

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner

Freakonomics by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner: Unveiling the Hidden Side of Everything

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner is a groundbreaking book that transformed the way many people think about economics, incentives, and everyday life. By blending economic theory with a curious and investigative mindset, Levitt, an economist, and Dubner, a journalist, created a compelling narrative that reveals how incentives drive human behavior in surprising ways. The book's unique approach to explaining complex social phenomena through quirky and unexpected questions has made it a bestseller and a staple for anyone interested in understanding the hidden forces shaping our world.

What Makes Freakonomics by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner So Unique?

Unlike traditional economics texts that can feel dry or overly technical, *freakonomics* by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner brings economic principles to life through storytelling and real-world examples. Instead of focusing on markets or finance alone, the authors look at seemingly unrelated topics and use economic tools to uncover the underlying incentives and motivations behind them.

This approach opens up a fresh perspective on everyday issues. Whether it's exploring why crime rates dropped in the 1990s, why teachers might cheat on standardized tests, or what connects sumo wrestlers and real estate agents, the book challenges conventional wisdom and encourages readers to think critically.

Key Themes Explored in Freakonomics by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner

The Power of Incentives

At the heart of *freakonomics* lies the idea that incentives matter. People respond to rewards and punishments, and understanding these can explain behaviors that at first seem irrational. Levitt and Dubner illustrate how incentives shape decisions in areas as diverse as education, crime, and parenting.

For example, they discuss how teachers might manipulate test scores to meet performance targets because their salaries or job security depend on student outcomes. This insight helps readers appreciate the complex motivations behind actions that might otherwise be dismissed as simply cheating or unethical behavior.

Uncovering Hidden Relationships

One of the strengths of *freakonomics* is its ability to connect dots that appear unrelated. The authors use data analysis to find correlations that reveal surprising truths. For instance, the controversial claim that legalized abortion contributed to the drop in crime rates decades later sparked widespread debate but also illustrated how social policies can have long-term unintended consequences.

By digging beneath the surface, *freakonomics* reveals how seemingly disconnected events or behaviors can be linked through economic principles and incentives.

Questioning Conventional Wisdom

Freakonomics encourages skepticism toward accepted narratives. Levitt and Dubner frequently challenge popular assumptions, urging readers not to take explanations at face value. This mindset is essential for anyone interested in economics, social science, or decision-making.

For example, the book questions the effectiveness of parenting styles or the value of traditional schooling metrics. This approach pushes readers to consider data and evidence over hearsay or popular opinion.

How *Freakonomics* by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner Changed Popular Economics

Before *freakonomics*, economics was often seen as a niche academic discipline, distant from everyday concerns. This book helped popularize the subject by making it accessible and relevant. It demonstrated that economic thinking could be applied to a wide range of social issues, from crime to sports to parenting.

The success of *freakonomics* sparked a series of follow-up books, podcasts, and even a documentary, all expanding on the idea that economics is really about incentives and human behavior. It inspired a new generation of readers to explore economic questions with curiosity and skepticism.

The Influence on Data-Driven Storytelling

Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner's work popularized the use of data analytics in storytelling. Their investigative style showed how data could uncover hidden patterns and challenge assumptions. This approach has influenced journalists, researchers, and content creators across fields, emphasizing the importance of evidence-based narratives.

Encouraging Critical Thinking

By exposing the hidden side of everything, *freakonomics* motivates readers to ask better questions.

Understanding the role of incentives and challenging conventional wisdom fosters critical thinking skills that apply beyond economics to everyday decision-making.

Lessons and Insights from Freakonomics by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner

Reading freakonomics offers more than entertainment—it provides practical insights into human behavior and decision-making.

- **Look Beyond the Obvious:** Many outcomes stem from hidden causes or incentives not immediately visible.
- **Data Matters:** Analyzing data carefully can reveal truths that anecdotes or assumptions might obscure.
- **Incentives Drive Behavior:** Whether positive or negative, incentives shape choices in predictable ways.
- **Be Skeptical:** Question popular explanations and seek evidence before accepting conclusions.
- **Interdisciplinary Thinking:** Combining economics with sociology, psychology, and other fields enriches understanding.

These lessons make freakonomics valuable not only for economists but for anyone interested in navigating the complexities of social life.

