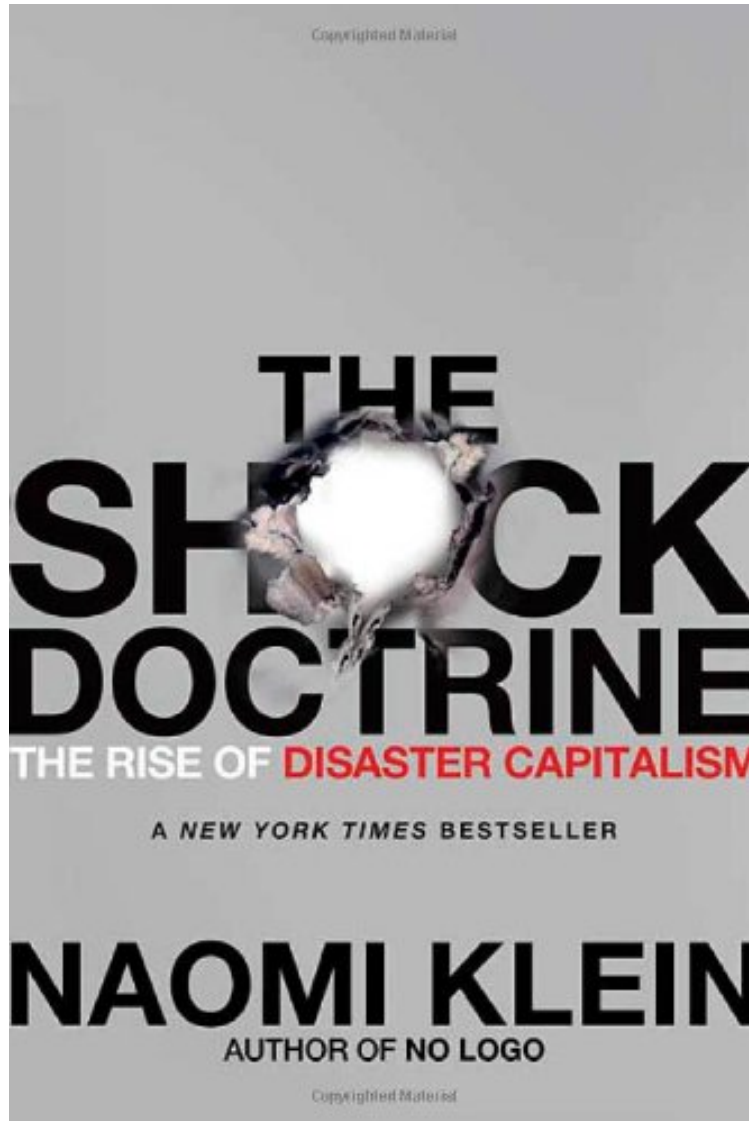


The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism

Naomi Klein

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#151164 in Books Metropolitan Books 2007-09-18 2007-09-18Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.40 x 1.70 x 6.10l, 1.90 #File Name: 0805079831576 pages | File size: 54.Mb

Naomi Klein : The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I've read this book twice. It has changed the ...By Z_i_amI've read this book twice. It has changed the way I see the political debate. It really helps to see through the lies and the nonsense. Ms. Klein is occasionally heavy handed about her metaphor of electroshock therapy and our foreign interventions but that is just editing. In every other way this book is an important and worthwhile read. Regretably, I also think that the information presented in this book will remain relevant for many years to come.0 of 0 people found

the following review helpful. EVERYONE NEEDS TO READ THISBy DacoratedIt's a tough book! It fills your mind with information and complex, fascinating ideas. Also breaks your heart.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Must read!By Miken40Must read if you want a deeper understanding of what's going on in America today.

The bestselling author of *No Logo* shows how the global free market has exploited crises and shock for three decades, from Chile to Iraq. In her groundbreaking reporting over the past few years, Naomi Klein introduced the term disaster capitalism. Whether covering Baghdad after the U.S. occupation, Sri Lanka in the wake of the tsunami, or New Orleans post-Katrina, she witnessed something remarkably similar. People still reeling from catastrophe were being hit again, this time with economic shock treatment, losing their land and homes to rapid-fire corporate makeovers. *The Shock Doctrine* retells the story of the most dominant ideology of our time, Milton Friedman's free market economic revolution. In contrast to the popular myth of this movement's peaceful global victory, Klein shows how it has exploited moments of shock and extreme violence in order to implement its economic policies in so many parts of the world from Latin America and Eastern Europe to South Africa, Russia, and Iraq. At the core of disaster capitalism is the use of cataclysmic events to advance radical privatization combined with the privatization of the disaster response itself. Klein argues that by capitalizing on crises, created by nature or war, the disaster capitalism complex now exists as a booming new economy, and is the violent culmination of a radical economic project that has been incubating for fifty years.

