

A Very Public Offering

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Synopsis

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In the volatile world of Internet start-ups, it can take just a nanosecond to lose it all. A decade before Facebook, Stephan Paternot and Todd Krizelman created the first social network in their college dorm room. After a meteoric rise, theglobe.com became world-famous for its billion-dollar IPO, only to quickly plummet toward the depths. This very personal history details what it was like to witness the chaotic birth of the Internet industry. One of the poster boys of the dot-com era, Stephan rode the wild high of seeing his digital dreams come true, only to confront the sometimes-ugly reality of being the youngest-ever CEO of a public company. As Stephan navigated a fledgling and cutthroat industry, he struggled to keep his company afloat. Chronicling a surreal, upside-down period in American corporate history, *A Very Public Offering* tells the dramatic personal story of a young man's rocket toward success, and what happens when it all falls apart. Reissued to celebrate the 20th anniversary of theglobe.com's IPO and adding powerful and practical lessons for a new generation of start-up founders, this edition expands upon Stephan's story featured in the National Geographic TV series *Valley of the Boom*.

Reader's comments

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