Contents

	Foreword	xi
	Preface	XV
CHAPTER 1	The Art of Uncalculated Risk	1
	Risk	1
	Risk Rules	4
	Finance and Gambling	6
	An Example of the Trading Game	9
	Gambling and Finance	12
	Opponents	16
	Hold 'Em Aces	19
	Truth	22
CHAPTER 2	Poker Basics	25
	Poker Hands	25
	Betting	30
	Limits	32
	Mechanics	33
	You Gotta Know When To	35

	And He Answers: "Omaha"	36
	Stud	38
	Draw	42
	Basic Strategies	43
	Calling	46
	Taxes	50
CHAPTER 3	Finance Basics	55
	Econospeak	55
	Commercial Banks	56
	Investment Banks	57
	Exchanges	58
	Theory	60
	Financial Challenges	63
	Flashback: Wall Street Poker Night	65
	The Players	66
	Economics	69
	The Game	71
CHAPTER 4	A Brief History of Risk Denial	75
	I'm Shocked—Shocked—to Find That	
	Gambling Is Going on in Here!	76
	Hedging Bets	82
	A Random Walk Down Wall Street	85
	Foreign Interest	89
	Futures and Options	91
	The Crash of '87	96
	Flashback: Gardena and the Single	
	Heterosexual Male	103
	No Stud-Horse Allowed	103

	The Subculture	104
	Never Ask of Money Spent, Where the	
	Spender Thinks It Went	108
	A Miniature Global Economy Laid Out	
	on a Baize Oval Table	111
	Nor Tie to Earths to Come, nor Action New	113
	You Took Little Children Away from the	
	Sun and the Dew for a Little Handful	
	of Pay on a Few Saturday Nights	115
CHAPTER 5	Pokernomics	119
	Law and Money	120
	Dutch Treat	124
	The Trouble in Scotland and New Orleans	128
	Savage Money	130
	Networks	133
	Adventurers and Planters	137
	Pokerbank	140
	Flashback: My First Hand of	
	Commercial Poker	145
	Cheating	147
	The Betting	149
	The Draw	152
CHAPTER 6	Son of a Soft Money Bank	157
	The Stormy, Husky, Brawling Laughter	
	of Youth	158
	Triage	165
	A Tall, Bold Slugger Set Vivid against	
	the Little, Soft Cities	169

	Flashback: The Education of a Poker Player	173
	Frank's Grandma	174
	More Games and the People Who Play Them	176
	Harvard	177
	Pangs of Conscience	178
	Meeting Mr. Dixie	181
	The Book	184
CHAPTER 7	The Once-Bold Mates of Morgan	187
	The Crash of '79	188
	Bridge Bums, Chicago School, and the Pit	189
	Withered These Latter-Days to Leaf-Size	
	from Lack of Action	192
	History's Beaten the Hazard	195
	And He Burned Them as Wastepaper	197
	Flashback: The Education of a Trader	201
	Pit	201
	The Options Floor	203
	Playing the Hand	206
	Parity, Verticals, and Calendars	209
	Bonds	213
	Poker at Lepercq	216
CHAPTER 8	The Games People Play	221
	When Luck Has Something to Do with It	222
	God Gave You Guts: Don't Let Him Down	228
	Guessing Games	230
	Masters of the Bluff	233
	Bluffing Mathematics	234
	Game Fact	241

	Small-Mindedness	246
	Flashback: Liar's Poker	258
	How to Succeed in Trading	258
	Liar's Rules	260
	Cooperative Liar's	262
	Destroy the Game	263
CHAPTER 9	Who Got Game	269
	This Guy Says the Horse Needs Race	269
	Rocket Scientist	272
	Chairman of the Board	276
	Learn by Experiment What Argument Taught Those Who Have Knowledge Don't Predict—	279
	Those Who Predict Don't Have Knowledge	281
	If I Have to Fall, May It Be from a High Place	285
	Ivory Tower Risk	289
	Do Not Limp before the Lame	291
	Fierce as Bluff King Hal	293
	Next Time Stop at the Ethyl Pump	296
	My Way Is Multiway	298
	Do Traders Care?	300
	Learning about Learning	302
	Hammurabi's Rules of Poker	305
CHAPTER 10	Utility Belt	309
	I Ponder the Psychology That Roots Them	
	in Their Place	309
	Safer Than Suicide	311
	Five Out of Ten to Pass	313
	Aplomb in the Midst of Irrational Things	315

X 🛧 CONTENTS

Let's Make a Deal	
More Patient Than Crags, Tides, and Stars;	
Innumerable, Patient as the Darkness of Night	320
Annotated Bibliography	325
History and Meaning of Poker	325
History and Meaning of Gambling	328
Finance and Gambling	329
Specific Sources	330
Index	333