.com Naomi Klein's *The Shock Doctrine* advances a truly unnerving argument: historically, while people were reeling from natural disasters, wars and economic upheavals, savvy politicians and industry leaders nefariously implemented policies that would never have passed during less muddled times. As Klein demonstrates, this reprehensible game of bait-and-switch isn't just some relic from the bad old days. It's alive and well in contemporary society, and coming soon to a disaster area near you. "At the most chaotic juncture in Iraq" civil war, a new law is unveiled that will allow Shell and BP to claim the country's vast oil reserves. Immediately following September 11, the Bush Administration quietly outsources the running of the 'War on Terror' to Halliburton and Blackwater. After a tsunami wipes out the coasts of Southeast Asia, the pristine beaches are auctioned off to tourist resorts. New Orleans residents, scattered from Hurricane Katrina, discover that their public housing, hospitals and schools will never be re-opened." Klein not only kicks butt, she names names, notably economist Milton Friedman and his radical Chicago School of the 1950s and 60s which she notes "produced many of the leading neo-conservative and neo-liberal thinkers whose influence is still profound in Washington today." Stand up and take a bow, Donald Rumsfeld. There's little doubt Klein's book--which arrived to enormous attention and fanfare thanks to her previous missive, the best-selling *No Logo*, will stir the ire of the right and corporate America. It's also true that Klein's assertions are coherent, comprehensively researched and footnoted, and she makes a very credible case. Even if the world isn't going to hell in a hand-basket just yet, it's nice to know a sharp customer like Klein is bearing witness to the backroom machinations of government and industry in times of turmoil. --Kim Hughes
From Publishers Weekly
The neo-liberal economic policies--privatization, free trade, slashed social spending--that the Chicago School and the economist Milton Friedman have foisted on the world are catastrophic in two senses, argues this vigorous polemic. Because their results are disastrous--depressions, mass poverty, private corporations looting public wealth, by the author's accounting--their means must be cataclysmic, dependent on political upheavals and natural disasters as coercive pretexts for free-market reforms the public would normally reject. Journalist Klein (*No Logo*) chronicles decades of such disasters, including the Chicago School makeovers launched by South American coups; the corrupt sale of Russia's state economy to oligarchs following the collapse of the Soviet Union; the privatization of New Orleans's public schools after Katrina; and the seizure of wrecked fishing villages by resort developers after the Asian tsunami. Klein's economic and political analyses are not always meticulous. Likening free-market shock therapies to electroshock torture, she conflates every misdeed of right-wing dictatorships with their economic programs and paints a too simplistic picture of the Iraq conflict as a struggle over American-imposed neo-liberalism. Still, much of her critique hits home, as she demonstrates how free-market ideologues welcome, and provoke, the collapse of other people's economies. The result is a powerful populist indictment of economic orthodoxy. (Sept.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.
From Bookmarks Magazine
Naomi Klein offers an antidote to those who herald globalization as the great equalizer of nations. The author of *No Logo: Taking Aim at the Brand Bullies*, Klein links disparate events throughout the 20th and 21st centuries--the collapse of the Soviet Union, the atrocities in Chile under Pinochet, the post-tsunami crises in Sri Lanka, 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, the invasion of Iraq--to reveal the two-faced nature of capitalism. Critics agreed that the book is accessible and impeccably researched; it is an important contribution to the debate over globalization. Some were less taken with Klein's thesis, however. The *Washington Post* noted that Klein sees too many conspiracies instead of "the all-too-human pattern of chaos and confusion, good intentions and greed, playing out in the wake of catastrophes." Yet even Shashi Tharoor, a former UN Under-Secretary General, admitted Klein's great usefulness in helping us understand "the shape and direction of our current Age of Uncertainty." Copyright 2004 Phillips Nelson

