has been relegated from being the energy swing producer, and Saudi Arabia as the 'Sultan of the Swing,' to one where it now faces competition from both non- OPEC traditional well as non-conventional shale producers. The Authors examine how OPEC has had to come to terms with the reality that the earlier decades 'call on OPEC' has now been replaced by a 'call on non-OPEC' and that a new 'swing' has been identified- the producers of shale oil. Drawing upon the Authors combined academic and practical first hand insights on OPEC, the book discusses how a new OPEC paradigm has emerged following the oil price rout of 2014, whereby the organization's principal concern is now protecting market share, without being in charge unlike earlier fleeting periods of the late 1970's, which brought with it a lasting myth of the OPEC cartel. Mohamed Ramady is Visiting Associate Professor, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Saudi Arabia; Wael Mahdi is Bloomberg OPEC Energy Correspondent.

In this book, Padma Desai makes the complexities of economic policy and financial reform accessible to a wide audience. Merging a compelling narrative with scholarly research, she begins with a systematic breakdown of the factors leading to America's recent recession, describing the monetary policy, tax practices, subprime mortgage scandals, and lax regulation that contributed to the crisis. She also discusses the Treasury-Fed rescue deals that saved several financial institutions and the involvement of Congress in passing restorative policies. Desai follows with an analysis of stress tests and other economic measures, and she frankly assesses whether the U.S. economy is truly on the mend. Expanding her view, she considers the prospects for recovery in North America as a whole, as well as in Europe, Asia, and South America, and the extent and value of U.S. and E.U. regulatory proposals. Refocusing on American financial practices, Desai evaluates hedge funds and derivatives, credit default swaps, and rating agencies, pondering whether the dollar can remain a reserve currency. She concludes with a historical comparison of the Great Depression and the Great Recession, weighing the effect of the economic collapse on the future of American capitalism.

Als der legendären Vorstandsvorsitzenden Alan Greenspan die Geschicke der Fed in die Hände seines Nachfolgers Ben Bernanke legte, waren die USA bereits in ernsthaften wirtschaftlichen Schwierigkeiten. Die Bürger im ganzen Land und bald darauf die ganze Welt waren verängstigt und alarmiert. Das Buch beschreibt die tiefe Krise der US-Notenbank Fed und gewährt einen intimen Blick hinter die Kulissen der Fed. Der Leser erfährt, wie die Bank wirklich funktioniert, legt offen, welche immense Macht in dieser Institution konzentriert ist. Wohl und Wehe der Weltwirtschaft hängen von der Kompetenz und den Entscheidungen ihrer Führungselite ab. Wessel zeigt eindrucksvoll auf, wie die Fed unter Ben Bernanke, durch ihre Fehlentscheidungen fast eine ganze Nation zu Fall brachte, und damit deren Rolle als Weltmacht aufs Spiel setzte. Nun bedarf es enormer Anstrengungen in bislang einmaliger Dimension, um die amerikanische Wirtschaft vor dem Untergang zu bewahren.

Are you fed up with Washington politicizing our economy and bureaucrats more focused on aggrandizing their power than aiding commerce? For many of us, the rhetoric emanating from our government doesn't reflect reality. In *The Courage to do Nothing*, Bill Flax gives a voice to

the angry taxpayer articulating our concerns and offering cogent advice to our political leaders. Socialism is inherently flawed, but instead of allowing the free market to function, our politicians employ socialism concealed as compassion. Our cultural elites in Washington, Academia, Media, and Hollywood have built a modern Tower of Babel based on progressive fantasies. Their idealistic pursuit of Utopia is funded by your tax dollars. Socialism is but one pillar in this faulty tower, but it is the pillar du jour and America's future if we don't restore the traditional Christian values and limited government our nation was built upon. At eighteen, Bill Flax enlisted in the Marine Corps to defend the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic. It's now clear the gravest threat to our liberty comes from Washington itself. In *The Courage to do Nothing*, Bill interweaves faith, economics and patriotism through fascinating perspectives on the economy and relevant historical examples offering solutions for today's issues. Read *The Courage to do Nothing* to learn economic truths ignored by the cultural elites determined to change America into a European-style socialist boondoggle. Bill Flax provides the economic answers America needs to restore prosperity and liberty before it's too late. This book is essential reading for anyone desiring to understand how Washington's policies created and now prolong our economic turmoil. Learn the truth and the keys to restoring America.

The intimate, fly-on-the wall tale of the decline and fall of an America icon With one notable exception, the firms that make up what we know as Wall Street have always been part of an inbred, insular culture that most people only vaguely understand. The exception was Merrill Lynch, a firm that revolutionized the stock market by bringing Wall Street to Main Street, setting up offices in far-flung cities and towns long ignored by the giants of finance. With its “thundering herd” of financial advisers, perhaps no other business, whether in financial services or elsewhere, so epitomized the American spirit. Merrill Lynch was not only “bullish on America,” it was a big reason why so many average Americans were able to grow wealthy by investing in the stock market. Merrill Lynch was an icon. Its sudden decline, collapse, and sale to Bank of America was a shock. How did it happen? Why did it happen? And what does this story of greed, hubris, and incompetence tell us about the culture of Wall Street that continues to this day even though it came close to destroying the American economy? A culture in which the CEO of a firm losing \$28 billion pushes hard to be paid a \$25 million bonus. A culture in which two Merrill Lynch executives are guaranteed bonuses of \$30 million and \$40 million for four months' work, even while the firm is struggling to reduce its losses by firing thousands of employees. Based on unparalleled sources at both Merrill Lynch and Bank of America, Greg Farrell's *Crash of the Titans* is a Shakespearean saga of three flawed masters of the universe. E. Stanley O'Neal, whose inspiring rise from the segregated South to the corner office of Merrill Lynch—where he engineered a successful turnaround—was undone by his belief that a smooth-talking salesman could handle one of the most difficult jobs on Wall Street. Because he enjoyed O'Neal's support, this executive was allowed to build up an astonishing \$30 billion position in CDOs on the firm's balance sheet, at a time when all other Wall Street firms were desperately trying to exit the business. After O'Neal comes John Thain, the cerebral, MIT-educated technocrat whose rescue of the New York Stock Exchange earned him the nickname “Super Thain.” He was hired to save Merrill Lynch in late 2007, but his belief that the markets would rebound led him to underestimate the depth of Merrill's problems. Finally, we meet Bank of America CEO Ken Lewis, a street fighter raised barely above the poverty line in rural Georgia, whose “my way or the highway” management style suffers fools more easily than potential rivals, and who made a \$50 billion commitment over a September weekend to buy a business he really didn't understand, thus jeopardizing his own institution. The merger itself turns out to be a bizarre combination of cultures that blend like oil and water, where slick Wall Street bankers suddenly find themselves reporting to a cast of characters straight out of the Beverly Hillbillies. BofA's inbred culture, which perceived New York banks its enemies, was based on loyalty and a good-ol'-boy network in which competence played second fiddle to blind obedience.

