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## Dear Chairman Boardroom Battles And The Rise Of Shareholder Activism

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Jeff Gramm analyzes different eras and pivotal boardroom battles from the last century to understand the factors that have caused shareholders and management to collide. Throughout, he uses the letters to show how investors interact with directors and managers, how they think about their target companies, and how they plan to profit.

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Dear Chairman: Boardroom Battles and the Rise of ...  
Dear Chairman: Boardroom Battles and the Rise of Shareholder Activism, by Jeff Gramm<sup>1</sup> TANNER STANLEY<sup>2</sup> DEAR CHAIRMAN: Boardroom Battles and the Rise of Shareholder Activism is an intriguing look at decades of shareholder disputes, proxy battles, and boardroom battles that have shaped US corporate law. Jeff Gramm, an adjunct professor at

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Dear Chairman - Jeff Gramm - Hardcover

In an engaging and informative book, “ Dear Chairman: Boardroom Battles and the Rise of Shareholder Activism ” (HarperBusiness), Jeff Gramm argues that this letter marked an important turning ...

Jeff Gramm ’ s “ Dear Chairman: Boardroom Battles and the ... Dear Chairman: Boardroom Battles and the Rise of Shareholder Activism HarperBusiness (February 23, 2016) Today, no public corporation is too big to be attacked by shareholder activists. Every CEO and corporate director is a potential target unless they have secured voting control of the company.

about — Dear Chairman

Buy Dear Chairman: Boardroom Battles and the Rise of Shareholder Activism by Jefferson Gramm, Jeff Gramm (ISBN: 9780062369833) from Amazon's Book Store. Everyday low prices and free delivery on eligible orders.

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Dear Chairman is an engaging and worthwhile read. ---Alan Greenspan, Former Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System" Public companies face the high standards of the marketplace: fill a need, grow, and remember always that you are the trustee of your stockholders money. Dear Chairman is a fascinating and colorful history.

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Dear Chairman: Boardroom Battles and the Rise of ...

But takeover investors have been around as long as the market. Indeed, as Jeff Gramm shows in his lively, well-researched book Dear Chairman: Boardroom Battles and the Rise of Shareholder Activism (HarperCollins, 2016), investors have been clawing their way onto company boards and into the decision-making process for nearly a century.

Boardroom Brawlers - strategy+business

Mike Tobia, founder and chairman of Mt. Calvary Community Supper, died on Nov. 12 following a long battle with pancreatic

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A sharp and illuminating history of one of capitalism's longest running tensions—the conflicts of interest among public company directors, managers, and shareholders—told through entertaining case studies and original letters from some of our most legendary and controversial investors and activists. Recent disputes between shareholders and major corporations, including Apple and DuPont, have made headlines. But the struggle between management and those who own stock has been going on for nearly a century. Mixing never-before-published and rare, original letters from Wall Street icons—including Benjamin Graham, Warren Buffett, Ross Perot, Carl Icahn, and Daniel Loeb—with masterful scholarship and professional insight, *Dear Chairman* traces the rise in shareholder activism from the 1920s to today, and provides an invaluable and unprecedented perspective on what it means to be a public company, including how they work and who is really in control. Jeff Gramm analyzes different eras and pivotal boardroom battles from the last century to understand the factors that have caused shareholders and management to collide. Throughout, he uses the letters to show how investors interact with directors and managers, how they think about their target companies, and how they plan to profit. Each is a fascinating example of capitalism at work told through the voices of its most colorful, influential participants. A hedge fund manager and an adjunct professor at Columbia Business School, Gramm has spent as much time evaluating CEOs and directors as he has trying to understand and value businesses. He has seen public companies that are poorly run, and some that willfully disenfranchise their shareholders. While he pays tribute to the ingenuity of public company investors, Gramm also exposes examples of shareholder activism at its very worst, when hedge funds engineer stealthy land-grabs at the expense of a company's

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long term prospects. Ultimately, he provides a thorough, much-needed understanding of the public company/shareholder relationship for investors, managers, and everyone concerned with the future of capitalism.

Activist investors have sent shockwaves through corporations in recent years, personally targeting directors and executives at some of the world's largest companies. No longer satisfied with operating on the fringes of business, they are now a firm fixture in the boardroom. Up to a quarter of public companies could be targeted by activist campaigns in the coming years, with directors and executives at those corporations threatened with losing their jobs. The trend, which began in corporate America, has spread to the UK, Europe and Asia, taking in several high profile companies. *Barbarians in the Boardroom* tells a compelling story of boardroom bust ups, dumped CEOs triumphant activists and pared back companies. It reveals real-life examples and interviews with executives and investors to explain why and how activist investors have managed to storm Wall Street and tear down City citadels. Owen Walker provides an insight into the way activists think, how they decide to target a company and how directors and executives could possibly work with them rather than against them.

