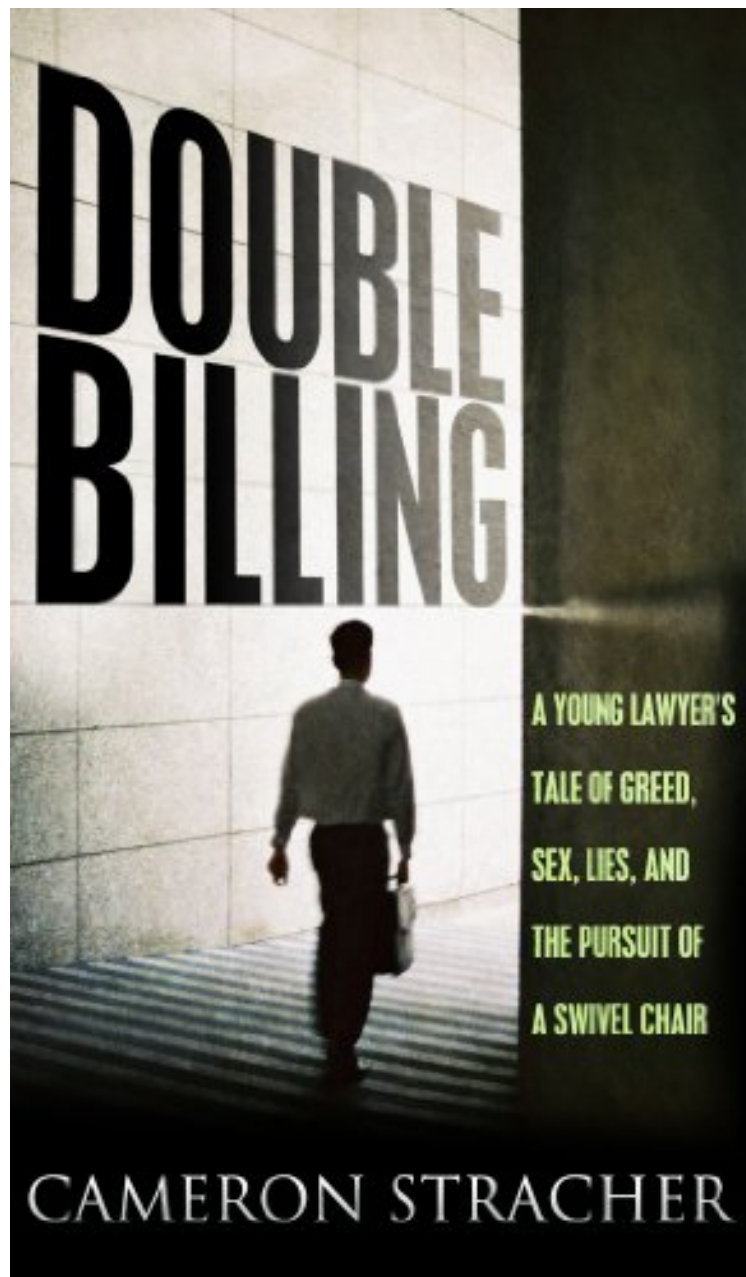


[Ebook pdf] Double Billing: A Young Lawyer's Tale of Greed, Sex, Lies, and the Pursuit of a Swivel Chair (English Edition)

Double Billing: A Young Lawyer's Tale of Greed, Sex, Lies, and the Pursuit of a Swivel Chair (English Edition)

Von Cameron Stracher

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Produktinformation -Verkaufsrank: #671788 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 2012-08-06Erscheinungsdatum: 2012-08-06File Name: B008UCNNAE | File size: 71.Mb

