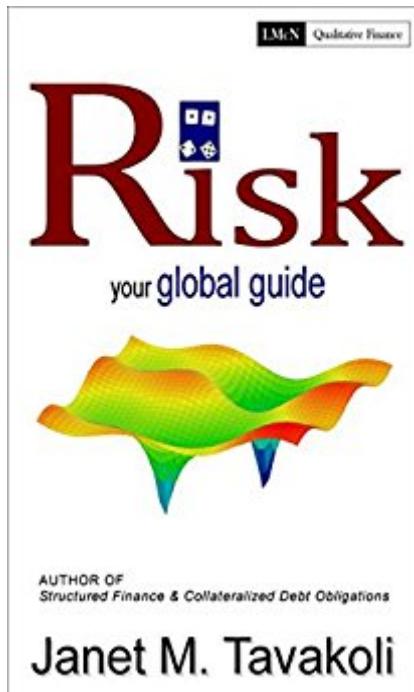


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Risk (Qualitative Finance Book 1)



Synopsis

RISK is the first book in finance expert Janet Tavakoli's Qualitative Finance series. Her reader-friendly commentaries on complex financial topics break new ground in global finance. Tavakoli's Unique Insights on Risk and Reward • Higher math produces the wrong answer to nine decimal places, and computers spit out the wrong answer faster. Technology churns out numbers that are astonishingly precise even when they are terrifyingly inaccurate. • Learn how to identify risk and opportunities. Identify a bank's biggest risks • Manage the risk of short positions • A new big short and how to find the next big short • The huge hole in the Efficient Market Hypothesis • The most important analysis to reduce portfolio risk • Red flags for fraud • The paramount concept omitted from texts on risk • The major myth in Modern Portfolio Theory • A "fixed income" • analysis that is as important for stocks as it is for bonds • The leverage paradox • How to fix the global banking system

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Customer Reviews

The title is perhaps too broad. A more accurate (and horribly awkward) title might be, "(1) Where we are now inside the USA financial system in terms of structural problems in USA finance and its

regulation, feeding back with agency and information asymmetry problems, posing risks for you as an investor, mainly in reference to fixed income investments and credit risks, and posing broader risks to us all, and (2) How post 2008 regulators and regulations haven't fixed a bunch of bad sausage-making by said financial entities." The title's "your" then mainly refers to an investor of any size (especially given the new reach and granularity of investment products to snare the little guy), but can be stretched to anyone curious about this stuff. The masses' being incurious was a big driver of 2008's fiasco, and continues to be a driver of the problems mapped out here. She hits her points breezily. Again the broad title "risk" might overreach or over-promise. This is not a treatise or comprehensive work. It does not pretend to show broad and diverse points of view. It is a critique of recent activities and foibles of certain actors, big and pervasive as they are: bankers (shadow bankers too) and regulators. I appreciate the brevity. I raised an eyebrow at being sold what is a near booklet at full-book new-release price. However, my biggest peeve as a very bookish guy is slogging through filler. The modern recipe seems, one decently interesting concept plus tons of filler and repetition of said concept with lots of semi-useless anecdotes slathered on, equals one over-hyped contemporary book. Time is often better spent just seeing the title concept, reading the publisher's blurb, reflecting on the idea, and moving on.

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