The shareholder letters of corporate leaders are a rich source of business and investing wisdom. There is no more authoritative resource on subjects ranging from leadership and management to capital allocation and company culture. But with thousands of shareholder letters written every year, how can investors and students of the corporate world sift this vast swathe to unearth the best insights? *Dear Shareholder* is the solution! In this masterly new collection, Lawrence A. Cunningham, business expert and acclaimed editor of *The Essays of Warren Buffett*, presents the finest writers in the genre of the shareholder letter, and the most significant excerpts from their total output. Skillfully curated, edited

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and arranged, these letters showcase the ultimate in business and investment knowledge from an all-star team. Dear Shareholder holds letters by more than 20 different leaders from 16 companies. These leaders include Warren Buffett (Berkshire Hathaway), Tom Gayner (Markel), Kay Graham and Don Graham (The Washington Post and Graham Holdings), Roberto Goizueta (Coca-Cola), Ginni Rometty (IBM), and Prem Watsa (Fairfax). Topics covered in these letters include the long-term focus, corporate culture and commitment to values, capital allocation, buybacks, dividends, acquisitions, management, business strategy, and executive compensation. As we survey the corporate landscape in search of outstanding companies run by first-rate managers, shareholder letters are a valuable resource. The letters also contain a wealth of knowledge on the core topics of effective business management. Let Dear Shareholder be your guide.

This book offers a succinct, practical guide for understanding what some have referred to as shareholder democracy & efforts to facilitate and increase shareholder voting power within the corporation. In the past few years there has been a surge in shareholder activism that has had a profound impact on the corporation. Shareholders and other activists have sought to increase shareholders & voting power within the corporation based largely on the belief that increasing shareholder power will increase director and officer accountability, thereby helping to curb corporate misconduct and improve corporate performance. However, there is intense debate regarding whether increased shareholder power can achieve such objectives and whether increased shareholder power will negatively impact the corporation. This book is the first to provide a concise, but comprehensive look at the various ways in which shareholders have sought to enhance their voting power and influence within the corporation. In addition to examining shareholder activism, this book highlights and analyzes the debate regarding the propriety of increased

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shareholder power. This book also analyzes the impact of recent developments aimed at facilitating shareholder power such as majority voting, say on pay, and proxy access. This book will serve as a useful tool not only for those who desire a straight-forward analysis of shareholder rights and activism, but also for those seeking a reference guide on an issue of growing importance to corporate law and corporate governance.

Some of the worst corporate meltdowns over the past sixty years can be traced to passive directors who favored operational shortcuts over quality growth strategies. Thinking primarily about placating institutional investors, selective stockholders, proxy advisors, and corporate management, these inattentive and deferential board members have relied on short-term share price increases to sustain their companies long term. Driven by a desire for prosperity, not posterity, these actions can doom any company. In *The Activist Director*, attorney Ira M. Millstein looks back at fifty years of counseling companies, nonprofits, and governments to actively govern their corporations and constituencies. From the threat of bankruptcy and the ConEd blackout of 1970s New York City, to the meltdown of Drexel Burnham Lambert in the late 1980s, to the turnaround of General Motors in the mid-1990s, Millstein takes readers into the boardrooms of several of the greatest catastrophes and success stories of America's best-known corporations. His solution lies at the top: a new breed of activist directors who partner with management and reject short-term outlooks, plan a future based on growth and innovation, and take responsibility for corporate organization, strategy, and efficiency. What questions should we ask of potential board members and how do we know they'll be active? Millstein offers pragmatic suggestions for recruiting activist directors to the boardroom to secure the future of the corporation.

Before Steve Jobs, there was Norman Bel Geddes. Bel Geddes

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designed everything from the first all-weather stadium, to Manhattan's most exclusive nightclub, to Futurama, the prescient 1939 exhibit that showed how America would look in the near future. The book reveals precisely how central Bel Geddes was to the history of American innovation, design and culture.

A hedge fund manager argues that failure is a necessary and potentially profitable part of running a business, and recalls his experience helping businesses on the verge of failure become successful through strategic redirection.

From composer, musician, philanthropist--and son of Warren Buffett--comes a warm, wise, and inspirational book that expounds on the strong set of values given to him by his trusting and broadminded mother, his industrious and talented father, and the many life teachers he has met along the way.

"The pay gap between chief executive officers of major U.S. firms and their workers is higher than ever before--depending on the method of calculation, CEOs get paid between 300 and 700 times more than the average worker. Such outsized pay is a relatively recent phenomenon, but ... few detractors truly understand the numerous factors that have contributed to the dizzying upward spiral in CEO compensation. Steven Clifford, a former CEO who has also served on many corporate boards, has a name for these procedures and practices: 'The CEO Pay Machine.' [This book] is Clifford's ... explanation of the 'machine'--how it works, how its parts interact, and how every step pushes CEO pay to higher levels"--

The principles of value investing have resonated with savvy practitioners in the world of finance for a long time. In *Creating Strategic Value*, Joseph Calandro Jr. explores how the core ideas and methods of value investing can be profitably applied to

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corporate strategy and management. Calandro builds from an analysis of traditional value investing concepts to their strategic applications. He surveys value investing ' s past, present, and future, drawing on influential texts, from Graham and Dodd ' s time-tested works to more recent studies, to reveal potent managerial lessons. He explains the theoretical aspects of value investing-consistent approaches to corporate strategy and management and details how they can be successfully employed through practical case studies that demonstrate value realization in action. Calandro analyzes the applicability of key ideas such as the margin-of-safety principle to corporate strategy in a wide range of areas beyond stocks and bonds. He highlights the importance of an " information advantage " —knowing something that a firm ' s competitors either do not know or choose to ignore—and explains how corporate managers can apply this key value investing differentiator. Offering expert insight into the use of time-tested value investing principles in new fields, *Creating Strategic Value* is an important book for corporate strategy and management practitioners at all levels as well as for students and researchers.

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