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Double Billing: A Young Lawyer's Tale of Greed, Sex, Lies, and the Pursuit of a Swivel Chair* (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A must-read for every law studentVon Travis WiseAlthough this book does not live up to the teaser on the back cover, it is nonetheless a great book. It should be required reading for any 1L's or 2L's going through the OCI process at law school, or otherwise considering working at BIGLAW. Stracher takes readers through his bar experience, which I found reassuringly similar to my own, and his several-year tenure at a BIGLAW firm. I found the most interesting part of this book to be his descriptions of the work he did on various cases. He shows that work in the firms isn't all glamorous, and what a stark contrast first-year associate work is from summer associate work. It's a quick read - you can do it in one or two days - and again, a must read for law students.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Wanted - Harvard Lawyers - \$18/hourVon Ein KundeI loved this book. It's a fairly accurate description of the disappointing life which many young lawyers face. After many years of rigorous studying in college and law school, it is disappointing when young lawyers realize that their job functions are similar to that of a low-level document clerk. Furthermore, although the starting salaries of young lawyers may seem like a lot, it actually is not. Remember that lawyers at big firms work anywhere from 85-100 hours per week. When you calculate this out, you are basically making minimum wage. Okay, I am exaggerating. The value approximates around \$18/hour. Still, a not too "sexy" wage, especially considering one had to go through 3 years of professional school for it. Thus, the big salaries are not due to any increased productivity gained by receiving a law school education, it's just due to the fact that you work really crazy hours. But what about bonus income you ask? Wake up and smell the coffee, we're not talking about MBA's working as bankers, we're talking about JD's working as lawyers. The situation for lawyers is even more pathetic because this \$18/hour is what is reserved for those top graduates from the elite schools. As for the rest, good luck just finding a job. I've run across a good number of unemployed law school graduates who rationalize about why they still feel that their law school investment was not a total waste. I cannot feel but a certain pity for these people. Here's a thought: Instead of suffering through law school, and going into tremendous debt, why not just get 2 jobs instead of becoming a lawyer? Or better yet, just work as a paralegal, and you'll get paid about the same as a lawyer when you include overtime. For anyone considering law school, first read this book, or do some other research before diving into the "glamorous" world of law.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A(nother) cautionary tale for aspiring lawyers.Von Ein KundePerry Mason, LA Law, Ally McBeal, The Practice. Even putting aside the requisite Hollywood embellishments (carefree sex with glamorous coworkers and clients, witnesses who return your phone calls and show up when they're supposed to, etc.), practicing law looks like it ought to be fun -- or at least interesting. Then why are so many lawyers so miserable in their jobs?In this humorous and insightful memoir, Cameron Stracher provides some clues. For example, nothing can prepare a young lawyer for the first time a partner hands over an incomprehensible list of poorly drafted "Requests for Production" and turns you loose in a warehouse to locate and copy all "responsive" documents. Mr. Stracher describes this experience -- familiar to virtually any young litigator -- with the perfect mixture of humor and despair.Indeed, it is perhaps the greatest (and most disturbing) virtue of Mr. Stracher's book that he has chosen to focus not upon his own unique experiences, but upon those experiences that are a typical, universal, and -- aspiring lawyers take note -- nearly unavoidable part of big firm practice. Thus, for any lawyers-to-be who think they might actually be questioning witnesses, arguing motions, and generally frolicking in the vineyards of the law, this book is a wake up call: If you go to a big corporate law firm you won't. Why not? As Cameron Stracher deftly illustrates, at most large firms, the practice of law is primarily about making money. And since massive commercial cases (very few of which ever go to trial) are far more profitable than smaller personal injury, malpractice, or simple breach of contract cases (which provide far more opportunity for "hands on" experience), most associates at the big corporate law firms will never -- never -- see the inside of a courtroom during their tenure. Instead they'll find themselves churning out irrelevant research memos, exhaustive privilege logs, and tendentious legal briefs -- until they can't take the stress, the hours, or the ultimate meaninglessness of the work anymore and they finally bail out.So if you're thinking of going to law school -- or if you're a law student who has been listening to the siren song of those seductive, high-paying, big city firms -- read this book. It may not change your mind, but you'll have a much better idea of what you might be in for.

KurzbeschreibungDouble Billing is a clever and sobering expose of the legal profession from the perspective of the lowest lawyer on the totem pole. Harvard Law School may have taught Cameron Stracher to think as a lawyer, but it was his experience as an associate that taught him to behave -- or misbehave -- as one. As timely now as it was when it was first published in 1998, this special E-book edition contains a new preface written by the author..deIn Double Billing, author Cameron Stracher puts the legal profession on trial and finds it guilty of waste, fraud, and other offenses. Stracher has based his inside account on three punishing years as a young associate at a New York City law

firm, given the fictional name Crowley and Cavanaugh. With everyone facing nearly impossible odds to become partner, there are no lawyers in love at Stracher's firm--only lawyers at war. The lifeblood at C C is "the billable hour." Even a first-year associate costs clients \$150 an hour. What's more, there's little desire to save money. "The longer C C fought on behalf of a client, the more C C was paid," he soon learns. There is no literal double billing, but it comes close. Clients sometimes pay twice for virtually the same service--once by the associate and then again by the partners. Every associate's memo is revised by a partner, for example. Two corporate combatants often pay their respective attorneys outrageous fees to research and argue the same, narrow points of law. The outcome is rarely in doubt. Stracher's young lawyers are ambivalent and cynical--there are no illusions in the courtrooms of Generation X. "Today, law students have nothing but doubts: about the nobility of their chosen profession, about their interest in it and about its interest in them," he writes. Say goodbye to the idealism of John Osborn's *The Paper Chase*. So much for the committed bunch in Scott Turow's *One L*. *Double Billing* is a great read if you're thinking of becoming a lawyer or if you work with lawyers. It will no doubt change the way you think about our system of justice. --Dan Ring

Pressestimmen"This is a wise, elegant, and quite wonderful book...'*Bartleby the Scrivener*' is still read in law schools all over the country. "*Double Billing* should be too."--John Jay Osborn, "San Francisco Chronicle; author of "*The Paper Chase*"Stracher is a wonderful writer with a terrific eye and a voice of absolute grace. I can't remember when I enjoyed a book as much as this one."--Lisa Scottoline, author of "*Mistaken Identity*" "*Double Billing* may do for associates what Scott Turow's "*One L* did for elite law schools. Surely it will become necessary reading of the law students and young lawyers entering that world...The book is something else, too. It's a good read."--"The American Lawyer"Stracher's characterizations are vivid and humane, his criticisms are convincing and his observations of workaday lawyering are as sharp as the corners of a legal brief."--"Publishers Weekly" "If you prefer your lawyering without criminally short skirts and workdays that culminate in impromptu bathroom-stall dance numbers, try this scathingly funny and grim portrait of the legal profession..." "*Double Billing* should be required reading for the aspiring rich and shameless."--"Entertainment Weekly"