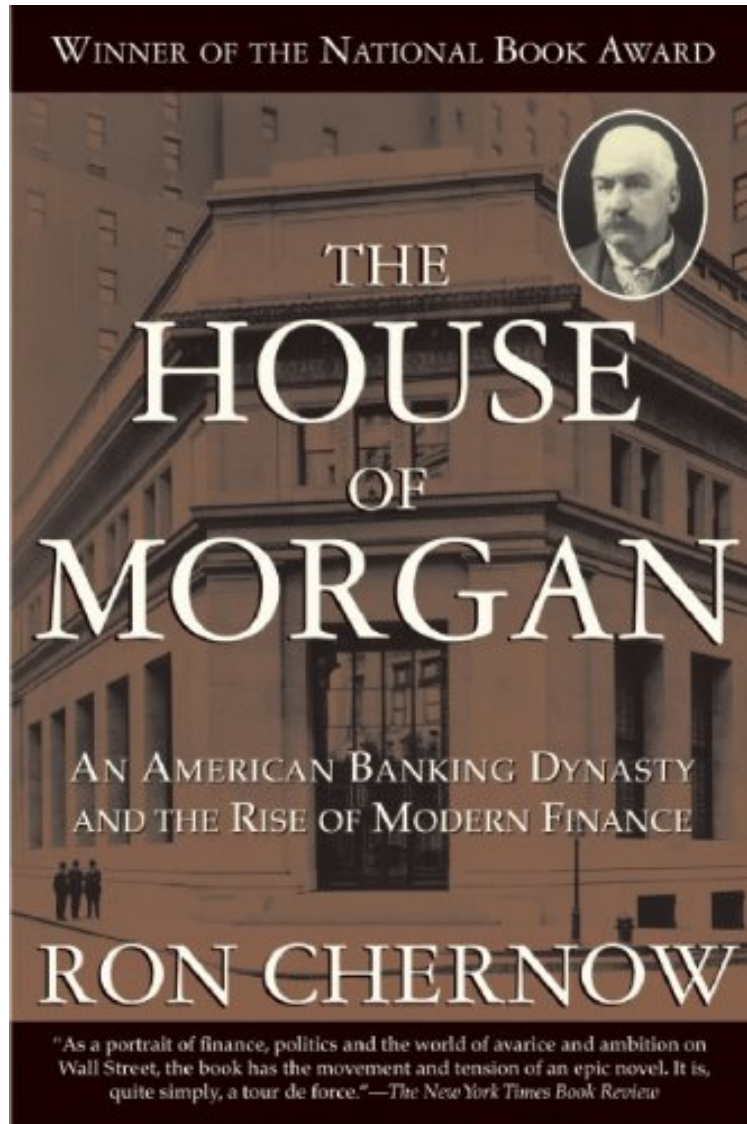


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The House of Morgan: An American Banking Dynasty and the Rise of Modern Finance

Ron Chernow

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Ron Chernow : The House of Morgan: An American Banking Dynasty and the Rise of Modern Finance before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The House of Morgan: An American Banking Dynasty and the Rise of Modern Finance:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Well written, interesting information, but lacking in clear

