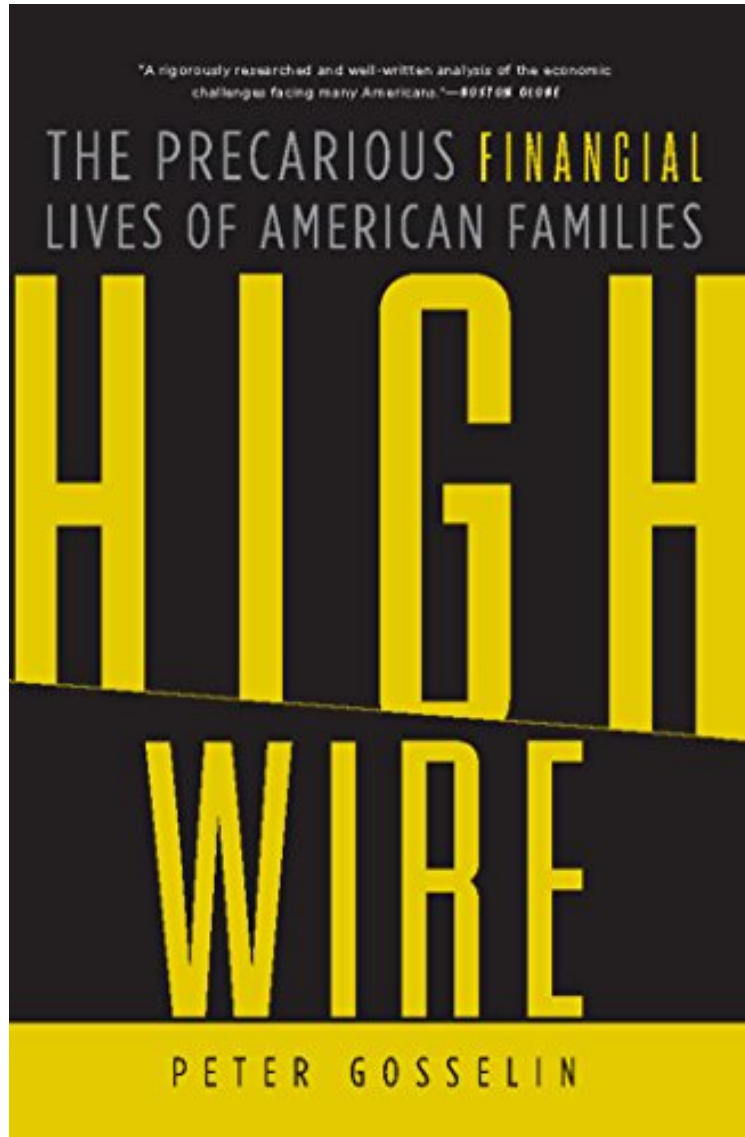


(Mobile ebook) High Wire: The Precarious Financial Lives of American Families

High Wire: The Precarious Financial Lives of American Families

Peter Gosselin

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Peter Gosselin : High Wire: The Precarious Financial Lives of American Families before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised High Wire: The Precarious Financial Lives of American Families:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Nice read, good bibliography By kdj This is a decent enough book for someone interested in a "light" read on the subject material. The best part is the bibliography for further reading on particular subjects. There is not enough "new" here in the content to make it a compelling read if you have already works like: "Screwed; the undeclared war on the middle class" and "The Two Income Trap" and "The Great Risk

Shift". The general theme is there: economic conditions for middle- and lower-middle income households have deteriorated through the loss of union protection, pension elimination, outsourcing in fields that used to be fairly exclusive professions but technology has rendered internationally competitive, education costs are higher, etc. On the other hand, if you are new to the field it is a nice starting point and the bibliography/notes are pretty good. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Customer Enjoyable 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By dascanner As expected, and quick turn around. Thank you.

