

Howard Hughes His Life And Madness

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The 10X Rule Grant Cardone 2011-04-26 Achieve "Massive Action" results and accomplish your business dreams! While most people operate with only three degrees of action-no action, retreat, or normal action-if you're after big goals, you don't want to settle for the ordinary. To reach the next level, you must understand the coveted 4th degree of action. This 4th degree, also known as the 10 X Rule, is that level of action that guarantees companies and individuals realize their goals and dreams. The 10 X Rule unveils the principle of "Massive Action," allowing you to blast through business clichés and risk-aversion while taking concrete steps to reach your dreams. It also demonstrates why people get stuck in the first three actions and how to move into making the 10X Rule a discipline. Find out exactly where to start, what to do, and how to follow up each action you take with more action to achieve Massive Action results. Learn the "Estimation of Effort" calculation to ensure you exceed your targets Make the Fourth Degree a way of life and defy mediocrity Discover the time management myth Get the exact reasons why people fail and others succeed Know the exact formula to solve problems Extreme success is by definition outside the realm of normal action. Instead of behaving like everybody else and settling for average results, take Massive Action with The 10 X Rule, remove luck and chance from your business equation, and lock in massive success.

Holding Tight, Letting Go Sarah Hughes 2022-03-31 'Too often we minimise the reality of terminal cancer, concentrating instead on survival records and talking only in positive pink ribbon terms. But what of those who live daily with the shadow of the disease? This is a book about how that feels. It is about how to die as much as about how to live; yet it is also life-affirming, funny and shot through with hope.' Life is full of small details that we tuck away somewhere to revisit when we need them most: the calming sound of the sea, that childlike joy when you feel the sun hit your face on an early February morning. These small details knitted together, make up our perfect, ordinary lives. Few understood the importance of these more than Sarah Hughes, who lived with terminal metastatic cancer for over three years and who died in April 2021. This book is a celebration of everything that can make up a life, and how to hold it all close: how to cherish the perspective-changing, exhale-bringing perspective of a trashy novel; how to find the upside of chemo (finally being able to fit into flippy french tea dresses); how to explore the intimate topography of a body that's yours and yours alone. For fans of Matt Haig and Maggie O'Farrell, this is a tender word-of-mouth bestseller: the sort of book you'll press into the hands of your friends, family and a stranger in a bookshop.

Structures or Why things don't fall down J. Gordon 2012-12-06 I am very much aware that it is an act of extreme rashness to attempt to write an elementary book about structures. Indeed it is only when the subject is stripped of its mathematics that one begins to realize how difficult it is to pin down and describe those structural concepts which are often called 'elementary'; by which I suppose we mean 'basic' or 'fundamental'. Some of the omissions and oversimplifications are intentional but no doubt some of them are due to my own brute ignorance and lack of understanding of the subject. Although this volume is more or less a sequel to The New Science of Strong Materials it can be read as an entirely separate book in its own right. For this reason a certain amount of repetition has been unavoidable in the earlier chapters. I have to thank a great many people for factual information, suggestions and for stimulating and sometimes heated discussions. Among the living, my colleagues at Reading University have been generous with help, notably Professor W. D. Biggs (Professor of Building Technology), Dr Richard Chaplin, Dr Giorgio Jeronimidis, Dr Julian Vincent and Dr Henry Blyth; Professor Anthony Flew, Professor of Philosophy, made useful suggestions about the last chapter. I am also grateful to Mr John Bartlett, Consultant Neurosurgeon at the Brook Hospital. Professor T. P. Hughes of the University of the West Indies has been helpful about rockets and many other things besides. My

secretary, Mrs Jean Collins, was a great help in times of trouble. Mrs Nethercot of Vogue was kind to me about dressmaking. Mr Gerald Leach and also many of the editorial staff of Penguins have exercised their accustomed patience and helpfulness. Among the dead, I owe a great deal to Dr Mark Pryor - lately of Trinity College, Cambridge - especially for discussions about biomechanics which extended over a period of nearly thirty years. Lastly, for reasons which must surely be obvious, I owe a humble oblation to Herodotus, once a citizen of Halicarnassus.

