

steve jobs biography book

steve jobs biography book is a compelling journey into the life and legacy of one of the most influential technology pioneers of the modern era. This article delves into the definitive biography of Steve Jobs, written by Walter Isaacson, exploring its origins, content, key themes, and impact on readers and the tech industry. Discover how the book captures Jobs' complex personality, leadership style, and visionary contributions to Apple and beyond. We'll also examine the critical reception, important life lessons, and why the Steve Jobs biography book remains essential reading for anyone interested in innovation, entrepreneurship, and business leadership. Whether you are considering reading the book or seeking a deeper understanding of Steve Jobs' life, this comprehensive guide offers everything you need to know.

- Overview of the Steve Jobs Biography Book
- Author and Background
- Major Themes and Insights
- Key Events and Milestones in Steve Jobs' Life
- Critical Reception and Reviews
- Lessons from Steve Jobs' Biography
- Why Read the Steve Jobs Biography Book?

Overview of the Steve Jobs Biography Book

The Steve Jobs biography book, authored by Walter Isaacson, is widely considered the definitive account of the tech visionary's life. Published in 2011, shortly after Jobs' passing, the biography is based on over forty interviews with Jobs conducted over two years, as well as interviews with more than a hundred family members, friends, colleagues, and competitors. The biography provides a rare, unfiltered look into Jobs' personal and professional journey, emphasizing his unique approach to innovation, leadership, and design.

Isaacson's book covers Jobs' early years, his founding of Apple, his ousting from the company, the creation of NeXT and Pixar, and his triumphant return to lead Apple to unprecedented success. The biography book is praised for its balanced portrayal, showing both Jobs' genius and his challenging personality quirks. Throughout the text, readers gain insights into the pivotal decisions and groundbreaking products that defined Jobs' career and changed the technology landscape.

Author and Background

Walter Isaacson's Credentials

Walter Isaacson is a renowned biographer and journalist known for his works on influential figures such as Benjamin Franklin, Albert Einstein, and Leonardo da Vinci. His reputation for thorough research and balanced storytelling made him an ideal choice to document the life of Steve Jobs. Isaacson was personally selected by Jobs to write his biography, granting him unprecedented access to the Apple co-founder's life and inner circle.

Development of the Biography

The biography book was developed through a collaborative process between Isaacson and Jobs, who insisted on no control over its content. This allowed Isaacson to present an honest and comprehensive portrait. The book draws from first-hand interviews, unpublished documents, and exclusive access to Jobs' family and colleagues, resulting in a narrative that is both deeply personal and highly informative.

Major Themes and Insights

Innovation and Creativity

One of the central themes of the Steve Jobs biography book is the relentless pursuit of innovation. Jobs' dedication to design, simplicity, and user experience reshaped consumer electronics and established new standards for quality and aesthetic appeal. The book explores how Jobs' perfectionism and intuition led to revolutionary products like the iPod, iPhone, and iPad.

Leadership and Management Style

Jobs' leadership style is described as intense, demanding, and sometimes controversial. The biography details how Jobs' charisma and vision inspired his teams, while his uncompromising standards often led to conflicts and tensions in the workplace. Readers learn about the leadership lessons and the management strategies that fueled Apple's growth and innovation.

- Focus on excellence and attention to detail
- Emphasis on cross-disciplinary collaboration
- Encouragement of bold, unconventional thinking
- Managing through inspiration and challenge

Personal Life and Philosophy

The Steve Jobs biography book sheds light on Jobs' personal life, including his family relationships, spiritual beliefs, and formative experiences. It explores his interest in Zen Buddhism, his complex relationship with his children, and the impact of his adoption on his worldview. These aspects provide context for Jobs' creative drive and unconventional approach to life and business.

Key Events and Milestones in Steve Jobs' Life

Early Life and Education

Jobs was born in 1955 and adopted by Paul and Clara Jobs in San Francisco. The biography covers his childhood curiosity, rebellious nature, and early interest in electronics. Jobs' time at Reed College, though brief, is highlighted as a period of exploration and self-discovery.

Founding of Apple and Rise to Success

The book details Jobs' partnership with Steve Wozniak and the founding of Apple in 1976. Their creation of the Apple I and Apple II computers set the stage for the personal computing revolution. The launch of the Macintosh in 1984 marked a significant milestone, showcasing Jobs' commitment to design and user experience.

Ousting from Apple and New Ventures

In 1985, Jobs was forced out of Apple, a pivotal event that led to the founding of NeXT and his acquisition of Pixar. The biography explains how these ventures shaped Jobs' approach to technology and storytelling, ultimately contributing to the success of animated films and advanced computing platforms.

