

Morgan Housel

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The Messy World of Risk.

Risk, in investing textbooks, is taught as the stock market going up and down. In the real world, risk is far more complicated, harder to define and different for every investor. Risk in the real world is not being able to meet your financial goals, which is primarily caused by investors' own biases and behaviors, particularly buying when the market is high and selling after a pullback. Morgan Housel shares five clear stories of how investors, business executives, and everyday people misinterpreted risk to disastrous consequences, and how investors can identify and correct their own biases to make better investment decisions.

Today's Economy: Lessons From The Past And What They Tell Us About Tomorrow.

Every economy is driven by how groups of people respond to incentives and opportunities. Those behaviors are ingrained in human nature, rarely changing over time, so there's a lot we can learn about tomorrow's economy by studying how we responded to the past. At the same time, the economy in recent years has undergone tremendous changes in how people share and interpret information. Two years after the Wright Brothers flew for the first time, *The New York Times* still questioned whether humans would ever fly; today, Twitter breaks news faster than any journalist can report it. That has upended many of the traditional forces that have guided how people think about risk and opportunity, and thus economic growth.

Presented through the lens of behavioral finance and psychology, this talk walks audiences through where the economy is heading and how industries can stand to thrive.

You Are Here*.

If the market never fell, it wouldn't be risky. If it wasn't risky, everyone would buy it. If everyone bought it, it would get expensive. When it's expensive, it's risky. And when it's risky, it falls. Morgan Housel shows why market volatility and bear markets are not only normal, but inevitable. Using stock market history, economic theory, and current examples of real investors, he walks audiences through the history of bull and bear markets, turning points and the smartest ways investors can navigate volatility—namely, learning how to deal with and accept it, rather than attempting to avoid it.

What Other Fields Teach Us About Investing.

Investing is more than just the study of finance. It's ultimately the study of human behavior and how people react under pressure and with limited information. There are many lessons from diverse fields that can teach us valuable investing takeaways, such as how the War on Cancer focuses on complicated treatments with low chance of success while discounting simple prevention that can make a massive difference. The best investors in the world integrate knowledge from many different fields, including psychology, sociology, history, biology, and physics. Morgan Housel shares four lessons from different fields to help make you a better investor.

Here, Let Me Save You A Minute: Why Managing Money Baffles So Many People, & Why It Doesn't Have To.

Personal finance is special. No matter what field you're in, it will affect your life, whether you are interested in it or not. Despite this, the record is dismal: Most people are terrible at managing money. Why? Partially because we don't teach enough personal finance at a young age. But more importantly, we don't teach it very well. Financial literacy, to the extent that it's taught, tends to focus on math, acronyms, and rules to memorize, when instead it should be taught as a philosophy about what tends to make people happy in life, in the same way we're introduced to sports without being asked to memorize the formula of how far a baseball will travel when hit with a bat.

This talk walks audiences through how you—and others you may teach—can gain a deeper appreciation for topics like financial independence, control over your time, and spending prioritization in a way requires no math, charts, or complexity that often turns people away from the subject. It is intended for both novices and financial professionals alike, as the latter group tends to solve problems rooted in psychology with solutions rooted in math, often to their own detriment.