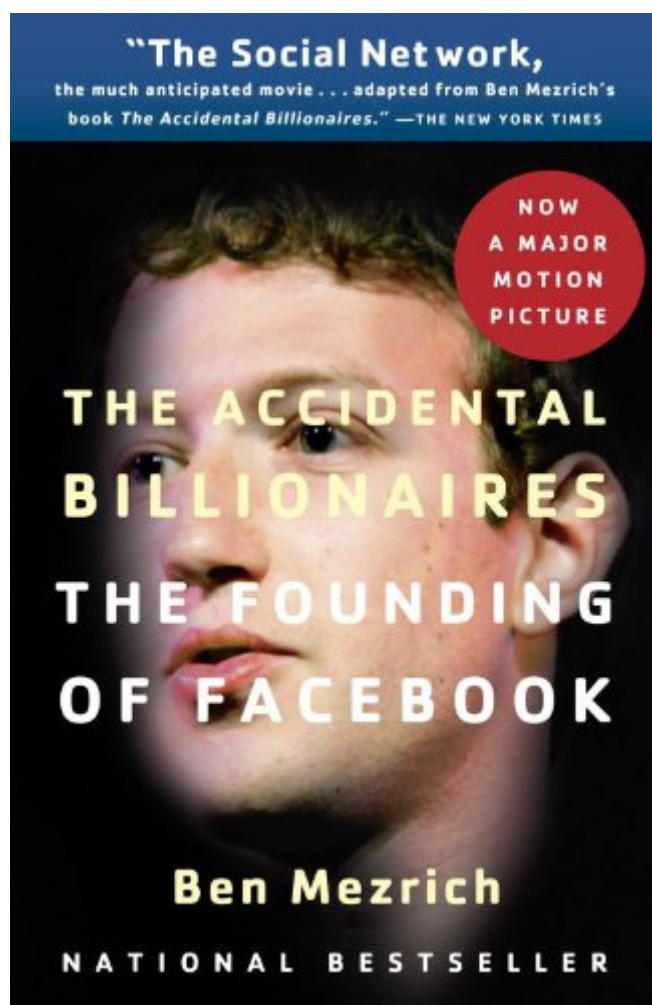




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The Accidental Billionaires: The Founding Of Facebook: A Tale Of Sex, Money, Genius And Betrayal



Synopsis

NATIONAL BESTSELLER
“The Social Network, the much anticipated movie adapted from Ben Mezrich’s book *The Accidental Billionaires*.
• The New York Times Best friends Eduardo Saverin and Mark Zuckerberg had spent many lonely nights looking for a way to stand out among Harvard University’s elite, competitive, and accomplished student body. Then, in 2003, Zuckerberg hacked into Harvard’s computers, crashed the campus network, almost got himself expelled, and was inspired to create Facebook, the social networking site that has since revolutionized communication around the world.
• With Saverin’s funding their tiny start-up went from dorm room to Silicon Valley. But conflicting ideas about Facebook’s future transformed the friends into enemies. Soon, the undergraduate exuberance that marked their collaboration turned into out-and-out warfare as it fell prey to the adult world of venture capitalists, big money, and lawyers. From the Trade Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Technology

Customer Reviews

I bought this after watching *The Social Network* since this is the book that inspires the movie. You should note if you've seen the movie you won't find very much new here. The movie follows the book almost word for word most of the time, though the movie spices things up a bit and there are some creative differences, but again don't expect much new. That said I think you can still enjoy the book, especially if you're a huge fan of the movie. It may be written in an awkward manner (and it annoyed me too at first) but once you get past that the story is interesting and enjoyable. A great companion to the film for fans and an interesting read for those with a casual interest. I'd recommend *The Facebook Effect* for those who've seen the movie and don't want to pretty much read the film on paper.

Picking up *"The Accidental Billionaires"* after seeing *"The Social Network,"* I was shocked how closely Aaron Sorkin followed Mezrich's fictionalized account of the founding of Facebook. Every scene is there. In the book, Zuckerberg is slightly more human, slightly less self-absorbed, but not by much. Eduardo Saverin serves as the main source of credited information, along with undoubtedly interviews with the Winklevoss twins that are not on the record. The social dynamic revealed in the book is that life is now to be lived online, something that might not be as positive a development as thought by many. Friendships actually suffer. Character is not built up. Everything is made too easy. In that sense, *"The Social Network"* trumps the book in that you leave the theater sure that isn't good in the long run.

I'll start by saying I thoroughly enjoyed this book. It's a very easy read the chapters are very short and the book moves through the timeline quickly and effectively. It's highly entertaining and a fun book to read on the beach or on a plane. Now all that being said this is a highly biased, tabloid account of the founding of Facebook, written from the viewpoint of a disgruntled former partner. The author is upfront about the fact that the founder, developer, and "face" of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg had nothing to do with the book and was not interviewed, so at times the book just trashes Zuckerberg, which is entertaining in a tabloid, gossipy kind of way, but I don't think the way he is depicted is really that accurate. I recommend this book if you want to be entertained, if you're looking into real insight and history into the founding of Facebook look elsewhere because this book is really just a tabloid account of the founding of the company.

Very interesting book. The authors tried to make it as interesting as possible all the time.

I really enjoyed this book on one of the most revolutionary businesses of our time: Facebook. What got me intrigued was watching the movie, "The Social Network". I actually saw the movie first before reading the book. In comparison, I must admit that many of the "dramatic" scenes and heated confrontations in the movie were left out of the book, which leads me to wonder about the accuracy of the movie. Nevertheless, I found this book to be a great and enjoyable read. I also find it very diplomatic and fair to all sides. When analyzing the book, one can make strong cases for all sides of the dispute including Mark Zuckerberg. My only issue is that I wish the author could have focused more on the business and growth aspects instead on the gossip and tabloid stuff. It would have been great to get a better look at Facebook the company over the first couple years, instead of Facebook, the dorm room prank-turn-business. Overall, this book is an enjoyable and easy read and I highly recommend it.

If you've ever read Ben Mezrich you know what you're getting into. He's a very solid writer who is great at putting forth the actual ideas and feelings of what happened, even if the details aren't exactly accurate. Read this book, enjoy it, but don't expect it to line up exactly with the events.

My two favorite things about this book were the pace and how much it swore. Certain uses of narrative style didn't seem to fit - the bits of "one can almost imagine Eduardo feeling blah blah blah" - those jumps to emotion and motivation could've been made by the reader, and their physical presence in the book weakened the style. Overall, though, it was a thrilling read. Already recommended to several friends.

I really enjoyed reading this book. I was amazed at how much the film, The Social Network, stayed true to the source material. Many scenes in the book are mirrored in the movie. But that's because Ben Mazirch has a knack for creating compelling scenes and dropping the reader right into the middle of the action. This gets you turning the pages at a rapid rate, and, despite it being so similar to the film, the book still thoroughly entertains. The story does seem to end abruptly, which is my only gripe. That might have something to do with when it was originally released and what was known at the time about facebook versus the added info to date. In any case, I wanted more -- which, if you think about it, is a compliment. Regardless I still highly recommend this book.

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