Applying Freakonomics Principles in Everyday Life

You don't need to be an economist to benefit from the insights in freakonomics by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner. Understanding incentives and questioning assumptions can improve decision-making in personal and professional contexts.

In Business and Management

Leaders can design better incentive structures for employees by recognizing what truly motivates behavior. For example, transparency and fair rewards often encourage productivity more effectively than punitive measures.

In Parenting and Education

Parents and educators can rethink common practices by considering how incentives influence children's behavior and learning. Instead of relying solely on rewards or punishments, understanding underlying motivations can lead to more effective strategies.

In Personal Finance

Economic thinking helps individuals make smarter financial decisions by evaluating trade-offs and incentives. Recognizing how marketing, interest rates, or peer pressure affect spending can lead to better budgeting and saving habits.

The Legacy and Continuing Impact of Freakonomics by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner

More than a decade after its publication, *freakonomics* by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner remains a touchstone for anyone curious about the hidden mechanisms driving human behavior. Its blend of economics, storytelling, and data analysis continues to inspire new research and popular media.

The *Freakonomics* brand has expanded into podcasts that explore a wide array of topics with the same inquisitive spirit, reaching millions worldwide. This ongoing influence highlights the timeless appeal of looking beyond the surface to uncover the unexpected truths shaping our lives.

In a world full of complex problems and conflicting narratives, the approach championed by Levitt and Dubner—to ask unconventional questions and follow the data wherever it leads—offers a valuable blueprint for understanding the hidden side of everything.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of *Freakonomics* by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner?

The main theme of *Freakonomics* is exploring the hidden side of everyday life by applying economic theory to diverse and unconventional topics, revealing surprising truths about human behavior and incentives.

How do Levitt and Dubner use economics to explain social phenomena in *Freakonomics*?

Levitt and Dubner use economic principles such as incentives, information asymmetry, and rational choice to analyze social phenomena, demonstrating how people respond to incentives in unexpected

ways that can explain various real-world outcomes.

What is one of the most famous examples discussed in Freakonomics?

One famous example is the argument that the legalization of abortion in the 1970s led to a significant drop in crime rates in the 1990s, as fewer unwanted children were born into potentially adverse environments.

How does Freakonomics challenge conventional wisdom?

Freakonomics challenges conventional wisdom by using data-driven analysis to question accepted explanations for social issues, showing that commonly held beliefs are not always supported by empirical evidence.

Who are Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner?

Steven D. Levitt is an economist known for his unconventional research topics, and Stephen J. Dubner is a journalist and author; together, they co-wrote *Freakonomics* to popularize economic thinking applied to everyday life.

What impact did Freakonomics have on popular culture and economics?

Freakonomics popularized the use of economic analysis outside traditional markets, influencing both popular culture and academia by encouraging curiosity about incentives and data-driven exploration of social issues.

Are there any criticisms of Freakonomics?

Yes, some critics argue that *Freakonomics* oversimplifies complex social issues, relies on controversial data interpretations, and sometimes draws causal conclusions from correlations without sufficient evidence.

Additional Resources

Freakonomics by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner: An Analytical Review

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner has become a landmark work in popular economics, blending investigative journalism with unconventional economic theory. Since its publication in 2005, the book has intrigued readers by peeling back the layers of everyday phenomena to reveal the hidden incentives that drive human behavior. This intersection of economics and sociology, presented through engaging narratives, challenges traditional perceptions of cause and effect, making *Freakonomics* a vital read for economists, sociologists, and curious minds alike.

At its core, *Freakonomics* by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner seeks to answer provocative questions such as why schoolteachers might cheat or what factors contributed to the decline in crime

rates in the 1990s. Their approach uses economic tools to analyze non-traditional subjects—ranging from sumo wrestling to real estate agents—demonstrating the pervasive influence of incentives in shaping outcomes. The book's unique style and methodology have spurred widespread discussion, both praising its innovation and critiquing its interpretations.

In-depth Analysis of Freakonomics

The strength of *Freakonomics* lies in its ability to apply rigorous data analysis to unconventional topics, illustrating how incentive structures influence behavior in unexpected ways. Steven D Levitt, a professor of economics, employs statistical techniques to unearth correlations and causations that defy common wisdom. Stephen J Dubner, a journalist, complements this with compelling storytelling, making complex economic principles accessible to a broad audience.