analysis. By Charles of the North Chernow is one of my favorite authors because he tackles complex financial subjects and makes them accessible to ordinary readers. The HOUSE OF MORGAN is a truly monumental undertaking. Chernow writes with his usual clarity and grace. Unfortunately, too much of the book is consumed with details of the personal lives of the prominent executives. While these are interesting they contribute little to illuminating the forces that reshaped the great banks from underwriters into financial buccaneers who laid waste to what had been a kind of operational and even ethical code stabilizing the world investing and building economies. In the work of a lesser author this would be less important. Given Chernow's talents, however, this is most disappointing. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. 4 stars By Dwight Owen Chernow's book is good for the sweeping overview that it is. It left me wondering, though, what is the story behind the story. The Morgan partners continually are painted in too favorable a light by Chernow. I'd like to know more about how Morgans not only used the "old boy" network to their advantage, but really created and controlled the core of that network for decades. Morgans had its fingers in *everything* at the previous turn of the century. But I have the feeling that it wasn't simply due to the Morgan partners simply being upright bankers! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. love the book so far By James Cordova I am more than half way done, love the book so far. I would have really liked to see the author discuss the banks ties to the Zodiac club in more detail, the connection with Skull and Bones was just barely touched- many readers will not even notice this and not really know what this club is. The relationship with Rothchild's was something I believed was much closer since they were at Jykll Island planning the Federal Reserve- J.P. Morgan and Paul Warburg. But in the book we are told J.P. Does not work with Jews and does not want anything to do with the Rothchild Bank. It does not mesh in my mind. Maybe the author is correct, maybe J.P. Morgan wants to throw us off his track?

Published to critical acclaim twenty years ago, and now considered a classic, *The House of Morgan* is the most ambitious history ever written about American finance. It is a rich, panoramic story of four generations of Morgans and the powerful, secretive firms they spawned, ones that would transform the modern financial world. Tracing the trajectory of J. P. Morgan's empire from its obscure beginnings in Victorian London to the financial crisis of 1987, acclaimed author Ron Chernow paints a fascinating portrait of the family's private saga and the rarefied world of the American and British elite in which they moved—a world that included Charles Lindbergh, Henry Ford, Franklin Roosevelt, Nancy Astor, and Winston Churchill. A masterpiece of financial history—it was awarded the 1990 National Book Award for Nonfiction and selected by the Modern Library as one of the 100 Best Nonfiction Books of the Twentieth Century—*The House of Morgan* is a compelling account of a remarkable institution and the men who ran it, and an essential book for understanding the money and power behind the major historical events of the last 150 years.

From Publishers Weekly J. P. Morgan Sr.'s close relationship with Teddy Roosevelt; his son Jack Morgan's clientele of governments, finance ministers and central banks; and the Morgan realm's split under New Deal legislation are examined in detail in this National Book Award winner. "Packed with revelations, Chernow's mammoth history demystifies the inner workings of the secretive Morgan banking empire," PW said. Photos. Author tour. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Chernow vividly portrays the influence that the Morgan banks have had on the history of the Western economy since the late 18th century. The epic story of the development of the American industrial experience is inextricably related to the history of the Morgan banks. Though this fascinating story is virtually the same as that told by Kathleen Bunk in *Morgan Grenfell 1838-1988* (LJ 12/89), Chernow adds color and personality with an emphasis on the 20th-century development of the bank. Working with recently discovered Morgan archives, he reveals institutional details long hidden by the protective secrecy of the family. This superb history will be an important book. BOMC, Fortune, and History Book Club featured alternates. -- Joseph Barth, U.S. Military Acad. Lib., West Point, N.Y. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. Winner of the National Book Award "As a portrait of finance, politics and the world of avarice and ambition on Wall Street, the book has the movement and tension of an epic novel. It is, quite simply, a tour de force."—The New York Times Book "As informative and entertaining a history, especially of the period from 1880 to 1930, as this reviewer has ever read. . . . Nowhere has our tenuous financial system been better described than by Chernow."—John Rothchild, Los Angeles Times Book "Chernow deftly mixes biography with economics and explicates arcane matters of high finance with sparkling clarity. . . . A fascinating historical journey from Charles Dickens' London to Tom Wolfe's New York."—David M. Kennedy, *The Atlantic Monthly* "An astonishingly detailed and fascinating story of the Morgan banks and the men who have run them. Chernow uses his gift for description to bring out vividly the personalities of his principals."—Don Keown, *San Francisco Chronicle* "Epic. . . . Chernow melds deep insights into the life and times of Morgan bankers over 150 years with the flow of world history and the growth of banking and finance. With rich detail and warmth, he brings to life the defunct species of gentleman banker."—Bill Barnhart, *Chicago Tribune*