The Score Takes Care of Itself Bill Walsh 2009-08-20 The last lecture on leadership by the NFL's greatest coach: Bill Walsh Bill Walsh is a towering figure in the history of the NFL. His advanced leadership transformed the San Francisco 49ers from the worst franchise in sports to a legendary dynasty. In the process, he changed the way football is played. Prior to his death, Walsh granted a series of exclusive interviews to bestselling author Steve Jamison. These became his ultimate lecture on leadership. Additional insights and perspective are provided by Hall of Fame quarterback Joe Montana and others. Bill Walsh taught that the requirements of successful leadership are the same whether you run an NFL franchise, a fortune 500 company, or a hardware store with 12 employees. These final words of 'wisdom by Walsh' will inspire, inform, and enlighten leaders in all professions.

Howard Hughes Peter Harry Brown 1996 Just in time for the November release of Miramax's "The Aviator," starring Leonardo DiCaprio and directed by Martin Scorsese, this fascinating biography tells the full story of one of the most daring, enigmatic, and reclusive power brokers America has ever known. Photos.

America: Who Really Pays the Taxes? Donald L. Barlett 2013-06-18 A disturbing, eye-opening look at a tax system gone out of control. Originally designed to spread the cost of government fairly, our tax code has turned into a gold mine of loopholes and giveaways manipulated by the influential and wealthy for their own benefit. If you feel as if the tax laws are rigged against the average taxpayer, you're right: Middle-income taxpayers pick up a growing share of the nation's tax bill, while our most profitable corporations pay little or nothing. Your tax status is affected more by how many lawyers and lobbyists you can afford than by your resources or needs. Our best-known and most successful companies pay more taxes to foreign governments than to our own. Cities and states start bidding wars to attract business through tax breaks—taxes made up for by the American taxpayer. Who really pays the taxes? Barlett and Stelle, authors of the bestselling America: What Went Wrong?, offer a graphic exposé of what's wrong with our tax system, how it got that way, and how to fix it.

The Asylum of Howard Hughes Jack Garrett Real 2003 Howard Hughes, once the wealthiest man in the world. Handsome. Daring. Reclusive. Movie producer. Aviation pioneer. Then one fateful day his plane crashed and his world was one of pain. He found relief in drugs and came to rely on them more and more. He became reclusive and inaccessible. He surrounded himself with people to help him create an asylum against the outside world. But they turned it into an asylum of another kind. Hughes turned to the one man he knew he could trust to help him preserve his privacy and retain his freedom. That man became Howard's most trusted confidant and friend, Jack Real. Real tried valiantly to save Hughes from himself and his guards. It was an impossible job but one that Jack G. Real gave his all to accomplish. This is his Story.

Seduction Karina Longworth 2018-11-13 In this riveting popular history, the creator of You Must Remember This probes the inner workings of Hollywood's glamorous golden age through the stories of some of the dozens of actresses pursued by Howard Hughes, to reveal how the millionaire mogul's obsessions with sex, power and publicity trapped, abused, or benefitted women who dreamt of screen stardom. In recent months, the media has reported on scores of entertainment figures who used their power and money in Hollywood to sexually harass and coerce some of the most talented women in cinema and television. But as Karina

Longworth reminds us, long before the Harvey Weinsteins there was Howard Hughes—the Texas millionaire, pilot, and filmmaker whose reputation as a cinematic provocateur was matched only by that as a prolific womanizer. His supposed conquests between his first divorce in the late 1920s and his marriage to actress Jean Peters in 1957 included many of Hollywood's most famous actresses, among them Billie Dove, Katharine Hepburn, Ava Gardner, and Lana Turner. From promoting bombshells like Jean Harlow and Jane Russell to his contentious battles with the censors, Hughes—perhaps more than any other filmmaker of his era—commoditized male desire as he objectified and sexualized women. Yet there were also numerous women pulled into Hughes's grasp who never made it to the screen, sometimes virtually imprisoned by an increasingly paranoid and disturbed Hughes, who retained multitudes of private investigators, security personnel, and informers to make certain these actresses would not escape his clutches. Vivid, perceptive, timely, and ridiculously entertaining, *The Seducer* is a landmark work that examines women, sex, and male power in Hollywood during its golden age—a legacy that endures nearly a century later.

