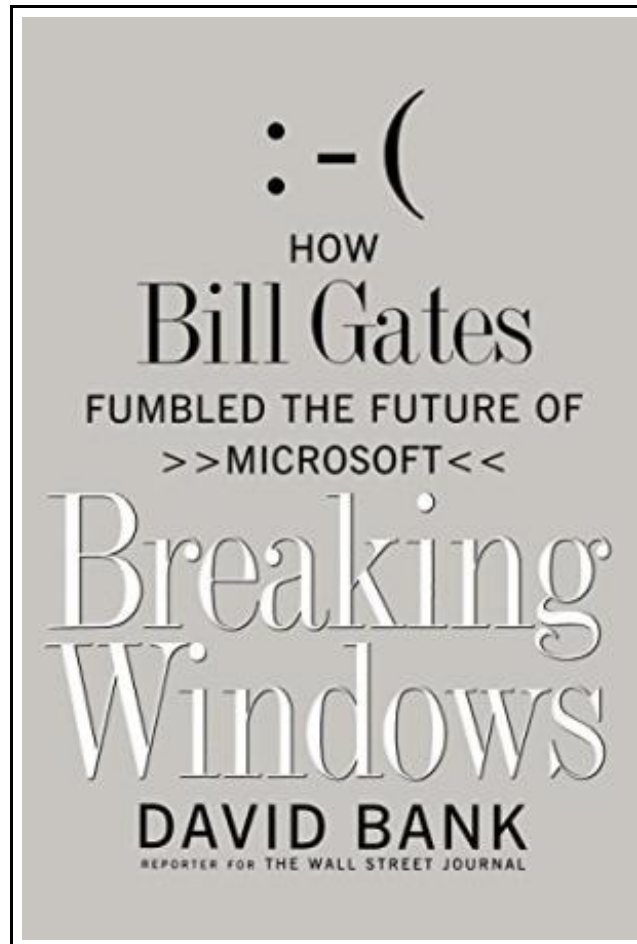


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Free Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 304 pages. Dimensions: 8.9in. x 5.8in. x 0.9in. The year is 1997, and despite the machinations of its rivals, Microsoft is master of the digital universe and the darling of corporate America. Windows and Office generate staggering profits, the companys share price is stratospheric, and Bill Gates is the preeminent icon of the information age. No outsider could guess what Gates knew -- that the most powerful threat to Microsofts prized Windows platform came not from Sun or Netscape or AOL or even from the U. S. Department of Justice, but from within the companys own ranks. Breaking Windows tells the story of the battle for the soul of Microsoft that raged inside the company from 1997 to 2000 and continues to reverberate today. Drawing on hundreds of e-mails among Microsoft executives, trial testimony, and exclusive interviews with Gates and his chief lieutenants, Wall Street Journal reporter David Bank reveals the bitter maneuvering between what he calls Microsofts Windows hawks and its Internet doves. On one side were the fierce defenders of the hegemony of Windows, on the other those who championed a new way of doing business based on the Internets open standards. The reformers wanted to break free from the legacy of Windows and dare to compete on the merits of their software. At the center of this pitched battle stood Gates, the tactical genius who had created the company in his own image and who now accepts full responsibility for his fateful choices. Every mistake you can lay at my feet, he told Bank, who takes him at his word -- offering the first critique of Gategess leadership not from the perspective of government prosecutors or envious software rivals but from inside the company itself. Ambitious in scope and surprising in...



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