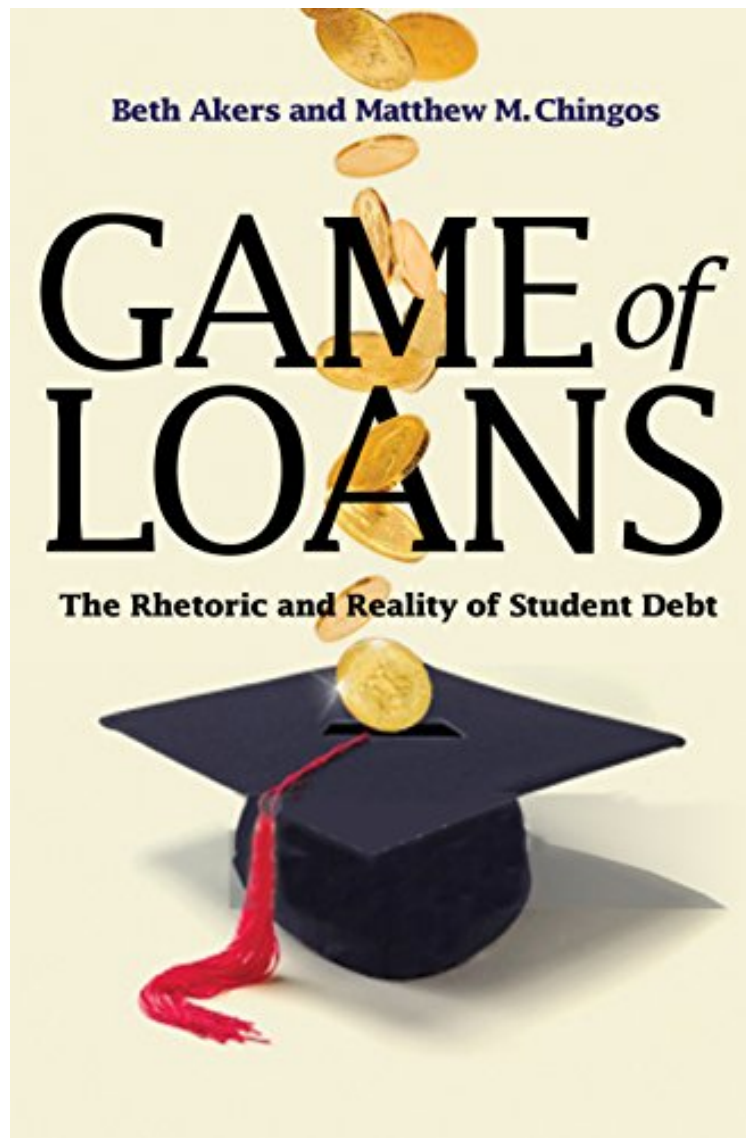


(Download free ebook) Game of Loans: The Rhetoric and Reality of Student Debt (The William G. Bowen Memorial Series in Higher Education)

## Game of Loans: The Rhetoric and Reality of Student Debt (The William G. Bowen Memorial Series in Higher Education)

*Beth Akers, Matthew M. Chingos*  
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**Beth Akers, Matthew M. Chingos : Game of Loans: The Rhetoric and Reality of Student Debt (The William G. Bowen Memorial Series in Higher Education)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Game of Loans: The Rhetoric and Reality of Student Debt (The William G. Bowen Memorial Series in Higher Education):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Well worth readingBy William L. DriscollI loved the book and

passed on to the Chancellor of our local University who also appreciated the message. Straight forward read which shines important light on a crucial issue facing our country. Highlights that paying for college might well be one of the biggest expenditures for an individual or family and yet our Universities and government agencies aren't making the required effort to ensure easy availability of information to make an informed decision. Condemns both not-for-profit and for-profit education institutions for this lack of transparency. Absolutely worth reading for anybody interested in the issue. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer Excellent!!! 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. but there is plenty of good data and By Brett Shifrin Not as insightful as I had hoped, but there is plenty of good data and information

