

The background of the cover features a medieval castle with multiple towers and battlements, situated on a rocky, moss-covered cliff. A large, semi-transparent watermark of the letter 'N' followed by an exclamation mark is centered over the image. A bright lightning bolt is visible in the sky above the castle. The bottom of the cover has a yellow gradient background.

Lo and Behold,

Doldrums and Machinations

Book 3 of a Business Fable
of Change and Intrigue

Isaak Tsalicoglou

Lo and Behold, X! — Doldrums and Machinations

Book 3 of a Business Fable of Change and Intrigue

Isaak Tsalicoglou

This book is available at <http://leanpub.com/lo-and-behold-x-3>

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Leanpub

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*To all the Robert McBarkles of this world, of whom I have had the
good luck to have encountered at least three.*

Also By **Isaak Tsalicoglou**

Northwind Elixir Traders

Lo and Behold, X! — Bifurcation and Deliverance

Lo and Behold, X! — Growing, Pains, and Awareness

The Incredible Story of Deft

Lo and Behold, X! — Denizens of the Ivory Fortress

The Cave

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Before we begin

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <http://leanpub.com/lo-and-behold-x-3>.

Disclaimer

While reading this novel, you might sympathize with Nate and his team, or even with Damon; you might wish you had a Bob or two in your life; you might recoil at the idea of working under the aegis of a Richard von Kopf; or, you may have had the pleasure of working at a place led by an Augustus Giles. Any, some, or all of those characters, their thoughts and words, the situations they find themselves in, and the opinions or views they express, might ring a bell. Same goes for the kingdom of Obratheria.

Alas, it will have merely been a coincidence. This novel is but a fictional, tongue-in-cheek exploration of the periodic waxing and waning of fads within organizations and across entire industries, sometimes even across the entire business world, and the political ramifications encountered by well-meaning professionals who want to bring “X” into their organization. It is as much an exploration of the worst-case trajectory of so-called “transformations” within businesses, as it is an exploration of the worst-case situations faced by those who lead them, by those who endure them, and by those who entertain their orchestration.

Thus, to drive some points home, the entire story, all names, characters, and incidents portrayed in this production, and clearly X itself, are fictitious. Names, characters, locations, events, incidents, and “X” are the products of my imagination, with exaggeration aplenty, further fueled by the inspirational (“desperational”?) torrential outpour of hype that adorns my LinkedIn feed daily. The characters are composite archetypes deliberately crafted according to [Jungian archetypes](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Jungian_archetype)¹, caught in well-known [narrative arcs](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Story_arc)².

Thus, any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, or actual events is purely coincidental. Truth be told, each element of this story is wild-enough exaggerated speculative fiction by itself,

¹https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Jungian_archetype

²https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Story_arc

let alone when you put all of these elements together.

Still, for the maximum enjoyment and learning impact, an imaginative extrapolation of the story's many elements onto your own work experiences, should, ideally, be attempted. Some of these elements might faintly ring a bell of familiarity, who knows. If too many ring a bell strongly, you have my condolences, and you have my respect; for, in that case, your work life is as strange as this deliberately-bewildering work of fiction.

Books in the saga

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