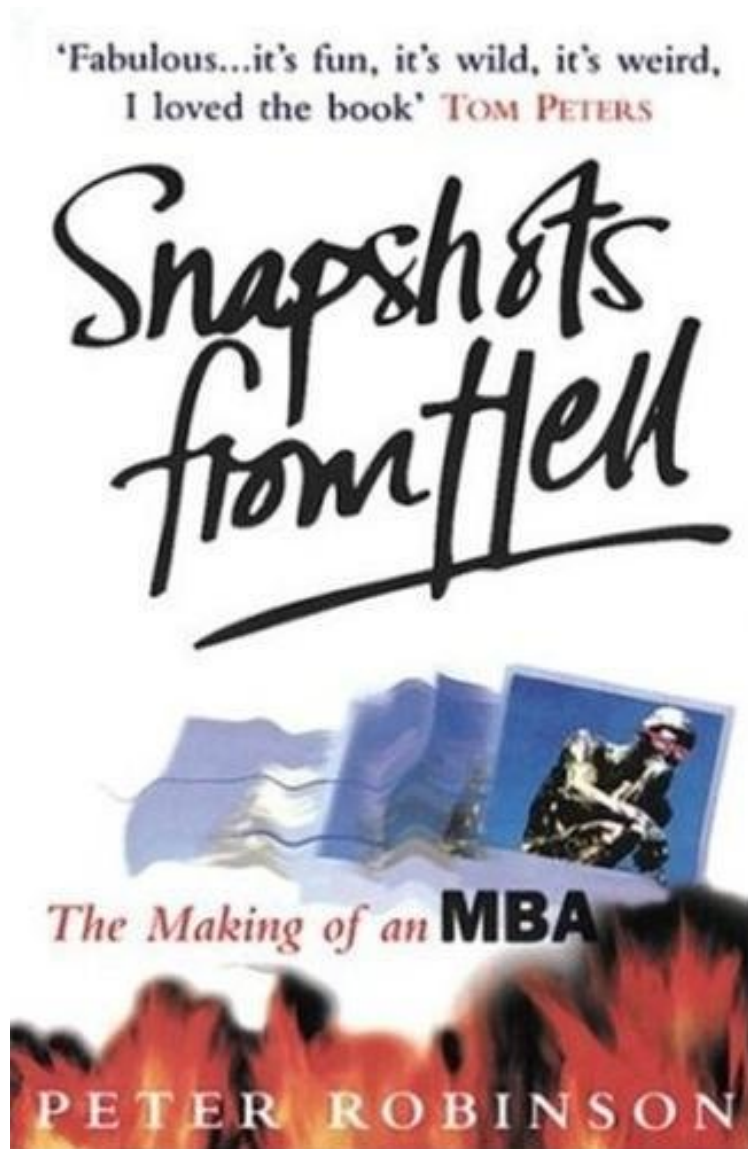


Snapshots From Hell: The Making of an MBA

Peter Robinson

*audiobook | *ebooks | Download PDF | ePub | DOC*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1165117 in Books Nicholas Brealey Publishing 2005-04-26Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.50 x .50 x 5.501, .82 #File Name: 1857880781296 pages | File size: 57.Mb

Peter Robinson : Snapshots From Hell: The Making of an MBA before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Snapshots From Hell: The Making of an MBA:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This book was spot onBy M. AmerThis book was great. With the exception of having prior business experience, Snapshots was 99% accurate to what my MBA experience has been like. I'm finishing up my first year at Top-20 B-School on the East Coast and Snapshots was like a play-by-play of what I've been through. I've read some of the other reviews trashing the book (the Med School guy for instance) and I

think they're taking it a little too seriously. The author uses "poets" so he doesn't have to keep repeating "those of us without prior business experience". And in real life, you do notice differences between those who HAD prior business experience and those who didn't. I didn't pick up any strong political overtones in the book so again, the Med School guy needs to relax. I also didn't think Snapshots was written to be overly dramatic and engage the Med and Law school types in a pissing contest over whos gradschool program is the toughest. This book gives an honest account for what your first-year of business school will be like and I've recommended it to all my friends considering that path. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the best books ever written on the MBA experience By Ken One of the best books ever written on the MBA experience. Not quite "Paper Chase", but a worthy read for anyone interested in attending a top flight MBA program. Very few people will ever see the inside of the Stanford GSB, but the takeaways from Peter's memoir are universal. Well worth the read. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good overview of the MBA program if you're a "poet" By A Customer This book is quite entertaining to the prospective MBA student. However, Mr. Robinson spends quite a bit of time lamenting how he's a "poet" (someone who cannot handle the quantitative subjects) and in over his head. While this situation makes for good comedy, it is not very helpful for those of us entering an MBA program and reasonably confident in our quantitative skills and knowledgeable about our reason for pursuing a business career. Overall, a good quick read.