One of the book's most famous chapters investigates the decline in violent crime in the United States during the 1990s. Levitt and Dubner controversially argue that the legalization of abortion following *Roe v. Wade* significantly contributed to this drop by reducing the number of unwanted children who might have been more likely to engage in criminal activity later in life. This hypothesis sparked considerable debate among economists, policymakers, and social scientists, highlighting the provocative nature of the book's content.

Key Themes and Insights

Freakonomics by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner revolves around several recurring themes that challenge traditional narratives:

- **Incentives Matter:** The book underscores how individuals respond predictably to incentives, whether monetary, social, or moral. From cheating in classrooms to real estate pricing strategies, incentives often drive behavior more than ideological or ethical considerations.
- **Information Asymmetry:** Many of the stories demonstrate how disparities in information affect decision-making and power dynamics, such as how real estate agents may manipulate sellers due to their superior market knowledge.
- **Unintended Consequences:** *Freakonomics* highlights how well-intentioned policies or actions can lead to unforeseen outcomes, emphasizing the complexity of social systems.

These themes are woven through diverse case studies, making the book not just an economic treatise but also a social critique.

Methodological Approach

The analytical framework employed by Levitt is grounded in econometrics—applying statistical

methods to economic data. Unlike traditional economics texts that may rely heavily on theory, Freakonomics is data-driven, using real-world datasets to test hypotheses. This empirical approach lends credibility but also invites scrutiny regarding data interpretation and causality claims.

For example, the use of crime data in assessing the impact of abortion legalization has been both lauded for its ingenuity and criticized for oversimplification. Nevertheless, the book's insistence on questioning accepted truths encourages readers to think critically about data and the stories told by numbers.

Impact and Reception

Freakonomics by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner quickly became a bestseller, influencing both academic circles and popular culture. Its accessible writing style opened economics to a wider audience, inspiring a series of follow-up books, a popular podcast, and even a documentary film.

Positive Contributions

- **Democratizing Economics:** By making economic analysis understandable and entertaining, Freakonomics has made the discipline more approachable for non-specialists.
- **Encouraging Interdisciplinary Thinking:** The book bridges economics with sociology, psychology, and criminology, showcasing the benefits of cross-disciplinary research.
- **Stimulating Public Debate:** Its provocative questions have sparked widespread discussion about social policies and human behavior.

Criticisms and Limitations

While widely acclaimed, Freakonomics has faced criticism from various quarters. Some reviewers argue that the book occasionally overstates causal relationships, relying on correlational data that may not fully account for confounding variables. Additionally, the provocative style may sometimes sacrifice nuance for the sake of storytelling, leading to simplified conclusions.

Moreover, the book's focus on incentives and rational choice may underplay cultural, psychological, or structural factors that influence behavior beyond economic reasoning. Scholars caution against using Freakonomics as a sole guide for policy decisions without considering broader contextual factors.

Relevance in Today's Context

Nearly two decades after its release, Freakonomics by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner remains

relevant, particularly in an era increasingly driven by data analytics and behavioral economics. The book's emphasis on uncovering hidden motivations aligns with contemporary trends in big data and machine learning, where underlying patterns are mined to predict and influence human behavior.

Additionally, its lessons on information asymmetry resonate in today's digital economy, where data privacy and algorithmic transparency are pressing concerns. Understanding how incentives shape online behavior, market dynamics, and even misinformation campaigns can be informed by the foundational insights offered in *Freakonomics*.

Extensions and Further Reading

For readers intrigued by the themes in *Freakonomics*, several related works expand on its ideas:

1. **SuperFreakonomics** by Levitt and Dubner – a sequel exploring new curiosities and economic puzzles.
2. **Thinking, Fast and Slow** by Daniel Kahneman – delves into cognitive biases and decision-making processes.
3. **The Undercover Economist** by Tim Harford – applies economic principles to everyday life.

These texts complement *Freakonomics* by providing deeper insight into behavioral economics and the broader implications of incentives.

Through its innovative approach, *Freakonomics* by Steven D Levitt and Stephen J Dubner continues to encourage readers to question assumptions, analyze data critically, and appreciate the complexity behind seemingly simple questions. Its blend of storytelling and empirical analysis has not only transformed popular economics but also inspired a generation to look beyond the obvious and explore the hidden side of everything.