Ava Gardner: The Secret Conversations Peter Evans 2013-07-02 A candid self-portrait of the late film legend's golden-era Hollywood life traces her impoverished childhood in North Carolina through the heights of her career, sharing unflinching coverage of her relationships with such figures as Mickey Rooney, Frank Sinatra and George C. Scott. 150,000 first printing.

Howard Hughes James B. Steele 2012-11 Whether he was courting public attention in the roles of aviator, playboy and entrepreneur, or shunning it as a recluse, Howard Hughes commanded headlines throughout his career. Yet the image of his life, his power and his business empire that caught the public imagination was almost completely false. Hughes's fortune actually came from his father's tool company and, later, from the Hughes Aircraft Company, yet these flourished simply because Hughes was prevented from interfering in their workings. In fact, Hughes was a disastrous businessman - no company under his control ever built a successful aircraft, he nearly destroyed TWA and completely destroyed a major film studio, and even his gambling empire in Las Vegas was crippled by corruption. His personal life was even more disastrous - he feared, rightly, that he was mad and spent most of his fortune and the last 18 years of his life trying to prevent anyone finding out. He spent his time naked, eating little, addicted to drugs and tranquilizers, a physical wreck, and died surrounded by men who nurtured his madness for their own ends.

Howard Hughes John Harris Sheridan 2014-05-05 Howard Hughes was America's first billionaire. He was an Aviator (As seen in the movie about him 'The Aviator') He was an Oscar winning Motion Picture Producer, He owned TWA and Hughes Air West, Six hotels in Las Vegas and one in Reno, Hughes Tool Co. in Houston, TX and The RKO Motion Picture Studios, in Hollywood. Hughes spent his later years surrounded by Mormon aides who insulated him from outsiders. It's the true story of Howard Hughes' last years.

In a Lonely Place Dorothy B. Hughes 2010-05-06 Dix Steele is back in town, and 'town' is post-war LA. His best friend Brub is on the force of the LAPD, and as the two meet in country clubs and beach bars, they discuss the latest case: a strangler is preying on young women in the dark. Dix listens with interest as Brub describes their top suspect, as yet unnamed. Dix loves the dark and women in equal measure, so he knows enough to watch his step, though when he meets the luscious Laurel Gray, something begins to crack. The American Dream is showing its seamy underside.

Empire Donald L. Bartlett 1980

Howard Hughes: His Life and Madness Donald L. Bartlett 2011-04-11 The life that inspired the major motion picture *The Aviator*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and directed by Martin Scorsese. Howard Hughes has always fascinated the public with his mixture of secrecy, dashing lifestyle, and reclusiveness. This is the book that breaks through the image to get at the man. Originally published under the title *Empire: The Life, Legend, and Madness of Howard Hughes*.

Puppetmaster Richard Hack 2007 While many of J. Edgar Hoover's achievements and insecurities are well-documented, the author of "Hughes" and "Clash of the Titans" reveals for the first time the most hidden secrets of Hoover's private life and exposes previously undisclosed conduct that threatened to compromise the security of the entire nation. of photos.

Hughes The Private Diaries, Memos and Letters Richard Hack 2007

Empire Donald L. Bartlett 1981 Penetrating the mythology surrounding the bizarre life of the billionaire businessman, a Pulitzer Prize-winning

investigative team portrays Howard Hughes as a man who, in time, came to be ruled by his madness

I, Fatty Jerry Stahl 2008-12-05 In this highly acclaimed novel, the author of *Permanent Midnight* channels fallen early-Hollywood star Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle. Fatty tells his own story of success, addiction, and a precipitous fall from grace after being framed for a brutal crime—a national media scandal that set the precedent for those so familiar today.

