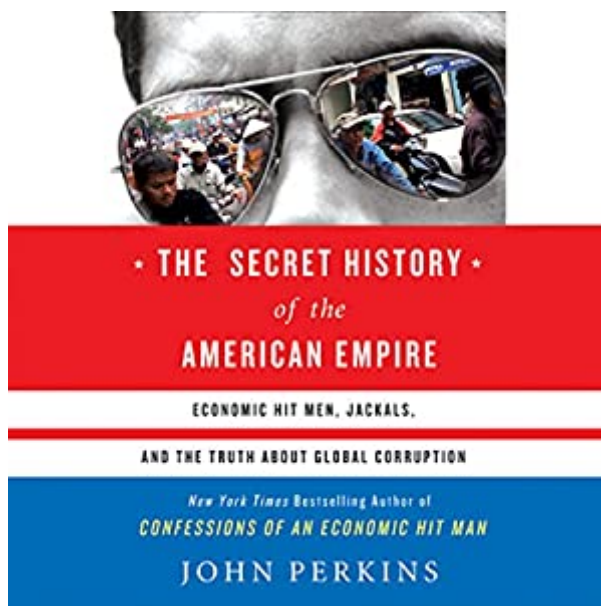


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# The Secret History Of The American Empire



## Synopsis

In his stunning memoir, *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*, John Perkins detailed his former role as an "economic hit man" in the international corporate skulduggery of a de facto American Empire. Now Perkins zeroes in on hot spots around the world, drawing on interviews to examine the current geopolitical crisis, and providing a compassionate plan to reimagine our world. --This text refers to the Preloaded Digital Audio Player edition.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 11 hours 3 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Penguin Audio

Audible.com Release Date: May 23, 2007

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B000RGULII

Best Sellers Rank: #62 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Politics & Current Events >

International Relations #117 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Politics & Current Events >

Political History & Theory #282 in Books > Business & Money > International > Economics

## Customer Reviews

READ IT AND YOU WILL DISCOVER FOR YOURSELF WHY AMERICA NOW HAS GONE FROM THE MOST LOVED NATION IN THE WORLD AFTER WORLD WAR TWO, SINKING DOWN TO THE MOST DESPISED WITH HYPOCRITICAL AID THAT ENRICHES FAVORED U.S. CORPORATIONS AND THAT IMPOVERISHES THE POOR OF OTHER NATIONS BY SADDLING THEM WITH EXCESSIVE DEBT BURDENS WITH SKIM FROM INFLATED CONTRACTS USED TO ENRICH THE POWERFUL IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES - THE PANAMA PAPERS IS LIKELY AN OUTCROPPING OF SOME OF THESE PRACTICES

This is a very scary book, it tells how big business is gaining political influence and access to oil and other natural resources around the world. You should read Perkins other book, *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*, as well to make you more aware of what trade agreements are all about. Hint, you can use goo-gone to remove stickers from used books.

This is a real eye-opener. John Perkins lays out very well what goes on behind the scenes perpetrated by our government. I have also heard him speak a few times. He is a straight-up guy and his stories are supported by other readings such as books by Prouty and R. Baker.

I think this would be great required reading for all our high schoolers across America. I really like that Perkins provides solutions for the profoundly disturbing information he shares.

This book provides vital information about aspects of our country's activities that most of us don't typically know about - great exposure to how things have worked behind the scenes. It's written in easy to read story form and makes for compelling reading.

A revealing second book to John's first, Confessions of an Economical Hitman. Both really tell it like it is/was and for me have been the eye opener to government and international activities that I had been totally unaware of. These books have triggered a desire to fact find and learn to think for myself!

The great value of this book by John Perkins as well as of his Confessions of an Economic Hit Man, is that, through a series of concrete and dramatic anecdotes, he gives us a feel for how our corporations (quite aptly called the "corporatocracy"), aided by "economic hit men" (IMF, World Bank, etc.), "jackals" (CIA), and the military, work to plunder the third world and working people in the first world to our material, cultural, and moral detriment. The part of this book I must question is the last section in which Perkins deals with what we can do to make things better. He evidently believes that capitalism is reformable without losing its character as capitalism. It is true that under capitalism some good reforms do take place, perhaps attenuated or watered down over time, and generally restricted in scope, and it is equally true that in spite of the usual insufficiency of many of these reforms, earnest pursuit of reform by our citizens is generally worthwhile, in fact essential if we are not to lapse into an unhappy impoverished brain-dead police state, for in the course of participating in a reform movement we gain much of the experience, knowledge, and skill we need to work collectively for the genuinely radical political, economic, cultural, moral, and spiritual change we must bring about if we are to save ourselves and the planet we live and have our being on.. Many of the reform movements now under way are often subverted or derailed by agents of the corporatocracy in all three branches of our government as well as in our principal media, in our

churches and fraternal organizations, and in our educational systems. Agents of the corporatocracy spend many millions in a form of lobbying that amounts to bribing, more millions in propaganda, propaganda usually quite effective, stoking and playing on fear or anger, increasing the ability of the corporatocracy to manipulate public opinion. The corporatocracy and their agents are good at giving the impression of supporting a reform with only some "minor" modifications, going so far at times as to advocate "red herring" reforms to distract us from what is really needed, and to make sure that whatever executive agencies are involved in instituting or managing a good reform shall be understaffed, incompetent, untransparent, and/or underfunded. While competition among individual capitalists for markets often leads to efficiency and publicly beneficial outcomes, the long-term result of unfettered competition is the formation of monopolies and combinations of monopolies that lead to the ruthless and destructive exploitation of people, resources, and environments. On an international level, acting as more or less national blocs through their governments, these combinations form the economic bases of their respective governments. A ruthless competition among these governments, now imperial powers, develops in competition for markets, for cheap labor, and for cheap raw materials that leads inevitably to fascism and world war, a massive destruction of capital values, and a repeat of the same dreary boom-and-bust cycle-- or, if the masses are properly won over and organized, leads to revolution. Both scenarios are frightful, but one, if acted out in history, promises a better future for humanity and the earth. Still, one may ask: Is there another choice? The immediate future, if the two scenarios I describe are the only realistic options, is not pretty. One must think through these matters. Perkins' books should definitely be included among your study materials.

It is your obligation to be an informed member of society. This book is your ticket to understanding the geopolitical theater.

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