This work is an attempt to provide an answer to the paramount question every prospective student asks, "What is business school really like?" During his first year at Stanford Business School, the author began keeping a journal of his day-to-day impressions which evolved into this book, the writing of which he came to see as a "simple act of decency, like going back to the last calm bend in the river and nailing up a sign that reads 'Waterfall Ahead'". From his initial harrowing days at "maths camp" through the dizzying phalanx of core courses, the frenzy of the exam week, the pitfalls and triumphs of the interview process (including a surreal interview with Robert Maxwell) to being wined and dined by some of the most prestigious companies in the world, Robinson's account is an irreverent story peopled with a wide range of characters.

From Publishers Weekly After six years as a White House speechwriter for Reagan and Bush, Robinson enrolled at Stanford Business School, wrestled for two years in perpetual exhaustion with often incomprehensible mathematical, organization and marketing concepts and, upon earning his MBA "union card for yuppies," interviewed in the communications world of Robert Maxwell, Steve Jobs and Rupert Murdoch (who hired him for a brief stint). In the tradition of Scott Turow's *One L* for potential students who are curious about Harvard Law School, the author sets out with humor and perception to answer the question that no business school catalogue does: What is business school like? Then Robinson dismisses the value of an MBA degree in the economic downturn after the fat '80s; for him the degree did not pay off as a "straight and easy road to riches." Robinson explains: "Today I'm back to being what I was before I went to business school, a writer." BOMC and Fortune Book Club alternates. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus A funny and frenetic account of Robinson's crucial first year in Stanford's MBA program, offering an education in itself as well as a cautionary tale. Stanford's atypical MBA program combines Harvard's case-study approach and Chicago's business theory but has a much more diverse, laid-back student body. With graduate work at Oxford and a career as a White House speech writer behind him, Robinson was a "poet" - in Stanford lingo, accepted to add variety to the management consultants and number crunchers. Like most of his peers in 1988, his motive for getting an MBA (which one professor called a "yuppie union card") was to secure an insurance policy for a lucrative career as an investment banker, financial consultant, or the like. Robinson found himself struggling to understand not only supply-and-demand curves, but also decision trees and influence diagrams. He also discovered his classmates' appalling ignorance of economic philosophy, whether Adam Smith or Karl Marx, and the persistence of gender issues in the B-school's race-blind meritocracy. His book is an album of late-night studying, random "cold calls" by professors in class, impossible exams, competition, and camaraderie. Robinson got a job with media mogul Rupert Murdoch, from which he was fired less than a year later in the recession. His peers likewise graduated to diminished expectations, but all got the credentials and contacts to improve their careers or change their lives. Today's business schools, with enrollments declining, have begun to expand their programs' ties to real business experience and to balance professors' teaching responsibilities with their research, but these problems are beyond the scope of Robinson's own vivid experience. Not the ultimate B-school survival guide, but a genial description of everything about getting an MBA that you wanted to know but were afraid to find out. (Author tour) -- Copyright ©1994, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. "A refreshingly candid book ... required reading for ... anyone with an interest in the difference between advertising and reality." -- Wess Roberts, author of *Leadership Secrets of Attila the Hun* "Brilliant, funny, occasionally profound... the best book yet on the mazes of post-graduate American education. Don't matriculate without it!" -- George Gilder, author of *Wealth and Poverty* "Devastatingly funny... I assume all MBA students have read it. All their professors certainly have." -- Niall Ferguson, Stern School of Business, New York University "Fabulous... it's fun, it's wild, it's weird, I loved the book." -- Tom Peters "The book is very good... it rings wonderfully true in its detail. The author strives for humorous effect and succeeds." -- Michael Lewis, *The New*