Stuff You Should Know Josh Clark 2020-11-24 From the duo behind the massively successful and award-winning podcast *Stuff You Should Know* comes an unexpected look at things you thought you knew. Josh Clark and Chuck Bryant started the podcast *Stuff You Should Know* back in 2008 because they were curious—curious about the world around them, curious about what they might have missed in their formal educations, and curious to dig deeper on stuff they thought they understood. As it turns out, they aren't the only curious ones. They've since amassed a rabid fan base, making *Stuff You Should Know* one of the most popular podcasts in the world. Armed with their inquisitive natures and a passion for sharing, they uncover the weird, fascinating, delightful, or unexpected elements of a wide variety of topics. The pair have now taken their near-boundless "whys" and "hows" from your earbuds to the pages of a book for the first time—featuring a completely new array of subjects that they've long wondered about and wanted to explore. Each chapter is further embellished with snappy visual material to allow for rabbit-hole tangents and digressions—including charts, illustrations, sidebars, and footnotes. Follow along as the two dig into the underlying stories of everything from the origin of Murphy beds, to the history of facial hair, to the psychology of being lost. Have you ever wondered about the world around you, and wished to see the magic in everyday things? Come get curious with *Stuff You Should Know*. With Josh and Chuck as your guide, there's something interesting about everything (...except maybe jackhammers).

The Great American Tax Dodge Donald L. Bartlett 2002-10 "Bartlett and Steele...are masters at mining obscure documents to see the big picture where most investigators never even knew there was a frame...Year after year, Congress continues to make tax laws more complex and more unfair, then refuses to give the IRS adequate resources to ferret out fraud. If the tax code isn't reformed soon, the authors warn, the consequences might be dire."—*Baltimore Sun* "A hard-hitting expose of perceived gross inequities in the U.S. tax system."—*Publishers Weekly*

Next to Hughes Robert Maheu 1993-04 Howard Hughes's right-hand man reveals how he helped the enigmatic billionaire break the mafia's stranglehold on Las Vegas and arrange the covert relationship between the CIA and mob that led to the Bay of Pigs invasion. Reprint.

Boxes: The Secret Life of Howard Hughes Douglas Wellman 2016-03-22 ...well documented and researched...Boxes is definitely a fascinating read and a must read for anyone who is at all curious about Howard Hughes' life. brThis second edition of *Boxes: The Secret Life of Howard Hughes* continues the history-changing story of Eva McLelland and her reclusive life married to a mystery man she discovered was Howard Hughes.br Eva McLelland kept her secret for thirty-one stressful years as she lived a nomadic existence with a man who refused to unpack his belongings for fear he would be discovered and have to flee. Only her husband's death finally released her to tell the story that had been burning inside her for decades.

Straight Outta Bristol Phil Johnson 1997

A Curious Mind Brian Grazer 2015-04-07 Academy Award-winning producer Brian Grazer and an acclaimed business journalist examine the weekly "curiosity conversations" that have inspired Grazer to create some of America's favorite and iconic movies and television shows—from *24* to *A Beautiful Mind*.

