

The Takeover Diaries: Take Two Reveals the Human Story Behind a Corporate Power Struggle

A new business memoir recounts the decades-long struggle to preserve a family-owned company, offering an insider's perspective on leadership, succession, and one of the United Kingdom's most consequential corporate takeovers.



THE TAKEOVER DIARIES: TAKE TWO

KURT LARSON

Wilmington, Delaware Jul 16, 2026 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Twenty years after the sale of one of Britain's most successful independent quarrying companies, mining executive and author Kurt Larson is revisiting the events that led to its acquisition in his new business memoir, *The Takeover Diaries: Take Two*. Drawing on personal experience as a former director of Foster Yeoman Limited, Larson presents an account of the decisions, relationships, and competing visions that shaped the company's final years as a family-owned enterprise. More than a retrospective of a corporate transaction, the book examines the human realities behind leadership, succession, and the challenge of preserving a business legacy amid mounting commercial pressures.

At the heart of *The Takeover Diaries: Take Two* is a story about far more than mergers and acquisitions. Through firsthand observations and personal reflection, Larson explores how trust, ambition, family relationships, and corporate governance can influence the future of even the strongest privately owned companies. Revisiting the takeover with the perspective that only time can provide, he

examines not only what happened but why it happened, offering readers an opportunity to understand the strategic decisions, internal conflicts, and missed opportunities that ultimately reshaped the company's future. While rooted in the minerals industry, the book speaks to a much broader audience of entrepreneurs, family business owners, executives, investors, and students of leadership who recognize that the greatest challenges in business are often shaped by people rather than balance sheets. Written as a re-examination of events first fictionalized years earlier, *The Takeover Diaries: Take Two* seeks to replace speculation with reflection and provide an honest account of a defining chapter in the author's professional life.

"It wasn't easy to write this book and I waited for years to make a start. I wondered if it would be worth it. Then I thought it would be good to tell my side of the story... Now that we are coming up to the 20th anniversary of that event, I felt like it was time to tell the truth," Kurt wrote.

That perspective forms the foundation of the book. Rather than revisiting the past to assign blame, Larson uses hindsight to explore the difficult choices that accompany succession planning, corporate control, and long-term stewardship. His account illustrates that the story of a takeover is rarely confined to boardroom negotiations alone; it is equally a story of loyalty, identity, and the lasting impact that major business decisions can have on families, employees, and communities. In doing so, *The Takeover Diaries: Take Two* offers readers both a compelling narrative and a thoughtful case study in leadership under pressure.

Kurt Larson earned an honors degree in Mining Engineering from Michigan Technological University before beginning a distinguished forty-year career in the international minerals industry. Throughout his career, he authored peer-reviewed technical papers, lectured before professional organizations across the world, and contributed regularly to industry publications. Alongside his professional work, Larson established himself as an accomplished author whose books draw upon decades of experience in mining, business, travel, and skiing. Today he lives in the Highlands of northwest Scotland, where he continues to write while surrounded by the mountains and coastline that have long inspired both his professional life and his storytelling.

The Takeover Diaries: Take Two is now available through Amazon. Readers interested in business leadership, family enterprises, corporate governance, and the enduring lessons behind one of the UK's notable corporate takeovers can learn more about the book and purchase a copy through its Amazon listing [here](#).

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