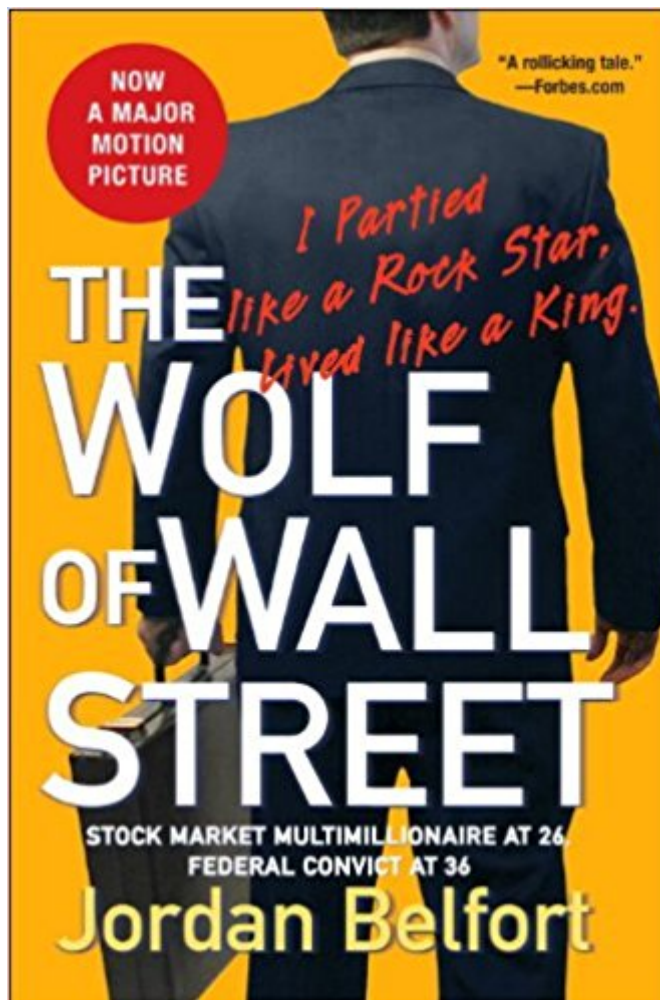


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The Wolf Of Wall Street



Synopsis

Now a major motion picture directed by Martin Scorsese and starring Leonardo DiCaprio
NEW YORK TIMES A BESTSELLER By day he made thousands of dollars a minute. By night he spent it as fast as he could, on drugs, sex, and international globe-trotting. From the binge that sank a 170-foot motor yacht and ran up a \$700,000 hotel tab, to the wife and kids waiting at home, and the fast-talking, hard-partying young stockbrokers who called him king and did his bidding, here, in his own inimitable words, is the story of the ill-fated genius they called . . . THE WOLF OF WALL STREET In the 1990s Jordan Belfort, former kingpin of the notorious investment firm Stratton Oakmont, became one of the most infamous names in American finance: a brilliant, conniving stock-chopper who led his merry mob on a wild ride out of the canyons of Wall Street and into a massive office on Long Island. Now, in this astounding and hilarious tell-all autobiography, Belfort narrates a story of greed, power, and excess that no one could invent. Reputedly the prototype for the film Boiler Room, Stratton Oakmont turned microcap investing into a wickedly lucrative game as Belfort's hyped-up, coked-out brokers browbeat clients into stock buys that were guaranteed to earn obscene profits for the house. But an insatiable appetite for debauchery, questionable tactics, and a fateful partnership with a breakout shoe designer named Steve Madden would land Belfort on both sides of the law and into a harrowing darkness all his own. From the stormy relationship Belfort shared with his model-wife as they ran a madcap household that included two young children, a full-time staff of twenty-two, a pair of bodyguards, and hidden cameras everywhere—even as the SEC and FBI zeroed in on them—to the unbridled hedonism of his office life, here is the extraordinary story of an ordinary guy who went from hustling Italian ices at sixteen to making hundreds of millions. Until it all came crashing down . . . Praise for The Wolf of Wall Street "Raw and frequently hilarious."—The New York Times "A rollicking tale of [Jordan Belfort's] rise to riches as head of the infamous boiler room Stratton Oakmont . . . proof that there are indeed second acts in American lives."—Forbes "A cross between Tom Wolfe's The Bonfire of the Vanities and Scorsese's GoodFellas . . . Belfort has the Midas touch."—The Sunday Times (London) "Entertaining as pulp fiction, real as a federal indictment . . . a hell of a read."—Kirkus Reviews From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

Belfort, who founded one of the first and largest chop shop brokerage firms in 1987, was banned from the securities business for life by 1994, and later went to jail for fraud and money-laundering, delivers a memoir that reads like fiction. It covers his decade of success with straightforward accounts of how he worked with managers of obscure companies to acquire large amounts of stock with minimal public disclosure, then pumped up the price and sold it, so he and the insiders made large profits while public investors usually lost. Profits were laundered through purchase of legitimate businesses and cash deposits in Swiss banks. There is only brief mention of Belfort's life before Wall Street or events since 1997. The book's main topic is the vast amount of sex, drugs and risky physical behavior Belfort managed to survive. As might be expected in the autobiography of a veteran con man with movie rights already sold, it's hard to know how much to believe. The story is told mostly in dialogue, with allegedly contemporaneous mental asides by the author, reported verbatim. But it reports only surface events, never revealing what motivates Belfort or any of the other characters. (Oct. 2) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