America: What Went Wrong? Donald L. Bartlett 1992 Looks at tax reform, bankruptcy, health insurance, deregulation, corporate raiders, unemployment, and disappearing pensions

I Caught Flies for Howard Huges Ron Kistler 1977

Endgame Frank Brady 2011-02-01 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • Who was Bobby Fischer? In this "nuanced perspective of the chess genius" (*Los Angeles Times*), an acclaimed biographer chronicles his meteoric rise and confounding fall, with an afterword containing newly discovered details about Fischer's life. Possessing an IQ of 181 and remarkable powers of concentration, Bobby Fischer memorized hundreds of chess books in several languages, and he was only thirteen when he became the youngest chess master in U.S. history. But his strange behavior started early. In 1972, at the historic Cold War showdown in Reykjavik, Iceland, where he faced Soviet champion Boris Spassky, Fischer made headlines with hundreds of petty demands that nearly ended the competition. It was merely a prelude to what was to come. Arriving back

in the United States to a hero's welcome, Bobby was mobbed wherever he went—a figure as exotic and improbable as any American pop culture had yet produced. Commercial sponsorship offers poured in, ultimately topping \$10 million—but Bobby demurred. Instead, he began tithing his limited money to an apocalyptic religion and devouring anti-Semitic literature. Bobby reemerged in 1992 to play Spassky in a multi-million dollar rematch—but when the dust settled, he was a wanted man, transformed into an international fugitive because of his decision to play in Montenegro despite U.S. sanctions. Fearing for his life, traveling with bodyguards, Bobby lived the life of a celebrity fugitive—one drawn increasingly to the bizarre. Drawing from Fischer family archives, recently released FBI files, and Bobby's own emails, *Endgame* is unique in that it limns Bobby Fischer's entire life—an odyssey that took the chess champion from an impoverished childhood to the covers of *Time*, *Life* and *Newsweek* to recognition as “the most famous man in the world” to notorious recluse.

Unscaled Hemant Taneja 2018-03-27 *Unscaled* identifies the forces that are reshaping the global economy and turning one of the fundamental laws of business and society—the economies of scale—on its head. An innovative trend combining technology with economics is unraveling behemoth industries—including corporations, banks, farms, media conglomerates, energy systems, governments, and schools—that have long dominated business and society. Size and scale have become a liability. A new generation of upstarts is using artificial intelligence to automate tasks that once required expensive investment, and “renting” technology platforms to build businesses for hyper-focused markets, enabling them to grow big without the bloat of giant organizations. In *Unscaled*, venture capitalist Hemant Taneja explains how the unscaled phenomenon allowed Warby Parker to cheaply and easily start a small company, build a better product, and become a global competitor in no time, upending entrenched eyewear giant Luxottica. It similarly enabled Stripe to take on established payment processors throughout the world, and Livongo to help diabetics control their disease while simultaneously cutting the cost of treatment. The unscaled economy is remaking massive, deeply rooted industries and opening up fantastic possibilities for entrepreneurs, imaginative companies, and resourceful individuals. It can be the model for solving some of the world's greatest problems, including climate change and soaring health-care costs, but will also unleash new challenges that today's leaders must address.

Hughes After Howard D. Kenneth Richardson 2011-07-07 People everywhere have heard of the eccentric Howard Hughes, but few know that in 1953 he virtually disappeared from the company he had begun in 1932. Under new, creative, and inspired management, Hughes Aircraft Company became the leading military electronics organization in the world and rose to 85,000 employees. Some called it a national treasure. In this new 496-page book, Hughes Aircraft Company's past president Ken Richardson shows how this was done. Collaborating with over 60 past employees, Ken has compiled this remarkable piece of American aviation history. Learn about many complex products in all fields of electronics crafted by this highly motivated, inventive team.

The Bluest Eye Toni Morrison 2007 The story of Pecola Breedlove profiles an eleven-year-old African-American girl growing up in an America that values blue-eyed blondes and the tragedy that results from her longing to be accepted.

Howard Hughes Darwin Porter 2005 Set amid descriptions of the unimaginable changes that affected America between Hughes's birth in 1905 and his death in 1976, this book gives an insider's perspective about what money can buy, and what it can't.

