



Metal Men: How Marc Rich Defrauded the Country, Evaded the Law, and Became the World's Most Sought-After Corporate Criminal

By A. Craig Copetas

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Marc Rich -- the most wanted white-collar criminal in America -- was one of the most successful metal traders in the world. Before there was Michael Milken or Ivan Boesky, Rich rose through the ranks to amass a multibillion dollar fortune in the halcyon days of high-flying commodities trading. But he did it by cutting corners and pulling the wool over the eyes of his competitors. Eventually his companies pleaded guilty to 38 counts of tax evasion, paying \$90 million in fines. Rich fled to Switzerland, where he faced a potential jail term of over 300 years if he ever returned to the United States. This is a story of greed, corruption, and money gone wild, in truly astronomical proportions. Posing as a commodities trader, A. Craig Copetas goes behind the scenes to give us a riveting, true-to-life portrait of Rich's corrupt world and his incredible escape from the law.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Marc Rich is one of the most successful traders of metals and other minerals. He is also now living in Switzerland, wanted in the United States for tax evasion. While Copetas's book is ostensibly about Rich and his questionable dealings, it also gives a fairly interesting account of the metals trading industry itself: individualistic, barely regulated, tense, fast-paced, potentially lucrative, and often shady. The character and atmosphere of Phillip Brothers, the trading house where Rich got his start, and of Rich's own firm are nicely contrasted and delineated. Neither Rich nor the metal trading industry come off very well. For larger business collections. Stuart Gudowitz, George Washington Univ. Lib., Washington, D.C.

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Review

"Reads like a mystery novel [and] provides a fascinating look behind the scenes of the commodities trading snake pit." --- *USA Today*

"The story itself is astonishing -- and appalling." --- *John Train, Wall Street Journal*

About the Author

A. Craig Copetas is a staff reporter at the *Wall Street Journal* and the author of *Bear Hunting with the Politburo*.

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