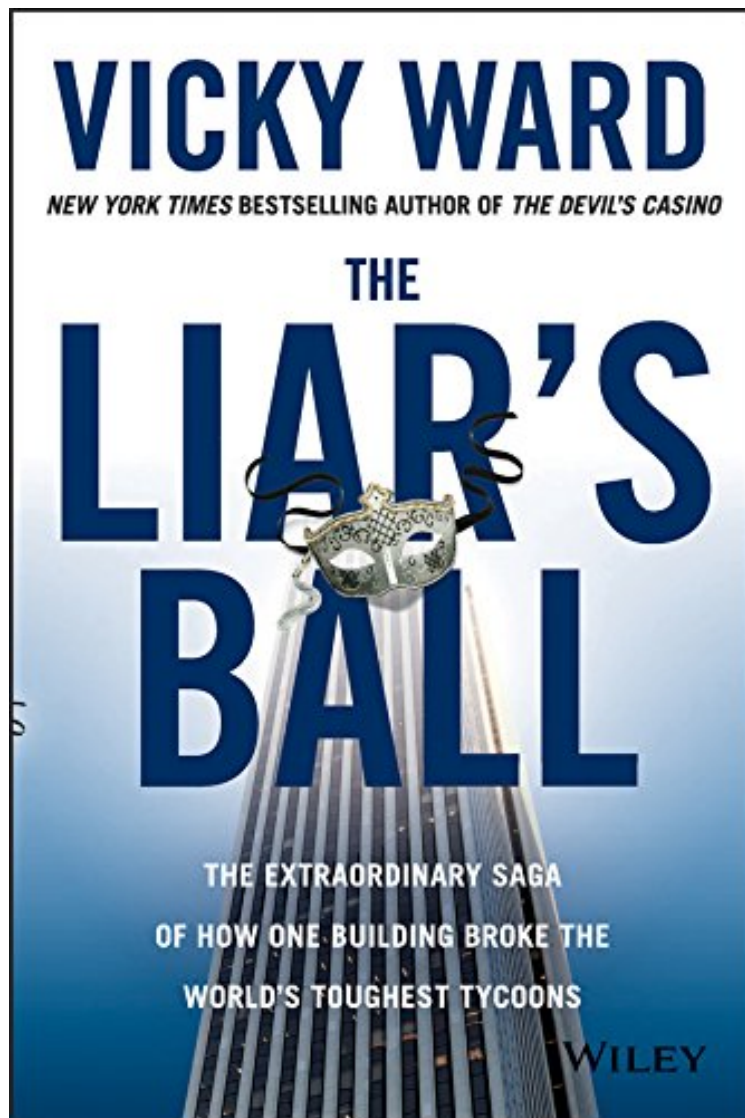


[Ebook pdf] The Liar's Ball: The Extraordinary Saga of How One Building Broke the World's Toughest Tycoons

The Liar's Ball: The Extraordinary Saga of How One Building Broke the World's Toughest Tycoons

Vicky Ward

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Vicky Ward : The Liar's Ball: The Extraordinary Saga of How One Building Broke the World's Toughest Tycoons before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Liar's Ball: The Extraordinary Saga of How One Building Broke the World's Toughest Tycoons:

16 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Great Read by a Master Chronicler of America's Imperfect Real Estate Tycoons By MIG NYCI read Ward's book on Lehman and was eagerly awaiting the next book from this talented

writer. This is a well researched and expertly written saga about big egos, big money, stupid decisions and an big ugly building in a great location. The only character in this book who seems to have any sense at all is Maclowe's lawyer, Rob Sorin. He comes across as being honest, thoughtful, talented and ethical---most of the others seemed to let their insecurities get in the way of smart decision making. Ward is a master chronicler of the rise and fall of America's Wall Street class. I wonder if it is her British upbringing that enables her to dissect her subjects with a rare combination of respect, admiration, and appropriate scorn. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. You won't like high-flying real-estate developers after reading this, but it's a great look into their world. By Brian Gongola A surprisingly entertaining book about the "life" of the General Motors Building, a large office tower just off Central Park in New York City. The building has a complex history of ownership, including periods in the hands of real-estate cowboys and promoters like Donald Trump. The book takes its title from the name of an annual event celebrating the real-estate titans of New York City, and a reading of the book offers a very good idea why the name is so appropriate. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ... the characters/persons mentioned in this book you might not enjoy it. It is filled with the egos of ... By Connie R Unless you know the characters/persons mentioned in this book you might not enjoy it. It is filled with the egos of many important people in the real estate and building and banking industry. I would like to live with about 10% of what they had, but not the way they got it. Tooooooo much go for me.