Empire: the Life, Legend, and Madness of Howard Hughes Donald L. Bartlett

Howard Hughes: The Secret Life Charles Higham 2013-09-24 His wealth was legendary. His passions were bizarre. Now, the truth about the money, the madness, and the man behind the enigma. Howard Hughes is one of the best known and least understood men of our times—famed for his wealth, his daring, and his descent into madness. Bestselling biographer Charles Higham goes beyond the enigma to reveal the incredible private life of Howard Hughes: * his romances with the great stars of Hollywood—Katharine Hepburn, Bette Davis, Cary Grant, Tyrone Power, and numerous others * his forays into sadomasochism * his involvement with Richard Nixon and Watergate * his bizarre final years This is a compelling portrait of a unique American figure—in a story as revealing as it is unforgettable.

Nicholas Ray Patrick McGilligan 2011-07-12 From award-winning biographer Patrick McGilligan comes an eye-opening life of the troubled filmmaker behind *Rebel Without a Cause* Nicholas Ray spent the glory

years of his career creating films that were dark, emotionally charged, and haunted by social misfits and bruised young people consumed by private anguish—from his career-defining debut, *They Live by Night* (1948), to his enduring masterwork, *Rebel Without a Cause* (1955); from the noir thriller *In a Lonely Place* (1950), pairing his second wife, the blond bombshell Gloria Grahame, with Humphrey Bogart, to cult pictures like *Johnny Guitar* (1954) and *Bigger Than Life* (1956). Yet his work on-screen is more than matched by the passions and struggles of his personal story—one of the most dramatic lives of any major Hollywood filmmaker. In *Nicholas Ray: The Glorious Failure of an American Director*, Patrick McGilligan offers a revelatory biography of Ray, a man whose troubled life was marked by creative peaks and valleys alike. As a young man, Ray personified the rambling spirit of twentieth-century America, learning from luminaries like Thornton Wilder and Frank Lloyd Wright; mingling with future legends like Elia Kazan, Joseph Losey, and John Houseman; and carousing with musicians like Lead Belly and Woody Guthrie. Notoriously self-destructive but irresistibly alluring—to men and women alike—Ray empathized with the broken and misunderstood, a talent that allowed him to create characters of true complexity on-screen. His youthful association with radical politics nearly killed his nascent film career—until a secret agreement to cooperate with the House Committee on Un-American Activities saved him. His tumultuous second marriage, to Grahame, was shattered after Ray found her in bed with his teenage son from his first marriage. He romanced stars and starlets, including Marilyn Monroe, Shelley Winters, Joan Crawford, and the teenage Natalie Wood, but never enjoyed a stable home life. The triumph of *Rebel Without a Cause*, his masterpiece of teenage angst, led to a burgeoning partnership with James Dean, but Dean's untimely death devastated the filmmaker, who fell into a spiral of drinking and drug addiction. Less than a decade later, Ray's career was effectively over . . . until the adoration of European critics, and a frantic last-ditch burst of creativity, nearly restored him to glory before his tragic early death in 1979. Meticulously detailed and compulsively readable, this new biography reconstructs the tortuous journey of one of the most enduringly fascinating figures in American film.

Howard, the Amazing Mr. Hughes Noah Dietrich 1976

Citizen Hughes Michael Drosnin 1986 Presents a selection of more than ten thousand previously unpublished internal documents of the Hughes organization, including three thousand pages of the billionaire's own handwritten memos, which reveal his innermost activities and how he tried to buy t

Ignition! John Drury Clark 2018-05-23 This newly reissued debut book in the Rutgers University Press Classics Imprint is the story of the search for a rocket propellant which could be trusted to take man into space. This search was a hazardous enterprise carried out by rival labs who worked against the known laws of nature, with no guarantee of success or safety. Acclaimed scientist and sci-fi author John Drury Clark writes with irreverent and eyewitness immediacy about the development of the explosive fuels strong enough to negate the relentless restraints of gravity. The resulting volume is as much a memoir as a work of history, sharing a behind-the-scenes view of an enterprise which eventually took men to the moon, missiles to the planets, and satellites to outer space. A classic work in the history of science, and described as “a good book on rocket stuff...that's a really fun one” by SpaceX founder Elon Musk, readers will want to get their hands on this influential classic, available for the first time in decades.