Peter Gosselin predicted in *High Wire* that the American worker would take on an exceedingly high level of risk in the American economy, and would be ever more exposed to the volatility of the market. Today, Gosselin's worst fears have been realized. American families are walking a high wire in which a medical crisis, a natural disaster, or the loss of a job could send them into free fall. And as the housing crisis worsens and banks and insurers collapse, many have already fallen. *High Wire* reveals the quiet corrosion of American living standards and shows how the ownership society "has turned into the on-your-own society" with devastating consequences.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . L.A. Times economics correspondent Gosselin outlines the current economic situation of American families in light of specific policies initiated since the stalled economy of the 1970s. Today, Gosselin finds, fewer households are likely to fall into financial ruin, but those who do experience layoffs, expensive medical problems, foreclosure or other financial strain have a much harder time bouncing back, as old social safety nets have been systematically unraveled. Gosselin argues that in today's economy, families and individuals are assuming an unprecedented amount of financial risk; another aspect of the new economy is that upper-middle class families are at just as much risk as the less well-off. Each chapter takes an in-depth look at a different facet of the economy, healthcare, retirement, education and rebuilding New Orleans among them. Gosselin also discusses "unjobs," short-term and freelance gigs secured by an increasingly desperate labor force, and the new indispensability of two-income households. Though scholarly, Gosselin's writing is effortlessly readable, bolstered by anecdotes from real people facing financial adversity. Packed with insight and understanding, this no-nonsense look at the present and future of the American Dream should be of interest to any wage-earner or salary-man. Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Meticulously researched and written with verve, "High Wire" is a rare masterpiece of chilling logic about mounting economic risks in our families, our homes, and our jobs. All Americans should read this book."--Peter Bernstein, economic consultant and author of "Against The Gods: The Remarkable Story of Risk" "Nothing I've read better explains these fundamental contemporary American anxieties than 'High Wire.'"--"St. Louis Post Dispatch" "Voters will face a choice between a Democrat who talks about alleviating the risks bearing down on lower- and middle-income Americans and a Republican who, in effect, promises to continue the Bush administration's economic policies. Voters confused about how this choice affects their daily lives should read Gosselin's book from cover to cover."--"New York Times Book" "Gosselin weaves economic research, intimate portraits of average Americans, and the products of some old-fashioned digging into a compelling narrative. Like Jacob Hacker's 2006 "The Great Risk Shift," Gosselin's book is an investigation into the gradual tearing of America's social safety net, from inadequate health insurance to pension plans with holes."--"Business Week" "Peter Gosselin writes movingly of the personal wreckage endured by many Americans in today's volatile economy."--"Los Angeles Times" "A rigorously researched and well-written analysis of the economic challenges facing many Americans."--"Boston Globe" "[Gosselin's] writing is made more meaningful by use of real personalities to illustrate problems, putting a human face to the new reality of financial upheaval. His book should be imperative reading for anyone concerned about financial woes and their causes."--"Oklahoman" ".,,"excellent and thoughtful..."--"New York of Books" "Meticulously researched and written with verve, "High Wire" is a rare masterpiece of chilling logic about mounting economic risks in our families, our homes, and our jobs. All Americans should read this book."--Peter Bernstein, economic consultant and author of "Against The Gods: The Remarkable Story of Risk" "Nothing I've read better explains these fundamental contemporary American anxieties than 'High Wire.'"--"St. Louis Post Dispatch" "Voters will face a choice between a Democrat who talks about alleviating the risks bearing down on lower- and middle-income Americans and a Republican who, in effect, promises to continue the Bush administration's economic policies. Voters confused about how this choice affects their daily lives should read Gosselin's book from cover to cover."--"New York Times Book" "Gosselin weaves economic research, intimate portraits of average Americans, and the products of some old-fashioned digging into a compelling narrative. Like Jacob Hacker's 2006 "The Great Risk Shift," Gosselin's book is an investigation into the gradual tearing of America's social safety net, from inadequate health insurance to pension plans with holes."--"Business Week" "Peter Gosselin writes movingly of the personal wreckage endured by many Americans in today's volatile economy."--"Los Angeles Times" "A rigorously researched and well-written analysis of the economic challenges facing many Americans."--"Boston Globe" "[Gosselin's] writing is made more meaningful by use of real personalities to illustrate problems, putting a human face to the new reality of financial upheaval. His book should be imperative reading for anyone concerned about financial woes and their

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