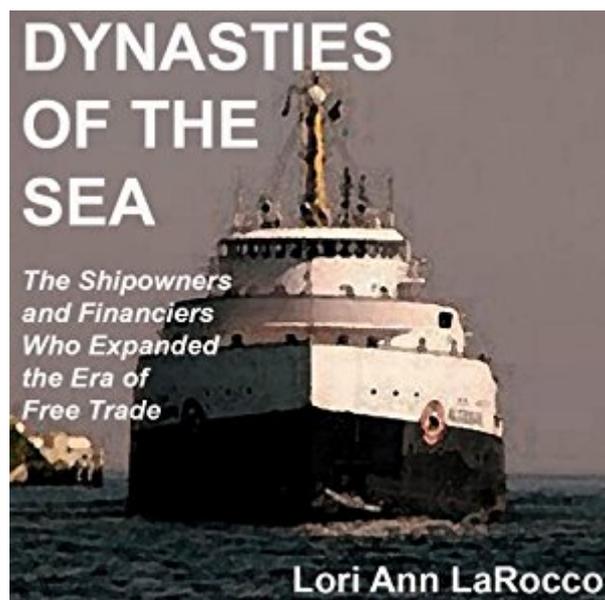


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# Dynasties Of The Sea: The Shipowners And Financiers Who Expanded The Era Of Free Trade



## Synopsis

*Dynasties of the Sea* is the first audiobook to examine one of the most powerful forces in global trade and economic development: world shipping and the magnates who drive the industry. Operating from Monaco to Hong Kong, London to Athens, Singapore to Oslo, shipowners and their financiers have changed the world in every way. From transporting agricultural products from Brazil to Africa and the Middle East, to delivering Australian iron ore to China, to carrying Middle East crude oil to Asia and the Americas, to carrying almost every article of clothing you are wearing and every electronic device in the world, ship-owners have enabled global economic development and helped raise the global standard of living. While ocean shipping remains one of the most important businesses in the world, it is also one of the most volatile. Affected by such imponderables as weather and political upheaval, ship-owning cultures have maintained their commitment to an industry that has endured for centuries - and will continue to endure for centuries to come.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is an interesting and fascinating account of the shipping business which moves 90% of all goods in the world today. If you have been on cruises or visited any large port you have seen and possibly wondered about the shipping business and its colossal ships. This book tells you not only how the business works across the globe but introduces the reader to many of the leading players in the industry. The book gives the reader a good general understanding of the business and if the reader also reads "Ninety Percent of Everything" he/she will get a great first hand account of being

aboard and part of a crew. Learn about one of the most crucial industries on the planet, one most people never think of. Read this book !

First off, the book blurb by Donald Trump, "Powerful!", come on... I bet he never even read the book. How is a book about shipping industry people supposed to be 'powerful' anyways? Second, this book was poorly edited. Even the dust cover is cheaply printed and misaligned. Now to the actual contents of the book: Definitely an interesting selection of shipping personalities. I had hoped the book focused on the history and background of these people, as well as their leadership philosophies. In most of the cases it's just superficial interviews with each person, talking about how they see the market and what they expect for the future. This means the book is not timeless, focusing on the current down-cycle. This book could have been much more. I still enjoyed it and some of the interviews are quite good reads.

Dynasties of the Sea is a fantastic read. As someone in the early stages of my career, I found the book to be full of great advice about what it takes to become a successful leader - not just in shipping, but in any business. The narrative contains an interesting blend of old world stories, such as the family lessons Intercargo's Nicholas Pappadakis takes to heart, and is relevant to the 21st century, with anecdotes like Peter Evensen's implementation of social media into Teekay's business practices. The book reads as if these shipping legends are personally sharing their stories with you. Great fun!

In spite of the fact that this was recommended by Donald Trump, I decided to read it anyway. In the spirit of Trump, this book on shipping dynasties has proven to be equally superficial. Many interesting people were interviewed by Ms. LaRocco, but instead of historical depth, we are presented with a few pages of reminiscences about the old times, especially those times when a handshake was as good as a contract. Each of these shipping magnates takes the opportunity to bash politics and regulations at every turn. My biggest issue with the book is that fact that on almost every page of the Kindle edition, spaces were left out between words and sentences. Spell check, anyone? The book is entertaining, but don't expect much insight into how these people became successful, anymore than you would learn how to be a real estate developer by reading one of Trump's books.

While there's a lot of useful information and history here - and I honestly don't know of another

source of a lot of this information - the style leaves a bit to be desired. It has almost a fluff journalism feel to it, at times superficial, and feels like a series of strung-together articles without much coherence aside from the topic. Content is certainly useful, though, and maybe the style fits the otherwise stodgy subject matter.

This is an excellent overview of many of the characters in the current world of shipping. I found that it was directed to the personalities that were successful and I found it fascinating. The author is clearly expert on the subject. I have met John Fredriksen and Tor Olav Troim and thought that, for those who had not met them, this book was a good introduction. For an investor, it is good to know the people that you have invested with. So, if you are investing in Seadrill, Frontline 2012, North Atlantic Drilling, Golar, Golar Partners, Seadrill Partners, Ship Finance or any of the other companies related to these two gentlemen, well, this book is a fun read. And useful. Enjoy.

A collection of essays chronicling the evolution of various power-players of the industry. For someone who's not in the field, it was both an interesting and a challenging read. Interesting because it provides a good overview of how the industry operates (at the finance / business level), and challenging because the book doesn't provide much in terms of a framework or a coherent narrative -- the reader is left on their own to identify trends, pattern match between them, and so on.

In the past few decades Marine Money has become the premier organization for joining the world of shipping and high finance. Marine Money's experience, knowledge and network of financial titans makes it a battleship of authority within the shipping industry and the book reads as if the entire battery of 20 inch guns have been aimed at the most influential names in shipping with an order to tell the truth OR ELSE! Of course, firepower is not MarineMoney's method for getting the likes of John Fredriksen to talk candidly. They answered LaRocco's difficult questions with honesty for another reason... in return for a debt of gratitude for her years of hard honesty as a CNBC journalist and for the stellar track record of her publisher, Marine Money. I believe I share the enthusiasm of an entire industry in saying I'm thrilled Marine Money is now publishing books. I'm even more thrilled that its first two titles, *The Shipping Man* and *Dynasties Of The Sea*, maintain the high standards and readability of the magazine. Both are destined to become shipping classics. These reasons alone should be enough to compel you to purchase the book but, if you still need to be convinced, please note that both books are also fun, page-turning, reads. -John Konrad, Author of *Fire on the Horizon: The Untold Story of the Gulf Oil Disaster*

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