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Larry Ellison, Sheer Nerve (Techies)



Synopsis

Book by Ehrenhaft, Daniel

Book Information

Series: Techies

Library Binding: 80 pages

Publisher: 21st Century (September 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 076131962X

ISBN-13: 978-0761319627

Product Dimensions: 7.3 x 0.5 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

.Which is surprising because it is supposed to be a children's book. Written for readers between the ages of 9 and 12, it is part of the Techies series, offering small-format books introducing significant figures in high-tech businesses. Other volumes in the series are about Marc Andreessen, Steve Jobs and Jeff Bezos. In fact, it is far better than any other book published to date about Mr. Ellison, which range from the tedious ("The Difference Between God and Larry Ellison" by Mike Wilson) to the ridiculous ("The Oracle Edge" by Stuart Read and "ebusiness or Out of Business" by Mark Barrenechea). Note: "The Oracle of Oracle" by Florence M Stone has not yet been published as of the date of this review. This book is a masterpiece of simplicity, presenting clearly in 80 brief pages (small pages, large print) everything worth knowing about Larry Ellison. Mr. Ellison, of course, is not a particularly admirable character, which caused me to wonder why anyone would write a children's book about him. Be that as it may, the authors do not pull any punches in describing his checkered past. An example: "Occasionally, Ellison's shaky business practices caught up with him. In 1990 the Securities and Exchange Commission investigated Oracle for 'pervasively inadequate accounting and billing practices.' It was a complicated way of saying that the government thought that Larry Ellison was a criminal. The investigation ended up costing the company \$24 million. But the bad press was much worse. People began to doubt Oracle's honesty. The stock price plummeted, and

Ellison personally lost more than \$3 billion. But as he had in the past, Ellison simply refused to fail. He turned the company's image around-improving its customer support, halting the sale of 'vaporware' (at least temporarily), and generally apologizing for being careless."If only Mr. Ellison's other biographers would write so clearly, honestly and succinctly.

This is a children's book about Larry Ellison. The hard cover is thicker than the 80 pages contained within. If you want a few hour read to get some info about an amazing and interesting man, you've found it. If you want any depth at all, go elsewhere.

Good book for our 9 year old. Had him somewhat inspired. Tells the story in the way that a child takes away a message but skips unnecessary details.

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