Howard Hughes Geoff Schumacher 2020-03-11 This newly revised and expanded edition of Howard Hughes chronicles the life and legacies of one of the most intriguing and accomplished Americans of the twentieth century. Hughes, born into wealth thanks to his father's innovative drill bit that transformed the oil industry, put his inheritance to work in multiple ways, from producing big-budget Hollywood movies to building the world's fastest and largest airplanes. Hughes set air speed records and traveled around the world in record time, earning ticker-tape parades in three cities in 1938. Later, he moved to Las Vegas and invested heavily in casinos. He bought seven resorts, in each case helping to loosen organized crime's grip on Nevada's lifeblood industry. Although the public viewed Hughes as a heroic and independent-minded trailblazer, behind closed doors he suffered from germophobia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and an addiction to painkillers. He became paranoid and reclusive, surrounding himself with a small cadre of loyal caretakers. As executives battled each other over his empire, Hughes' physical and mental health deteriorated to the point where he lost control of his business affairs. This second edition includes more insider details on Hughes' personal interactions with actresses, journalists, and employees. New chapters provide insights into Hughes's involvement with the mob,

his ownership and struggles as the majority shareholder of TWA and the wide-ranging activities of Hughes Aircraft Company, Hughes's critical role in the Glomar Explorer CIA project (a deep-sea drillship platform built to recover the Soviet submarine K-129), and more. Based on in-depth interviews with individuals who knew and worked with Hughes, this fascinating biography provides a colorful and comprehensive look at Hughes—from his life and career to his final years and lasting influence. This penetrating depiction of the man behind the curtain demonstrates Hughes's legacy, and enduring impact on popular culture.

The Betrayal of the American Dream Donald L. Barlett 2012 Examines the formidable challenges facing the middle class, calling for fundamental changes while surveying the extent of the problem and identifying the people and agencies most responsible.

The Taking of K-129 Josh Dean 2017-09-05 An incredible true tale of espionage and engineering set at the height of the Cold War—a mix between The Hunt for Red October and Argo—about how the CIA, the U.S. Navy, and America's most eccentric mogul spent six years and nearly a billion dollars to steal the nuclear-armed Soviet submarine K-129 after it had sunk to the bottom of the Pacific Ocean; all while the Russians were watching. In the early hours of February 25, 1968, a Russian submarine armed with three nuclear ballistic missiles set sail from its base in Siberia on a routine combat patrol to Hawaii. Then it vanished. As the Soviet Navy searched in vain for the lost vessel, a small, highly classified American

operation using sophisticated deep-sea spy equipment found it—wrecked on the sea floor at a depth of 16,800 feet, far beyond the capabilities of any salvage that existed. But the potential intelligence assets onboard the ship—the nuclear warheads, battle orders, and cryptological machines—justified going to extreme lengths to find a way to raise the submarine. So began Project Azorian, a top-secret mission that took six years, cost an estimated \$800 million, and would become the largest and most daring covert operation in CIA history. After the U.S. Navy declared retrieving the sub “impossible,” the mission fell to the CIA's burgeoning Directorate of Science and Technology, the little-known division responsible for the legendary U-2 and SR-71 Blackbird spy planes. Working with Global Marine Systems, the country's foremost maker of exotic, deep-sea drilling vessels, the CIA commissioned the most expensive ship ever built and told the world that it belonged to the reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes, who would use the mammoth ship to mine rare minerals from the ocean floor. In reality, a complex network of spies, scientists, and politicians attempted a project even crazier than Hughes's reputation: raising the sub directly under the watchful eyes of the Russians. The Taking of K-129 is a riveting, almost unbelievable true-life tale of military history, engineering genius, and high-stakes spy-craft set during the height of the Cold War, when nuclear annihilation was a constant fear, and the opportunity to gain even the slightest advantage over your enemy was worth massive risk.