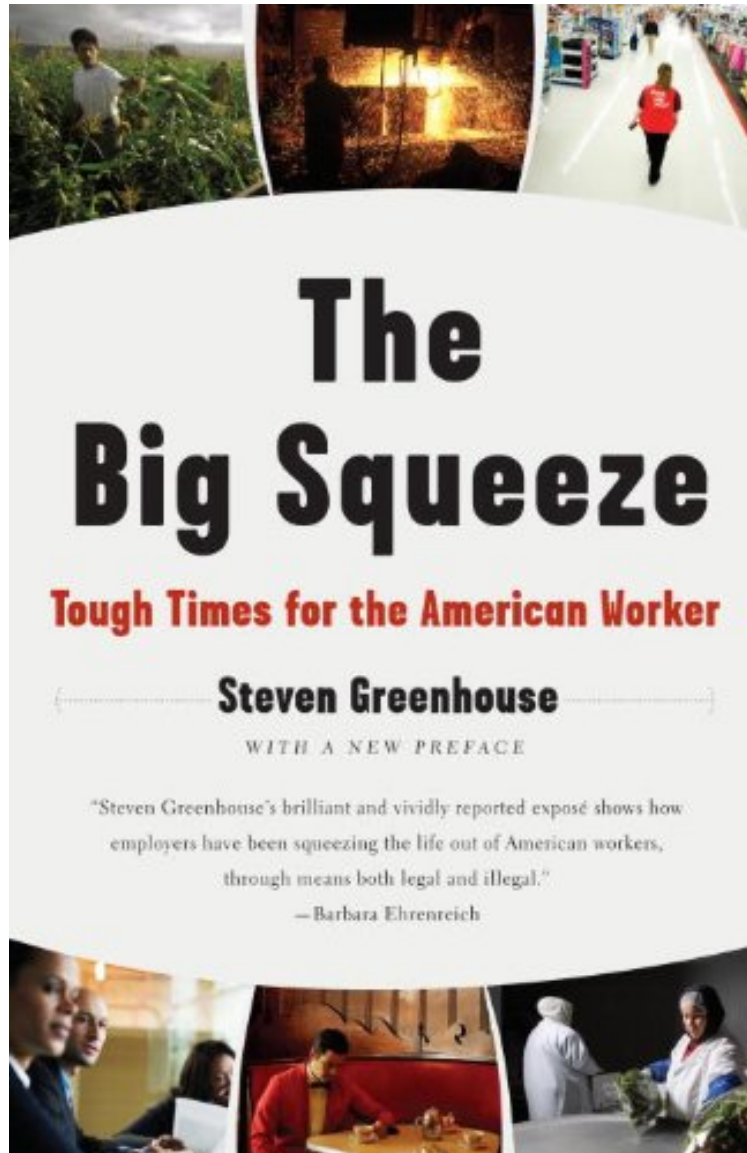


The Big Squeeze

Steven Greenhouse

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Steven Greenhouse : The Big Squeeze before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Big Squeeze:

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. A Great Reminder Of What America Was and Is All About By Capt. Riceman I enjoyed reading this book so much. People might think this book would be all about statistics and chastising the American way of life. Well, you can take rest it is not that type of book. This book is very personal and emotional that tells a very human tale about the American way of living in our lifetime. The author, Steven Greenhouse, gives justice to the ordinary and average American workers who are being mistreated and exploited here

in the U.S. The book contains several stories about the personal struggles of individuals who were all just searching for a better treatment at work. What I gained reading from this book is that this is The United States of America the nation that ended child labor, gave women the right to vote, equality to all, and a bright future for everyone. So, why can't we maintain all of those and strive to better our work environment/salary/life? It is very apparent that our wages are not raising along with the expenses we incur in our livelihood. It is time for the corporation to raise wages and stop messing with our healthcare plans because these are the very things that made the USA the greatest and wealthiest nation around the world from the 1950s onward to the 1990s. Well, I encourage people especially in Business Ethics courses in college to read this book. Also, I'm looking at you UCF Cornerstone course if you want your students to learn more about how to manage workers in business then this is one of those books students should read about in their classes. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book for voicing the opinion of the working class By Lucas Great book for voicing the opinion of the working class. However, the book didn't do well to rationally explain the opposing viewpoint, simply demonizing them at every opportunity. The book opened my eyes to some things I really had no idea about, so I'm grateful for that. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic book about what happened to decent jobs By S. Busalacchi What a wonderful book, filled with real stories of hard workers who can't quite make it in modern America. The book clearly shows how the balance of power between management and labor has led to a low-paying jobs and tremendous injustices at the workplace. This is a must-read book for anybody who wants to understand why hard-working, educated people can't find decent jobs. Imagine what it's like for less educated people! Greenhouse gets into that, too.

