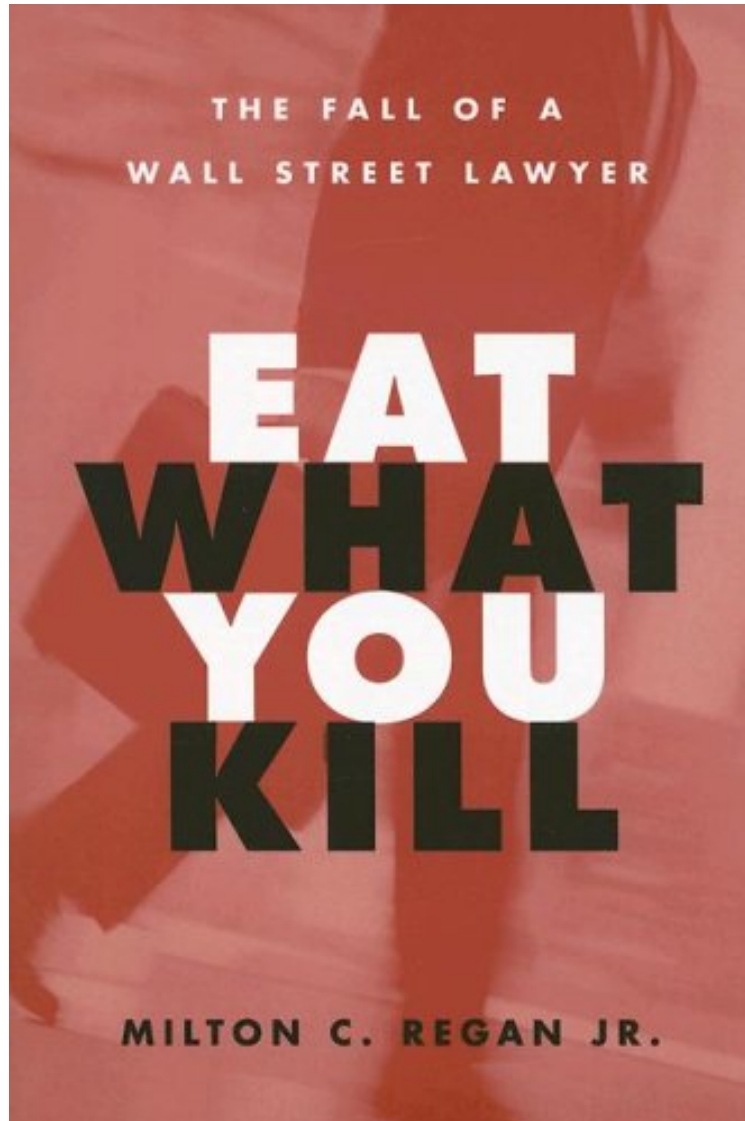


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Eat What You Kill: The Fall of a Wall Street Lawyer

Milton C Regan Jr.

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#1112497 in Books Milton C Regan Jr 2005-12-22Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .90 x 6.001, 1.22 #File Name: 0472031600402 pagesEat What You Kill The Fall of a Wall Street Lawyer | File size: 53.Mb

Milton C Regan Jr. : Eat What You Kill: The Fall of a Wall Street Lawyer before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Eat What You Kill: The Fall of a Wall Street Lawyer:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I wish I had a book like this at countless earlier junctures in my lifeBy Phil O.I have been in law (in recent days I'm on voluntary inactive status, happily) and legal education for decades. I wish I had a book like this at countless earlier junctures in my life. The author effortlessly zooms between layers of legal, business management, and financial history, then suddenly, seamlessly, to a fine grain of detail, as