[Freakonomics By Steven D Levitt And Stephen J Dubner](#)

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: Freakonomics Steven D. Levitt, Stephen J. Dubner, 2009-11-24 Which is more dangerous, a gun or a swimming pool? What do schoolteachers and sumo wrestlers have in common? How much do parents really matter? These may not sound like typical questions for an economist to ask. But Steven D. Levitt is not a typical economist. He studies the riddles of everyday life—from cheating and crime to parenting and sports—and reaches conclusions that turn conventional wisdom on its head. *Freakonomics* is a groundbreaking collaboration between Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner, an award-winning author and journalist. They set out to explore the inner workings of a crack gang, the truth about real estate agents, the secrets of the Ku Klux Klan, and much more. Through forceful storytelling and wry insight, they show that economics is, at root, the study of incentives—how people get what they want or need, especially when other people want or need the same thing.

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: Super Freakonomics Steven D.

Levitt, Stephen J. Dubner, 2009-10-20 The New York Times best-selling *Freakonomics* was a worldwide sensation, selling over four million copies in thirty-five languages and changing the way we look at the world. Now, Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner return with *SuperFreakonomics*, and fans and newcomers alike will find that the freakquel is even bolder, funnier, and more surprising than the first. Four years in the making, *SuperFreakonomics* asks not only the tough questions, but the unexpected ones: What's more dangerous, driving drunk or walking drunk? Why is chemotherapy prescribed so often if it's so ineffective? Can a sex change boost your salary? *SuperFreakonomics* challenges the way we think all over again, exploring the hidden side of everything with such questions as: How is a street prostitute like a department-store Santa? Why are doctors so bad at washing their hands? How much good do car seats do? What's the best way to catch a terrorist? Did TV cause a rise in crime? What do hurricanes, heart attacks, and highway deaths have in common? Are people hard-wired for altruism or selfishness? Can eating kangaroo save the planet? Which adds more value: a pimp or a Realtor? Levitt and Dubner mix smart thinking and great storytelling like no one else, whether investigating a solution to global warming or explaining why the price of oral sex has fallen so drastically. By examining how people respond to incentives, they show the world for what it really is – good, bad, ugly, and, in the final analysis, super freaky. *Freakonomics* has been imitated many times over – but only now, with *SuperFreakonomics*, has it met its match.

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: *Freakonomics* Steven D. Levitt, Stephen J. Dubner, 2009-09 Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner offer the long-awaited paperback edition of *Freakonomics*, the runaway bestseller, including six *Freakonomics* columns from the New York Times Magazine and a Q & A with the authors.

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: *Summary of Freakonomics by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner* QuickRead, Alyssa Burnette, The study of economics can be wilder than you think. Have you ever wondered why we make the money mistakes that we do? With such a wealth of financial advice available, it seems stunning that we could make such bad investments or foolhardy purchases. *Freakonomics* uses the principles of economic analysis to unpack this concept for us and explain why we make the choices we do. And through Levitt and Dubner's critical study, you'll learn the surprising truth about how we can apply economics to every facet of our lives from dating to big purchases! Do you want more free book summaries like this? Download our app for free at <https://www.QuickRead.com/App> and get access to hundreds of free book and audiobook summaries. DISCLAIMER: This book summary is meant as a preview and not a replacement for the original work. If you like this summary please consider purchasing the original book to get the full experience as the original author intended it to be. If you are the original author of any book on QuickRead and want us to remove it, please contact us at hello@quickread.com.

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: *Freakonomics* Steven D. Levitt, Stephen J. Dubner, 2011-12-01 A slipcased hardback edition of Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner's bestselling phenomenon, with the original first Penguin edition artwork. What do estate agents and the Ku Klux Klan have in common? Why do drug dealers live with their mothers? How can your name affect how well you do in life? The answer: *Freakonomics*. It's at the heart of everything we do and the things that affect us daily, from sex to crime, parenting to politics, fat to cheating, fear to traffic jams. And it's all about using information about the world around us to get to the heart of what's really happening under the surface of everyday life. Now updated with the authors' New York Times columns and blog entries, this cult bestseller will show you how, by unravelling your life's secret codes, you can discover a totally new way of seeing the world.