“Raw and frequently hilarious.” —The New York Times “A rollicking tale of [Jordan Belfort’s] rise to riches as head of the infamous boiler room Stratton Oakmont . . . proof that there are indeed second acts in American lives.” —Forbes “A cross between Tom Wolfe’s *The Bonfire of the Vanities* and Scorsese’s *GoodFellas* . . . Belfort has the Midas touch.” —The Sunday Times (London) “Entertaining as pulp fiction,

real as a federal indictment . . . a hell of a read. — Kirkus Reviews
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I gave this 5 stars, not because it is a good read or a truthful memoir, but because it is a fine example of criminal psychology and drug addiction. The supposed facts related by Belfort must be taken with a large dose of salt. He readily admits with some pride deceiving everyone he deals with including his wife and supposed friends and business partners. We would be quite gullible to then take his writing at face value. He portrays himself as generous to a fault, but of course the money he passes out is mostly stolen. The judgement against him included a requirement to pay over 100 million in retribution to those he defrauded. Most of that has never been paid even though his income from books and movie rights is quite substantial. By the way his sentence was lighter than those of all his cohorts because he turned against them when the law caught up with him. This after spilling a lot of ink in his book about loyalty, trust and "omerta." Does he still have hidden assets that rightfully belong to the victims? You guess. I bet he does. He tries to present himself as a reformed bad actor who has seen the light and conquered his addiction. I hope he has conquered his addictions, but that wasn't his only problem. He is quite intelligent and seen as such by all around him. The schemes he ran were carefully designed and couldn't have been conceived and executed while stoned, so there is more to this than addiction. The most important part of the story is left out. How did a broke guy starting at the very bottom of a major brokerage firm get to be a criminal millionaire? That's the guts of the real story, and it was left out. We only see him at the climax just before the downfall. Sex and drugs sell books and movies and that's the new scheme, and it is lawful even if only partly true and even if the main facts are left out. The schemer and deceiver is still at work.

This book contains more background on Jordan's early days, his friends, etc.. He again reveals himself as a total scumbag and it is obvious that he has not changed. After ratting out his friends to the police, he rats them out to the general public in order to make some more money. And there are truly bizarre things here, like how the author gets morally outraged by a couple of girls dancing topless by his pool, in plain view of his young daughter. This from a man who has wandered around his home in a drugged stupor for most of that child's life, who has ripped off thousands of people, and who lies and betrays and cheats at every opportunity. As in the first book, we find some interesting insights every once in a while. At one point, he says that he was the happiest before he became rich, when his first wife and he were still struggling. This book is much better written than the

first one, *The Wolf of Wall Street*. It is obvious that Jordan is a fast learner, if nothing else. It is also a real page-turner, which is why I am giving it 4 stars.

Surprisingly well written. I think it is important for you, discerning future reader, to realize that basically all the dialogue in this book is invented. Jordan tells his life story in the form of a novel and takes a lot of liberties in order to get his point across. That being said, it is easily forgiven and should absolutely be filed under non-fiction; it is a wonderfully blunt contribution to the saga of the "American dream." The author does a great job of establishing his frame of mind and his mood in the given situation with his use of language and structure. He does not write things like "that made me angry." His sentences get shorter, his words get harsher, and his venom becomes tangible. Well executed, fun romp through depravity at warp speed. Folks who are upset by the curse words and descriptions of sex, drugs, and excessive spending need to get over themselves. Jordan Belfort will not be censored by your old fashioned notions of etiquette and weak sensibilities. Enjoy, folks. This is *Goodfellas* on paper, with corporate murders instead of real ones.

This book has things the first one didn't have, and the tale of Jordan in federal prison was very interesting, it's also inspiring how he conquered his issues with drug use and alcoholism, but I do wish the book had a little less sex. I don't mind a little sex, but I'm more interested in the business aspects of Jordan's life. I hope he writes another book, about his experiences as a motivational speaker, his life now. I also hope Jordan reads *Atlas Shrugged* someday, because he needs to realize he was never a capitalist, not when he was trading lies for money. A capitalist trades value for value, the problems of Wall Street have nothing to do with lack of regulations (it's extremely regulated and crooks like Belfort know how to make a mockery of the regulators), or with greed or with capitalism. The problem is with the crooks and people who are too stupid to do their due diligence.

In 2011, Mr. Belfort penned "*Catching the Wolf of Wall Street*." This book is the exact polar opposite of its predecessor. In this sequel, Jordan is nearly broke, on the verge of divorce from his second wife, struggling to kick his drug/alcohol problems, and in order to receive a 5K letter and reduced sentence, Jordan must wear a wire, and rat on his former friends. It is moving to see someone who has fallen so far, and so fast attempt to salvage the wreckage of his life, while clinging to his family, and his fortune. Gone are the wild stories of partying, and debauchery at Stratton Oakmont. Here is a man who has hit complete rock bottom. Jordan mocks his own paltry writing skills at the end of the

book, yet ironically goes forward to write two excellent bestsellers. "Catching the Wolf of Wall Street" is highly recommended....especially to those who enjoyed both the book, and movie "Wolf of Wall Street." Buy it, and read it today from www..com.

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