Why, in the world's most affluent nation, are so many corporations squeezing their employees dry? In this fresh, carefully researched book, New York Times reporter Steven Greenhouse explores the economic, political, and social trends that are transforming America's workplaces, including the decline of the social contract that created the world's largest middle class and guaranteed job security and good pensions. We meet all kinds of workers—white-collar and blue-collar, high-tech and low-tech, middle-class and low-income—as we see shocking examples of injustice, including employees who are locked in during a hurricane or fired after suffering debilitating, on-the-job injuries. With pragmatic recommendations on what government, business and labor should do to alleviate the economic crunch, *The Big Squeeze* is a balanced, consistently revealing look at a major American crisis.

From Booklist Greenhouse, labor correspondent for the New York Times, offers up a bleak picture of the current workplace environment. Violations of child labor laws and forced slave labor conditions associated with Third World countries or the robber baron era are occurring on a wide scale right here in America, expanding the ranks of the working poor. This isn't just some hidden sweat shops; it's happening in our largest corporations, such as Wal-Mart. Factory workers are forced to ramp up production to a pace rivaling that of Charlie Chaplin in *Modern Times*; others are fired for menial "violations," such as going to the bathroom during their shifts; and anyone daring to organize a labor movement is brutally harassed and humiliated. Meanwhile multimillion-dollar CEOs such as Al "Chainsaw" Dunlap and Jack "Neutron" Welch have become the models for corporate success by laying off hundreds of thousands while Wall Street cheered. Greenhouse did find businesses that treat workers fairly, such as Costco and Timberland, which pay higher wages but are rewarded with worker loyalty and higher productivity. He also offers up ways to solve the current crises in wage stagnation, health care and retirement shortfalls. This is a real call to arms—a stark, jaw-dropping expose; with the usual, but inspiring, glimmers of hope. --David Siegfried "Steve Greenhouse has written the essential economic book for 2008. Long before most analysts noticed the downturn, Greenhouse was reporting how troubled our economy looked from the bottom-up. A hugely talented reporter with a passion for justice, a shrewd student of the new economy and a brilliant guide to the contemporary labor movement, Greenhouse writes with clarity, energy and grace." —E. J. Dionne Jr. "Steven Greenhouse's brilliant and vividly reported expose; shows how employers have been squeezing the life out of American workers, through means both legal and illegal. My blood boiled when I read *The Big Squeeze*. Any presidential candidate—or voter—who overlooks this book will be clueless about what's really going on in America." —Barbara Ehrenreich "In this shocking and important book, Steven Greenhouse explains—and tells the stories—of how U.S. workers are paying the price for the lower labor standards and wages that are the result of poorly-managed globalization." —Joseph E. Stiglitz "Excellent and relentless . . . Greenhouse's book gives a convincing portrait of a business culture that has been more and more aggressive toward workers." —Jeff Madrick, *New York Times* "An excellent book . . . Greenhouse exhibits outrage and moral indignation and an idealism one doesn't necessarily expect from a hard-bitten New York Times reporter." —*The Washington Monthly* "Important and infuriating." —*Chicago Tribune* "Riveting . . . a sobering examination of a growing American crisis, and . . . nothing short of brilliant." —*Tucson Citizen* "New York Times labor correspondent Greenhouse drops a bombshell on local bookstores . . . Greenhouse's clear and level prose is investigative journalism at its finest." —*Rocky Mountai*... About the Author Steven Greenhouse has been the labor and workplace

correspondent for The New York Times since 1995. He has covered business, economics, and foreign affairs for the Times and has been a correspondent based in Paris, Chicago, and Washington, D.C. He lives in Pelham, New York.