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: *Freakonomics* Steven D Levitt, 2016-06-13 Which is more dangerous, a gun or a swimming pool? What do schoolteachers and sumo wrestlers have in common? How much do parents really matter? These may not sound like typical questions for an economist to ask. But Steven D. Levitt is not a typical economist. He studies the riddles of everyday life—from cheating and crime to parenting and sports—and reaches conclusions that turn conventional wisdom on its head. *Freakonomics* is a groundbreaking collaboration between

Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner, an award-winning author and journalist. They set out to explore the inner workings of a crack gang, the truth about real estate agents, the secrets of the Ku Klux Klan, and much more. Through forceful storytelling and wry insight, they show that economics is, at root, the study of incentives-how people get what they want or need, especially when other people want or need the same thing.

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: [Think Like a Freak](#) Steven D. Levitt, Stephen J. Dubner, 2014-05-13 From the rule-breaking authors of international bestsellers *Freakonomics* and *Superfreakonomics*, this is the ultimate guide to how to Think Like a Freak The *Freakonomics* books have come to stand for something: challenging conventional wisdom; using data rather than emotion to answer questions; and learning to unravel the world's secret codes. Now Levitt and Dubner have gathered up what they have learned and turned it into a readable and practical toolkit for thinking differently - thinking, that is, like a Freak. Whether you are interested in the best way to improve your odds in penalty kicks, or in major global reforms, here is a blueprint for an entirely new way to solve problems. Along the way, you'll learn how the techniques of a Japanese hot-dog-eating champion can help you, the reason an Australian doctor swallowed a batch of dangerous bacteria, why Nigerian e-mail scammers make a point of saying they're from Nigeria, and why Van Halen's demanding tour contract banning brown M&Ms was really a safety measure. You'll learn why sometimes it's best to put away your moral compass, and smarter to think like a child. You will be given a master class in incentives-because for better or worse, incentives rule our world. And you will learn to quit before you fail, because you can't solve tomorrow's problem if you aren't willing to abandon today's dud. Levitt and Dubner see the world like no one else. Now you can too. Never before have such iconoclastic thinkers been so revealing - and so much fun to read.

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: Quicklet on Freakonomics by Stephen D. Levitt & Stephen J. Dubner Jonathan Nathan, 2011-11-09 Quicklets: Learn More. Read Less. *Freakonomics* was written by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner. Levitt is an economist who is known for making connections that other people do not see, while Dubner is a journalist for the New York Times. The book started as an article about Levitt that Dubner was writing for the New York Times in 2003. They wrote the book together as an attempt to bring economics to the masses, to show in an interesting and conversational way on how economics can prove that conventional wisdom is often wrong and how it can shed new light on confusing situations. The book was published in 2005 and has somewhat become controversial for its findings.

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: SUMMARY - Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores The Hidden Side Of Everything By Steven D. Levitt And Stephen J. Dubner Shortcut Edition, 2021-05-30 * Our summary is short, simple and pragmatic. It allows you to have the essential ideas of a big book in less than 30 minutes. *By reading this summary, you will discover through concrete examples an innovative way of looking at the world. Why do dealers live with their parents? How can information be used to dismantle a terrorist group? By answering these unusual questions, the authors of *Freakonomics* bring to the forefront the little-known workings of the economy. *You will also discover that : Incentives are at the root of many human behaviors; Popular wisdom is often mistaken; Behind great consequences are sometimes hidden distant causes; Information is exploited by experts for their own profit; Determining what needs to be measured to conduct a study is fundamental. *The authors of *Freakonomics*, Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner, are Harvard economist and New York Times Magazine writer respectively. They are the inventors of the eponymous science of exploring societal issues using the tools of economics. You will learn how the tools of economics can be exploited to answer unusual and interesting questions. *Buy now the summary of this book for the modest price of a cup of coffee!

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: *Freakonomics Intl* Steven D. Levitt, Stephen J. Dubner, 2006-01-01 These may not sound like typical questions for an economist to ask. But Steven D. Levitt is not a typical economist. He studies the riddles of everyday life-from cheating and crime to parenting and sports-and reaches conclusions that turn conventional wisdom on its head. *Freakonomics* is a groundbreaking collaboration between Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner, an