these unfolding events have been faced by participants. It rings very true to my experience. The pressure-cooker atmosphere can deeply distort the judgment of those immersed in it. The dilemmas are sharply portrayed here, and expertly put in context. As other reviewers have noted, a long attention span and an eye for legal-technical detail make this trip palatable and rewarding. If you are time-constrained, and would benefit from a broader look at several varied practice areas and lawyers' stories, in similar time-frames, with compact but excellent discussion, I recommend *Lawyers Crossing Lines: Nine Stories* by James L. Kelley. That book is amazingly readable alongside being informative and well-briefed law-wise. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The required reading for all aspiring law school students. By Nori M. The required reading for every law school student on legal ethics, especially for those inspiring to be a successful attorney, yet staying away from making the same mistakes described in this book and seeking prudently to strike a proper balance between their desire for success, professional ethics, clients' mandate and the expectation of the big, competitive Wall Street law firms. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. It Would Have Been A Perfect "New Yorker" Article. By not me. "Eat What You Kill" is a morality tale about legal practice. It reconstructs the self-immolation of a big firm lawyer who went to jail for lying about a conflict of interest in a Chapter 11 case. Along the way, the book tells the story of how greed and cutthroat competition took over law firm practice over the past 30 years. The analysis is thoughtful and nuanced -- but let's face it, bankruptcy litigation ain't the stuff of high drama. Even worse, the author never won the cooperation of the lying lawyer, leaving a huge hole at the center of the narrative. The page/insight ratio is just too high for the book to get more than three stars. Elite lawyers ply their trade in a bleak moral landscape. In what may be the greatest waste of human intellect since medieval monasticism, our legal high priests squander their superb educations devising strategies to preserve and augment the fortunes of people who already have too much money for their own good. In the process, the lawyers earn piles of money for themselves, but only by working 12-hour days, like deskbound slaves. Selling one's soul for cash is a grotesque bargain -- but we don't need "Eat What You Kill" to know that! Bottom line: "Eat What You Kill" isn't for everyone, but it is highly recommended for law students having second thoughts. It is also recommended for practicing lawyers coming to terms with the meaning of their lives.

A wonderful character study of someone whose cognitive dissonance ('I am brilliant, therefore I must be doing everything correctly') led directly to his downfall. Students would do well to read this book before venturing forth into a large firm, a small firm, or any pressure-cooker environment. -Nancy Rapoport, University of Houston Law Center. "Eat What You Kill" is gripping and well written. . . . It weaves in academic commentary and understanding of professional ethics issues in a way that makes it accessible to everyone. -Frank Partnoy, University of San Diego Law School. He had it all, and then he lost it. But why did he do it, risking everything--wealth, success, livelihood, freedom, and the security of family? "Eat What You Kill" is the story of John Gellene, a rising star and bankruptcy partner at one of Wall Street's most venerable law firms. But when Gellene became entangled in a web of conflicting corporate and legal interests involving one of his clients, he was eventually charged with making false statements, indicted, found guilty of a federal crime, and sentenced to prison. Milton C. Regan Jr. uses Gellene's case to prove that such conflicting interests are now disturbingly commonplace in the world of American corporate finance. Combining a journalist's eye with sharp psychological insight, Regan spins Gellene's story into a gripping drama of fundamental tensions in modern-day corporate practice and describes in perfect miniature the inexorable confluence of the interests of American corporations and their legal counselors. This confluence may seem natural enough, but because these law firms serve many masters--corporations, venture capitalists, shareholder groups--it has paradoxically led to deep, pervasive conflicts of interest. "Eat What You Kill" gives us the story of a man trapped in this labyrinth, and reveals the individual and systemic factors that contributed to Gellene's demise.

"The book makes for sobering reading, precisely because it is about much more than the downfall of an individual lawyer or a black eye to a prestigious firm.... If you read only one book about the legal profession this year, let it be "Eat What You Kill." - National Law "This is a spell-binding book that... does for corporate and bankruptcy law what *A Civil Action* did to illuminate the practice of personal injury law.... It is no puffery to describe [it] as a spellbinder and a page-turner.... [Eat What You Kill] deserves to be adopted as supplemental reading in courses in legal ethics, bankruptcy, corporate law, and for courses in the legal professions..." - Michael L. Rustad, Thomas F. Lambert Jr. Professor of Law Co-Director of Intellectual Property Law Program, Suffolk University Law School "Eat What You Kill" is gripping and well written.... It weaves in academic commentary and understanding of professional ethics issues in a way that makes it accessible to everyone." - Frank Partnoy, University of San Diego Law School "About the Author Milton C. Regan, Jr., is Professor of Law at the Georgetown University Law Center.