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   Sommario/riassunto "While coups drive a majority of regime changes and are responsible for
   the overthrow of many democratic governments, there has been very
   little empirical work on the subject. Seizing Power develops a new
   theory of coup dynamics and outcomes, drawing on 300 hours of
   interviews with coup participants and an original dataset of 471 coup
   attempts worldwide from 1950 to 2000. Naunihal Singh delivers a
   concise and empirical evaluation, arguing that understanding the
   dynamics of military factions is essential to predicting the success or
   failure of coups. Singh draws on an aspect of game theory known as a
   coordination game to explain coup dynamics. He finds a strong
   correlation between successful coups and the ability of military actors
   to project control and the inevitability of success. Examining Ghana's
   multiple coups and the 1991 coup attempt in the USSR, Singh shows
   how military actors project an image of impending victory that is often
   more powerful than the reality on the ground. In his close analysis of
   ten coups in Ghana from 1967 to 1981, Singh identifies three distinct
   points of coup origination: coups from top military officers, coups from
   the middle ranks, and mutinous coups from low-level soldiers."--