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freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: Freakonomics Twentieth Anniversary Edition Steven D. Levitt, Stephen J. Dubner, 2025-11-11 The legendary bestseller that made millions look at the world in a radically different way returns in a beautiful 20th anniversary edition featuring a new foreword Which is more dangerous: a gun or a swimming pool? Why do drug dealers still live with their moms? What do real estate agents and the KKK have in common? These may not sound like typical questions for an economist to ask. But Steven D. Levitt is not a typical economist. He is a much-heralded scholar who studies the riddles of everyday life—from cheating and crime to sports and child-rearing—and whose conclusions turn conventional wisdom on its head. Freakonomics is a groundbreaking collaboration between Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner, an award-winning author and journalist. Some of these questions concern life-and-death issues; others have an admittedly freakish quality. Thus the new field of study contained in this book: freakonomics. Through forceful storytelling and wry insight, Levitt and Dubner show that economics is, at root, the study of incentives—how people get what they want, or need, especially when other people want or need the same thing. In Freakonomics, they explore the hidden side of everything. The inner workings of a crack gang. The myths of campaign finance. The telltale marks of a cheating schoolteacher. What unites all these stories is a belief that the modern world, despite a great deal of complexity and downright deceit, is not impenetrable, is not unknowable, and—if the right questions are asked—is even more intriguing than we think. All it takes is a new way of looking. Freakonomics establishes this unconventional premise: If morality represents how we would like the world to work, then economics represents how it actually does work. It is true that readers of this book will be armed with enough riddles and stories to last a thousand cocktail parties. But Freakonomics can provide more than that. It will literally redefine the way we view the modern world. This 20th anniversary edition of the book includes a gorgeous new cover design and a new foreword by Stephen Dubner, reflecting on the unexpected impact Freakonomics has had on the world over the last two decades, as well as the New York Times Magazine profile Dubner wrote about Levitt that started it all.

freakonomics by steven d levitt and stephen j dubner: Think Like a Freak I. K. Mullins, 2014-07-16 WARNING: This is not the actual book Think Like a Freak by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner. Do not buy this if you are looking for a full copy of this book. This is not the actual book, Think Like a Freak by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner. This work is an unofficial guide to Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner' book Think Like a Freak. It includes:* Review and Critique of Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner' book Think Like a Freak;* Unofficial summary of main ideas and facts from Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner' book Think Like a Freak. In Think Like a Freak, economist Steven Levitt and journalist Stephen Dubner advice how to master the economic way of thinking described in their previous bestsellers. To say it briefly, thinking like a Freak means being willing to think outside the box. The book offers advice, which may be useful to

those who want to make better decisions and achieve better results when dealing with minor issues or major worldwide reforms. The kind of thinking, which is promoted in the book, is inspired by the economic approach. The economic approach is both simpler and broader than merely focusing on the economy. It claims to be independent of ideology, and it uses data in order to understand how the world works, how incentives thrive, how resources are distributed, and what prevents people from getting those resources.-----Book summaries published by Brief, Concise and to the Point Publishing are designed to keep readers up to date and knowledgeable regarding new and significant books. Book summaries are perfect for people, especially busy professionals, who do not have the time to read books in their entirety. The main benefits of reading book summaries published by Brief, Concise and to the Point Publishing: 1. Our book summaries help you save your time and money. Instead of spending days or even weeks reading an important book, simply take one or two hours to read our concise book summary. It will introduce you to the book's primary content, ideas, arguments and facts. It will also help you decide whether it is worthwhile to invest your time and money in the entire book. 2. Our book summaries are truly comprehensive. Some other publishers' superficial book summaries do not exceed 15 to 20 pages, although they are presented as lengthy summaries. Our extensive book summaries include all the essential information you need to know. 3. Our books help you retain more information pertaining to the book's content. Academic studies have proven that people retain more of what they read in a summary as compared with what they remember after reading a book. Please note that according to the U.S. copyright law, the ideas and facts presented in books, as well as book titles, are not protected by copyright law.

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and 150 million downloads of their Freakonomics Radio podcast. When Freakonomics was first published, the authors started a blog—and they’ve kept it up. The writing is more casual, more personal, even more outlandish than in their books. In *When to Rob a Bank*, they ask a host of typically off-center questions: Why don’t flight attendants get tipped? If you were a terrorist, how would you attack? And why does KFC always run out of fried chicken? Over the past decade, Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner have published more than 8,000 blog posts on the Freakonomics website. Many of them, they freely admit, were rubbish. But now they’ve gone through and picked the best of the best. You’ll discover what people lie about, and why; the best way to cut gun deaths; why it might be time for a sex tax; and, yes, when to rob a bank. (Short answer: never; the ROI is terrible.) You’ll also learn a great deal about Levitt and Dubner’s own quirks and passions, from gambling and golf to backgammon and the abolition of the penny.

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