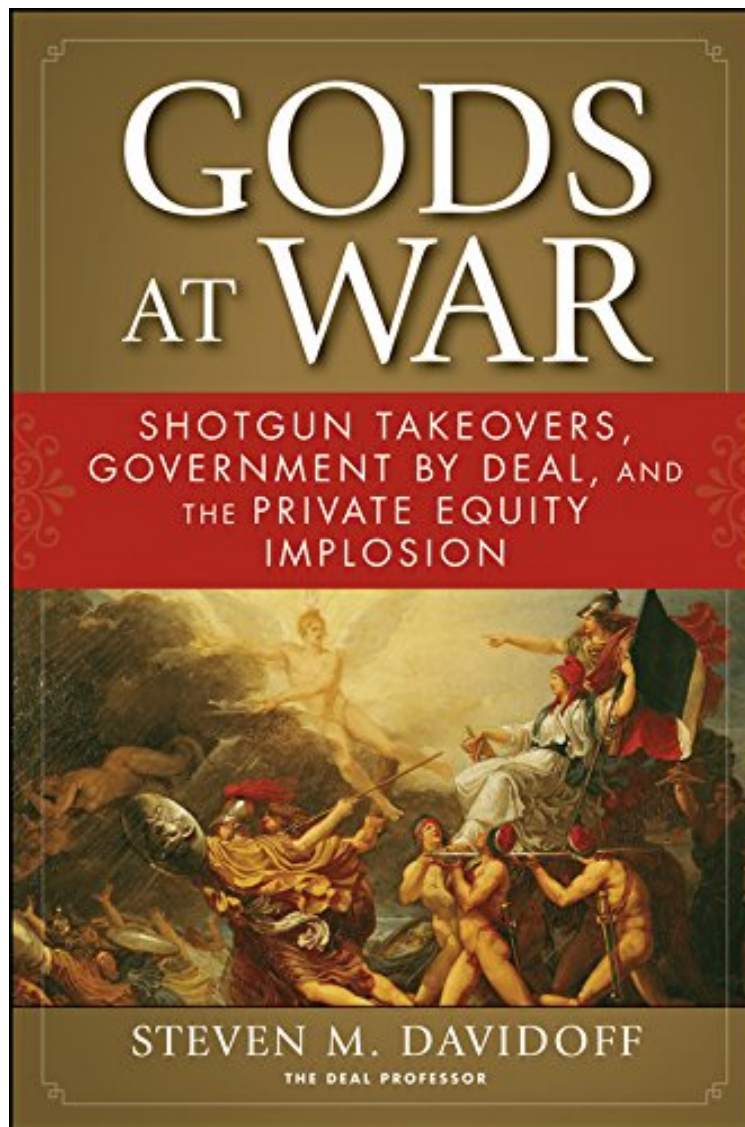


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Gods at War: Shotgun Takeovers, Government by Deal, and the Private Equity Implosion

Steven M. Davidoff

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Steven M. Davidoff : Gods at War: Shotgun Takeovers, Government by Deal, and the Private Equity Implosion before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gods at War: Shotgun Takeovers, Government by Deal, and the Private Equity Implosion:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating Read on the "Sausage" of Deal-Making By Aaron Lenzi have been reading Mr. Davidoff's columns for a very long time, so needless to say I was eager to pick up a copy of this

book when I came around to it. I found the style of the book,, illustrating key concepts surrounding deal-making structures through real-life (often fast-paced and adversarial) case studies, to be very engaging and informative. In addition, I think that many of his predictions on where MA would head have at least in part held true. Either way, I would certainly recommend this book.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A valuable account of what drives dealmakingBy Kenneth A. AdamsSteven Davidoff is one of the most perceptive observers of the legal side of the MA world. If you're a corporate lawyer and you aspire to be an active participant in dealmaking rather than a mere scrivener, you should read "Gods at War." With its account of deal mechanics and the recent history of the takeover markets, including what transpired during the financial crisis, it provides a valuable big-picture perspective on how deals are made or not made.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Summer reading for an MBA studentBy Steve WilsonGods of War is must read book for those looking to understand a huge segment of the financial markets today. If you're an avid reader of Dealbook, WSJ, or the FT and want to understand the mechanisms behind some of the larger mergers and acquisitions of the last ten years then this is your book.