Inside the world of the real Great Gatsby of New York real estate Harry Macklowe is one of the most notorious wheelers and dealers of the real estate world, and Liar's Ball is the story of the gamblers and thieves who populate his world. Watch as Harry makes the gutsy bid for midtown Manhattan's famous GM building and put almost no money down, landing the billion-dollar transaction that made him the poster child for New York's real estate royalty. Listen in on the secret conversations, back-door deals, and blackmail that put Macklowe and his cronies on top; and set them up for an enormous fall. Vanity Fair contributing editor Vicky Ward skillfully paints the often scandalous picture of the giants who owned the New York skyline until their empires came crumbling down in the 2008 financial crisis. Based on more than 200 interviews with real estate moguls like Donald Trump, William Zeckendorf, Mort Zuckerman, and David Simon, Liar's Ball is the never-before-told story of the egomaniacal elites of New York City. Read about: The epic rise and fall of one of the richest American real estate barons Outlandish greed and cravings for power, attention, and love Relationships built and destroyed by vanity and gossip The bursting of the real estate bubble and its aftermath This is no fiction; this is a real life tale of extravagance, ambition, and power. Harry Macklowe ruthlessly clawed his way to the top with the help of his loyal followers, each grubbing for a piece of the real estate pie. Liar's Ball reveals their secrets and tells the tale of business as usual for this group; lying, backstabbing, and moving in for the kill when things look patchy. From the bestselling author of The Devil's Casino comes an exposé on the real estate elite that you'll hardly believe.

an enjoyably racy book (Estates Gazette, October 2014) "grippingly readable" (Daily Mail, January 2015) From the Inside Flap The Liar's Ball is about the desperate scramble that ensued when the world's most expensive building went on the auction block. The iconic GM Building brought out the best and worst in New York's real estate royalty, and led a few of them to ruin. But as author and former Vanity Fair contributing editor Vicky Ward discovered, the story of the GM Building is about much more than real estate. The Liar's Ball is a story of naked, unregulated capitalism, of the sometimes bloody free-for-all of the free market. It's a tale of brilliant and enormously ambitious billionaires fighting bare-knuckled to get what they want. And they all wanted the GM Building. Through over 200 interviews with real estate's best and brightest; Donald Trump, Harry Macklowe, Samuel Zell, Mort Zuckerman, and many more; New York Times bestselling author Vicky Ward exposes the lies and schemes and insecurities behind the deals made by some of the world's biggest egos. The Liar's Ball is the riveting real-life tale of just how far these people would go to get the money, power, and attention they so desperately crave. From the Back Cover PRAISE FOR THE LIAR'S BALL BY VICKY WARD "Vicky Ward has done it again. She has taken a subject and a cast of characters, many of whom we would not invite to dinner, and woven a page-turning, compelling tale. She transforms real estate players, who to most of us are stick figures, into pulsating characters. Yes, they are greedy. But they also can be visionary and vulnerable, and damn interesting." —KEN AULETTA, The New Yorker "This riveting book is far more than an expose; of ambition, greed, and business acumen (which, it turns out, is composed in equal parts of hubris, chutzpah, and sheer brilliance) at the apex of the New York real estate world. It is also a most subtle analysis of character, motive, passion, and rivalries, the stuff of which great fiction is made. The Liar's Ball will be a revelation to those of us who've always wondered how real estate tycoons become billionaires one day and can go bankrupt the next. I couldn't put this book down. It's a romp of a read." —HENRY LOUIS GATES, Jr., Director of the Hutchins Center for African American Research, Harvard University "The story of the world's most valuable office building is a gripping tale of boom and bust, battling billionaires, and huge egos flirting with disaster in their relentless, debt-financed pursuit of the ultimate trophy deal. Vicky Ward sheds fresh light on tycoons from Donald Trump to Steve Jobs as she brilliantly explores the vision and fragility at the heart of the most volatile part of American capitalism." —MATTHEW BISHOP, New York Bureau Chief, The Economist "Lucid, action filled,

and built on astounding access—how did she get all that information?—to some of the most powerful and secretive men (yes, all men) in the world. And a rip-roaring read as well." —JAY FIELDEN, Editor in Chief, Town Country "The Liar's Ball is about men with edifice complexes. In this case, the ones who have left their mark all over New York City. Thanks to Vicky Ward, one of the most secretive, ruthless, and successful boys' clubs has been exposed. This is a fascinating and unputdownable book." —DR. AMANDA FOREMAN, author of A World on Fire