

Grande Expectations: A Year in the Life of Starbucks' Stock, Karen Blumenthal, Three Rivers Press, 2008, 0307339726, 9780307339720, 309 pages. Karen Blumenthal, like most people, is mystified by the stock market. Just why is it, she wonders, that seemingly good news can send a stock plummeting and bad news can send it skyrocketing again? InGrande Expectations, she shows how money is made and lost by following one of AmericaĐ²Đ,â,¢s hottest growth stocks, Starbucks, through a year of rapid store openings, fancy new drinks, and clever promotions, revealing how the many playersĐ2Đ,―big and small investors, company management, analysts, and the mediaĐ²Đ,―propel its shares up and down. Blumenthal pulls back the curtain on the stock market to expose its guirks and inner workings, from the power of a penny of earnings and the unexpected impact of a stock split to the image-enhancing effects of a brand of bottled water. With a fly-on-the-wall, character-driven narrative, Grande Expectations not only makes investing interesting but also will help you make smarter and savvier investing choices by: Đ2Đ,ÑžUnderstanding how big pension and mutual fund managers decide whether to buy more StarbucksĐ²Đ,―or dump it Đ²Đ,ÑžSeeing the unique ways that analysts and other finance professionals assess an investmentĐ²Đ,―dissecting not only the numbers but also the companyĐ²Đ,â,,¢s management, demographics, and global opportunities Đ²Đ,NžLearning how Starbucks executives manage our expectations and keep excitement percolating about the businessĐ²Đ,―and the stock Đ²Đ,ÑžWatching how a stock is traded and how that might affect your buying or selling Đ²Đ,ÑžGleaning how multibillion-dollar private hedge funds make money on infinitesimal changes in a stockĐ2Đ,â,,¢s price Đ2Đ,ÑžEntering the dark, strange world of the short sellers Đ2Đ,ÑžRealizing how different people can make absolutely opposite bets and all still come out ahead YouĐ2Đ,â,,¢ll come away with new insights into how the stock market really worksĐ2D,―the power of expectations, stock buybacks, and profitsĐ²Đ,―and explore StarbucksĐ²Đ,â,¢ phenomenal growth and whether it is sustainable. By unraveling the marketĐ²Đ,â,¢s mysteries,Grande Expectationsshows how investing can be both profitable and understandable. Get ready for the ride of your lifeĐ²Đ,―and a lifetime of fruitful stock market success. From the Hardcover edition..

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