College tuition and student debt levels have been rising at an alarming pace for at least two decades. These trends, coupled with an economy weakened by a major recession, have raised serious questions about whether we are headed for a major crisis, with borrowers defaulting on their loans in unprecedented numbers and taxpayers being forced to foot the bill. *Game of Loans* draws on new evidence to explain why such fears are misplaced—and how the popular myth of a looming crisis has obscured the real problems facing student lending in America. Bringing needed clarity to an issue that concerns all of us, Beth Akers and Matthew Chingos cut through the sensationalism and misleading rhetoric to make the compelling case that college remains a good investment for most students. They show how, in fact, typical borrowers face affordable debt burdens, and argue that the truly serious cases of financial hardship portrayed in the media are less common than the popular narrative would have us believe. But there are more troubling problems with student loans that don't receive the same attention. They include high rates of avoidable defaults by students who take on loans but don't finish college; the riskiest segment of borrowers; and a dysfunctional market where competition among colleges drives tuition costs up instead of down. Persuasive and compelling, *Game of Loans* moves beyond the emotionally charged and politicized talk surrounding student debt, and offers a set of sensible policy proposals that can solve the real problems in student lending.

"In *Game of Loans*, we learn that only a quarter of first-year college students can predict their debt load within 10 percent of the correct amount, in large part because students are regularly overpromised financial aid in complex deals that then change year by year, just like the subprime mortgages that blew up in 2008."--Rana Foroohar, *New York Times*

"Successfully aimed at non-economists, [*Game of Loans* is] clearly written. [It is a] powerful antidote to the stereotypes and myths that have grown up around student loans."--David Wessel, *Wall Street Journal*

"For many casual observers, the evidence and arguments presented in . . . *Game of Loans* will be new. And if [you] read [the] book, that could help inform a public debate that's bound to stick around for some time."--Beckie Supiano, *Chronicle of Higher Education*

"One of the best things about *Game of Loans* is that the authors are cautious even in the way they prescribe various policy solutions. . . . But the book's greatest contribution is its call for a more accurate description of the student loan problem in the first place. . . . The authors also deserve credit for taking a good hard look at prevailing narratives, such as the one that holds that student loans are causing borrowers to delay major life decisions, such as buying homes or getting married, and building a case that many of those narratives are unfounded."--Jamaal Abdul-Alim, *Diverse Magazine*

"For many casual observers, the evidence and arguments presented in . . . *Game of Loans* will be new. And if [you] read [the] book, that could help inform a public debate that's bound to stick around for some time."--Beckie Supiano, *Chronicle of Higher Education*

"[Akers and Chingos] provide compelling evidence that paying for the costs of higher education is relatively feasible under the plethora of public financing options available."--AEIdeas

"Influential."--Stephen Dash, *Forbes.com*

"[Beth Akers and Matthew Chingos] pore over the data and find, in *Game of Loans*, that college prices and student debt loads are more affordable than the dominant political narrative would have us believe. . . . *Game of Loans* includes a clear and concise analysis of college prices and student borrowing patterns over time, filling in holes in a debate often bereft of relevant and reliable data."--Jason Delisle, *Education Next*

From the Back Cover "Higher education is essential to our nation's future, so how do we pay for it? *Game of Loans* tackles that urgent question--and it does so brilliantly. With lucid prose and crisp analysis, Beth Akers and Matthew Chingos puncture myths, reveal facts, and chart a sensible course forward. This book is a game-changer, and it should be required reading for everyone interested in higher education and public policy."--Christopher L. Eisgruber, president of Princeton University

"If you want to understand student debt, read this book. Akers and Chingos get past anecdote and hyperbole to explain, with data, what is and is not working in our student loan system. *Game of Loans* is rigorous, clearly written, and eye opening. Students, policy wonks, and curious observers of the student loan 'crisis' will all benefit from its insights."--Susan Dynarski, University of Michigan

"Clearly written and much needed, *Game of Loans* provides insight into the student loan market in the United States."--Sarah Turner, University of Virginia

"This insightful book provides an excellent overview of the current student loan system. Presenting evidence about who borrows, how much they borrow, and the burden of repayment, Akers and Chingos refute the idea that there is a general student loan crisis, highlight the real problems that do exist, and propose solutions."--Sandy Baum, coauthor of the annual *Trends in Student Aid and Trends in College Pricing*

About the

Author Beth Akers is a fellow at the Brookings Institution's Center on Children and Families. Matthew M. Chingos is a senior fellow at the Urban Institute and the coauthor of *Crossing the Finish Line: Completing College at America's Public Universities* (Princeton). They both live in Washington, DC.