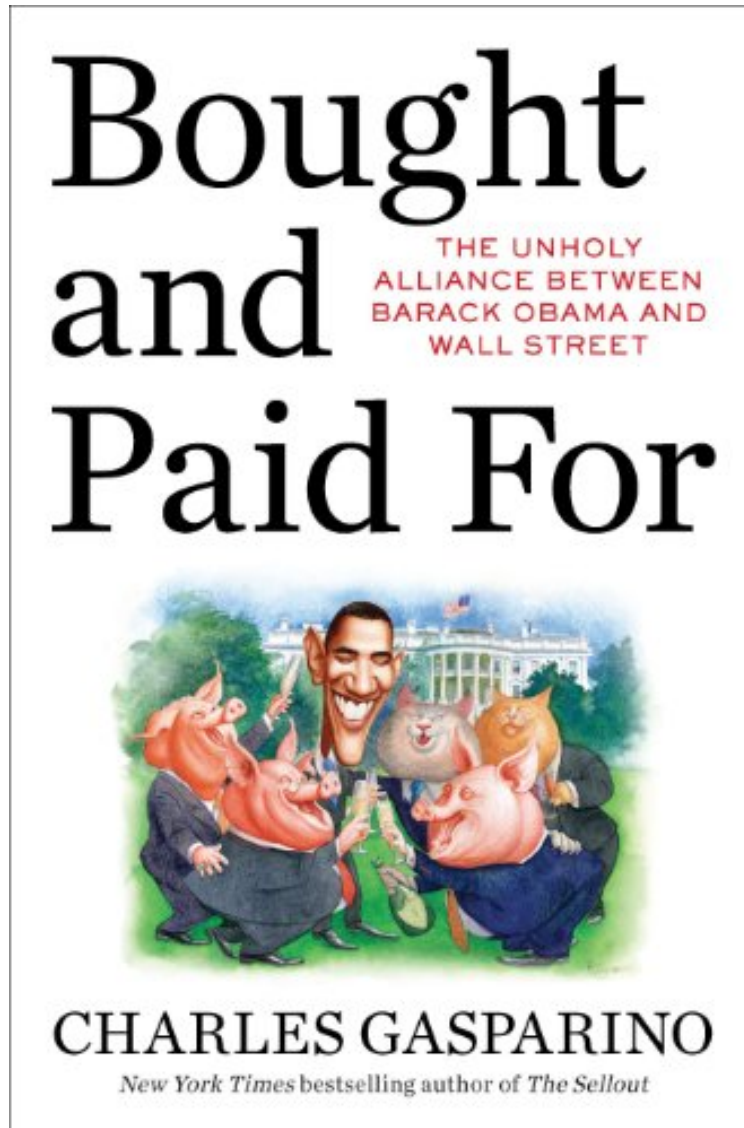


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Bought and Paid For: The Hidden Relationship Between Wall Street and Washington

Charles Gasparino

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Charles Gasparino : Bought and Paid For: The Hidden Relationship Between Wall Street and Washington before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bought and Paid For: The Hidden Relationship Between Wall Street and Washington:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Personal Look at Wall Street's Influence on WashingtonBy Daniel HurleyGasparino of the Wall street Journal writes a very personal look at Wall Street's financial institutions influence on Washington. In this case, the primary focus is on Obama but the influence is felt at the SEC, Treasury, FED,

congress and other notable positions in government. This is a very personal look at the influence of the major companies particularly The CEO's influence and financial transaction that contributed to the meltdown; Larry Fink of Black Rock, Jimmy Cayne of Bears Stearns, Lloyd Blakenfein of Goldman Sachs, Jamie Damon of JP Morgan Chase, Richard Fudd of Lehman Brothers, Stanley O'Neil of Merrill Lynch, Robert Rubin of Citigroup, and Vikam Pandit of Citigroup. On the government side, many key officials were former wall Streeters or had close ties to the street such as Hank Paulson from Goldman Sachs, Rahm Emanuel worked at Goldman Sachs, Larry Summers who was associated with Robert Rubin, and Tim Geithner former NY Federal Reserve Bank chairman. The financial influence is very evident in campaign contributions that Gasparino documents away from the republicans to the democrats in 2008 and shifts from Hillary Clinton to Obama who is considered a friend of Wall Street with little financial experience. Although campaigning for change, he embraces former Clinton Treasurer Robert Rubin until he is connected to the crash and is fired by Citigroup, Larry Summers who as Treasurer signed away Glass Steagall and Timothy Geithner. As Gasparino notes, Wall Street feared McCain, who in their eyes was too independent of their influence. The weight of their influence is best exemplified by Harry Reid berated by Goldman President Gary Cohn at a fund raiser for criticizing wall street. Reid's campaign chest has heavy contributions from the Street and Gasparino infers that Reid took it since he still sought their continued support. Lots of books discuss the financial crisis but in this book the author shows the personal influence of the men that rode the economy down on our government leadership. Gasparino has a mild swipe at Matt Taibbi of Rolling Stone by saying he has it almost right yet mysteriously leaves him out of the index. The book has a nice appendix with mini bios on the main characters and an appendix 2 that contains a financial glossary. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent job in pulling aside the curtain to expose the ...By ConstantineExcellent job in pulling aside the curtain to expose the kabuki theater that is relationship between political figures and Wall St.. While banging the drums decrying income inequality and declaring their loyalty to Main St., politicians of both parties rub shoulders and party with the K Street big shots, all while working to enhance their power and wealth at the cost of the taxpayer. For those wondering why several Wall ST. CEO's did not go to jail after the 2008 crash, Gasparino explains why that would probably necessitate opening an equal number of cells for members of Congress who were complicit in the disaster. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Hate to love itBy James A. ClarkThis book like so many others highlight the atmosphere during the Obama years. Distrust, development of class warfare, pitting one group over another as well as outright lies. Obama loves to talk. He obviously knows how to sell falling on the sword for the new moral leader. I don't understand people ignoring the path he is leading us down. He double talks and mis-speaks more than any Chief Executive I have ever seen. This book shows the way he works in a very clear fashion. Always underhanded. Can't wait for 2012.

A top reporter exposes the deep ties between the Obama administration and the big banks that are bankrupting our country. As the recession continues, President Obama has chastised the "fat cats" who feast off government bailout money while unemployment remains high and smaller businesses struggle. But according to Gasparino, Obama is faking his outrage, and his calls for new policies to rein in banks that are "too big to fail" are just pabulum. In reality, Obama has climbed into bed with Wall Street CEOs, giving them what they want so they will support his liberal, big-government agenda. As a result, the big banks responsible for the credit crisis get rescued, while small businesses and ordinary Americans get crushed by higher taxes and irresponsible spending. Gasparino draws on interviews with dozens of key CEOs and political players to trace the roots of Wall Street's twisted love affair with one of the most liberal presidents in American history. He shows how, for decades, big banks and big business have colluded with big government, thereby laying the groundwork for today's shady dealings, and how the same bankers Obama now publically reprimands have supported him-not because he promises change, but because he promises business. Written in Gasparino's characteristic smart yet no-nonsense style, this book is both an exposeacute; and a wake-up call to all Americans to strike back against the people and policies who are ruining our country.

About the AuthorCharles Gasparino is an award-winning investigative reporter and bestselling author who has covered financial news for major media such as Newsweek, the Wall Street Journal, and CNBC.Lloyd James has been narrating since 1996, has recorded over six hundred books in almost every genre, has earned six AudioFile Earphones Awards, and is a two-time nominee for the prestigious Audie Award.