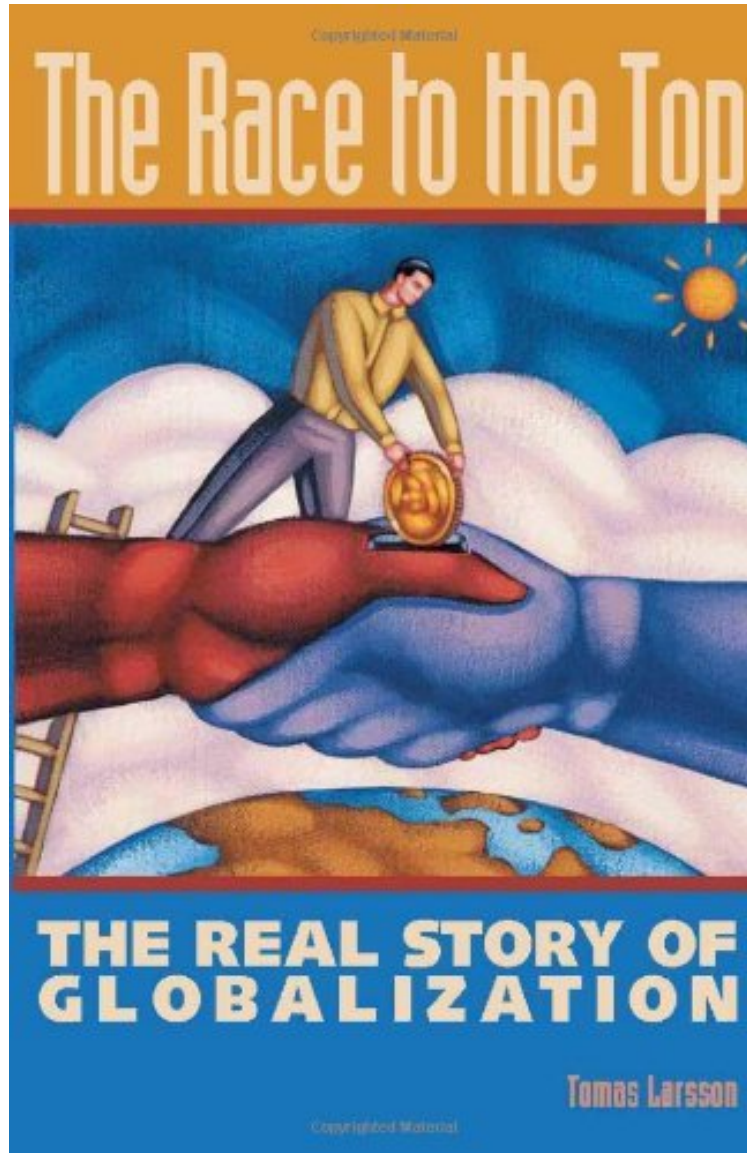


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## The Race to the Top: The Real Story of Globalization

*Tomas Larsson*

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**Tomas Larsson : The Race to the Top: The Real Story of Globalization** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Race to the Top: The Real Story of Globalization:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good, but could be more focused  
By Rujith de Silva  
This book definitely has its heart and head in the right place, as it recounts the benefits of globalization. But it seems to ramble a little, without ever directly making the case that free trade, even unilateral free trade, always helps a country, with the country's general public benefitting more overall than special interests may be hurt. Don't get me wrong, I think it's a very good book, but it could be even better.  
1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good, but too much

Asian-focused  
By A Customer  
The book is a good read, however, there is too much focus and evidence on Asian countries. This may be due to the author's obvious familiarity with the region. However, this renders the evidence for his case rather skewed and less colourful. Also, the book gets off the track occasionally and loses its touch with the argument for globalization. Frankly, I am not sure whether I liked the book overall or not as I have a feeling that the arguments could have been put forward in less space. I wish it was written in a more succinct way.  
5 of 6 people found the following review helpful.  
The Race to the Top: The Real Story of Globalization  
By A. Sura  
This book certainly attempts to show the merits of free-trade against the alternatives of protectionism, mercantilism or colonialism. However, Larsson's book left many things unsaid. His analysis is too anecdotal, and if I were a anti free-trader (which I am not), then I could by the same token come out and give a multitude of horror stories that are seem to be the result of free trade. Those of you who wish to buy a comprehensive defense of free trade, this book is not for you. This book is rather a good source of stories and vignettes that would be helpful in a bar argument with the big hairy white guy next to you. Instead, I suggest that you pick up *Against the Dead Hand* by Brink Lindsey; it is much more comprehensive and gives a concise and accurate history of the struggle to "race to the top."

Larsson takes the reader on a fast-paced, worldwide journey that extends from the slums of Rio to the brothels of Bangkok and shows what access to global markets means for those struggling to get ahead in the world.

From Library Journal  
Until recently, both the American mindset and the American economy have been particularly insular. Larsson, a doctoral student and freelance writer, brings home the new world perspective in this highly personal book about the effects of globalization on large and small companies in various communities throughout the world. A Swede by birth, Larsson writes from the unusual perspective (for American readers) of firsthand experiences in Brazil, Hong Kong, and Thailand (he has a Thai wife). In this respect, his book has considerable value and makes a good companion to Thomas L. Friedman's recent overview of globalization, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree* (LJ 4/15/99). Larsson, who focuses on the more positive results of a global economy, provides a number of noteworthy comments on concepts such as "dumping" as it relates to prosperity, though he illustrates his points heavily with anecdotes rather than charts and figures. Libraries that specialize in economics may find this book of value. Steven Silkunas, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, Philadelphia  
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[Larsson] combines a command of statistics and economic theory with the stories of real people thriving in the globalized world." -- Wall Street Journal, December 5, 2001