An engaging exploration of modern-day deals and deal-making Gods at War details the recent deals and events that have forever changed the world of billion-dollar deal-making. This book is a whirlwind tour of the players determining the destiny of corporate America, including the government, private equity, strategic buyers, hedge funds, and sovereign wealth funds. It not only examines many of the game-changing takeover events that have occurred in the past years, but also puts them into context and exposes what is really going on behind the scenes on Wall Street. Gods at War completely covers the strategic issues that guide the modern-day deal, and since they unfold under the shadow of the law, it also focuses on the legal aspects of deal-making and takeovers. Each chapter unfolds through the lens of a recent transaction, from the battle between Yahoo! and Microsoft to the United Rental/Cerberus dispute Provides in-depth explanations and analysis of the events and actors that have shaped this fast-moving field Examines the federal government's regulation by deal approach to saving the financial system and explains the government's biggest "deals", including its bail-outs of AIG, Bank of America, and Citigroup Filled with in-depth insights that will enhance your understanding of this field, Gods at War offers an engaging look at deals and deal-makers in the context of recent historical events. It's a book for those who want to understand deals, takeovers, and the people and institutions who shape our world.

From the Inside FlapWhile the financial community looks to regain its footing, dealmakers will continue to do what they've always done;structure deals that drive the fate of corporate America. With powerful professionals competing to create and close better deals, these executives, like gods, will determine the future of companies and our economy. Author Steven Davidoff understands both the intricacies of these deals and the forces driving them. Writing as "The Deal Professor" for the New York Times "DealBook," he provides daily commentary on the latest takeover news and has become a nationally known authority on this fast-moving field. Now, with Gods at War, Davidoff introduces you to this trillion-dollar business;from private equity and government to hedge funds and sovereign wealth funds;and reveals the recent events that have changed the way the game is played. Gods at War is the definitive story of deal-making. Opening with an engaging look at the evolution of this discipline, the book quickly moves into the modern era;where deal-making has become a truly global endeavor;and works its way through the current financial crisis and beyond. Page by page, it skillfully details: The private equity boom and its implosion The return of the strategic transaction and hostile takeover The failure of the investment banking model The government's deal-making during the recent financial crisis And much more Each chapter unfolds through the lens of recent events, from the battle between Yahoo! and Microsoft to the United Rentals/Cerberus dispute. Along the way, you'll also become familiar with the federal government's regulation by deal approach to saving the financial system;which included the serial bailouts of AIG, Bank of America, Citigroup, and others. In describing the dynamic events of this period, Davidoff not only reveals how deals are accomplished in modern capital markets, but he also details the transformation that the takeover marketplace is undergoing and its prospects for the future. In doing so, he puts forth a definitive view and theory of deals and deal-making. The financial revolution, globalization, and financial crises have permanently changed deal-making;creating perils and opportunities for both dealmakers and regulators. With Gods at War as your guide, you'll gain a better understanding of this discipline and discover the various events, individuals, and institutions that continue to shape this competitive arena.From the Back CoverPraise for Gods at War "Gods at War brilliantly analyzes the legal issues, the politics, and the players in high-profile merger and acquisition transactions. Steven Davidoff is a master of the tactics and rules of deal-making, and he has once again shown why he is one of the country's most respected legal writers."—Rob Kindler, Vice Chairman and Global Head of Mergers Acquisitions at Morgan Stanley "In Gods at War, Steven Davidoff, aka The Deal Professor, delivers a detailed and lucid treatise of the fascinating historical precedents that resulted in the frenzied deal-making activity that ended abruptly with our current financial crisis and then goes on, in impressive fashion, to discuss what deals will look like in a new era dominated by government ownership and a lack of acquisition financing. Deal practitioners;and those just curious about all the fuss;will want this book at the top of their reading

list."mdash;William D. Cohan, author of *House of Cards: A Tale of Hubris and Wretched Excess on Wall Street and The Last Tycoons: The Secret History of Lazard Freres Co.* "Davidoff is one of the most insightful and perceptive minds in the world of deal-making. With an ability to distill the most complicated legal issues into clear prose, he has become a must-read inside the nation's boardrooms and corner offices."mdash;Andrew Ross Sorkin, Editor of The New York Times's "DealBook" and author of *Too Big to Fail* "Where will MA go next? Any answer depends on an understanding of the merger wave of 2002ndash;8, which this book affords. Rich in fresh insights, carefully researched, and well written, *Gods at War* gives a threshold to the future of MA. I commend it to students, practitioners, and fans of high finance."mdash;Robert F. Bruner, Dean and Charles C. Abbott Professor of Business Administration, Darden School of Business, University of Virginia, author of *Deals from Hell: MA Lessons that Rise Above the Ashes*, and coauthor of *The Panic of 1907*About the AuthorSteven M. Davidoff is a nationally known authority on takeovers and corporate law. He writes as "The Deal Professor" for the New York Times "DealBook." Davidoff also writes in trade journals, such as the *Deal*, lectures, has testified before the United States Senate, and is frequently quoted in the national media. He is a professor of law at the University of Connecticut School of Law and a graduate of the Columbia Law School, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone scholar. Davidoff practiced for almost a decade as a corporate attorney, primarily at Shearman Sterling in their New York and London offices. Davidoff also has a BA from the University of Pennsylvania and an MS in finance from the London Business School.