Return to Apple and Final Years

Jobs' return to Apple in 1997 is a major focus, illustrating how he revitalized the company with products like the iMac, iPod, iPhone, and iPad. The biography also chronicles his battle with illness and his enduring influence on the company's culture and vision.

Critical Reception and Reviews

Responses from Critics and Readers

The Steve Jobs biography book received widespread acclaim for its depth, honesty, and narrative style. Critics praised Isaacson for providing an unvarnished look at Jobs' strengths and flaws, while readers appreciated the engaging storytelling and actionable insights.

- Praised for balanced portrayal of Jobs' character
- Recognized for detailed research and exclusive interviews
- Appreciated for readability and narrative flow
- Some criticism for lack of deeper technical analysis

Lessons from Steve Jobs' Biography

Business and Innovation Lessons

The biography offers valuable lessons for entrepreneurs, business leaders, and creative professionals. Jobs' unwavering focus on excellence, willingness to challenge conventional wisdom, and ability to anticipate consumer needs are recurring themes. The book encourages readers to embrace risk, nurture creativity, and cultivate resilience in the face of setbacks.

Personal Growth and Mindset

Readers gain insights into Jobs' approach to personal growth, including his commitment to lifelong learning, mindfulness, and self-reflection. The biography highlights the importance of staying true to one's vision, seeking inspiration from diverse sources, and maintaining a sense of purpose.

Why Read the Steve Jobs Biography Book?

Inspiration for Innovators and Leaders

The Steve Jobs biography book is recommended for anyone seeking inspiration in business, technology, or creative pursuits. It provides a rare glimpse into the mind of one of history's greatest innovators, offering practical advice and thought-provoking stories that resonate with readers across industries.

Comprehensive Portrait of a Tech Icon

With its thorough research, exclusive interviews, and engaging narrative, the

biography is the most authoritative account of Jobs' life and achievements. Readers are able to understand the motivations, challenges, and triumphs that shaped Jobs' remarkable career and lasting legacy.

Enduring Influence on Technology and Culture

The book underscores Jobs' impact on technology, design, and popular culture. It serves as a testament to the power of vision, creativity, and passion, inspiring future generations of innovators, entrepreneurs, and thought leaders.

Trending Questions and Answers about Steve Jobs Biography Book

Q: Who wrote the Steve Jobs biography book?

A: The Steve Jobs biography book was written by Walter Isaacson, a renowned biographer and journalist.

Q: What makes the Steve Jobs biography book unique?

A: The book is unique because it is based on exclusive interviews with Steve Jobs and over a hundred people from his personal and professional life, offering an honest and comprehensive portrait of the tech visionary.

Q: What are the main themes discussed in the Steve Jobs biography book?

A: Major themes include innovation, leadership, creativity, personal life, and the impact of Jobs' work on technology and culture.

Q: Why is the Steve Jobs biography book recommended for entrepreneurs?

A: Entrepreneurs benefit from the book's insights into Jobs' approach to business, risk-taking, creativity, and overcoming challenges.

Q: Does the biography cover Steve Jobs' time at Pixar?

A: Yes, the book details Jobs' acquisition and leadership of Pixar, including its success in revolutionizing animated films.

Q: What lessons can readers learn from the Steve Jobs biography book?

A: Readers learn lessons about innovation, leadership, resilience, personal growth, and the importance of staying true to one's vision.

Q: How is Steve Jobs' management style portrayed in the biography?

A: The biography portrays Jobs' management style as intense, demanding, and inspiring, with a focus on excellence and creativity.

Q: Is the Steve Jobs biography book suitable for tech enthusiasts?

A: Yes, the book is highly recommended for tech enthusiasts interested in the history of Apple and the evolution of consumer technology.

Q: What are some criticisms of the Steve Jobs biography book?

A: Some critics feel the book lacks deeper technical analysis of Apple's products, but overall it is praised for its balanced and engaging storytelling.

Q: When was the Steve Jobs biography book published?

A: The biography was published in October 2011, shortly after Steve Jobs' death.

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The Definitive Guide to Steve Jobs Biography Books: Finding the Perfect Read

Are you fascinated by the enigmatic life of Steve Jobs, the visionary behind Apple? Want to delve deeper than the Hollywood portrayal and understand the man behind the myth? Then you've come to

the right place. This comprehensive guide explores the plethora of Steve Jobs biography books available, helping you choose the perfect read to satisfy your curiosity and gain a deeper understanding of this iconic figure. We'll dissect the most popular options, highlight their strengths and weaknesses, and guide you toward the book that best suits your interests.

Choosing the Right Steve Jobs Biography Book: A Comprehensive Overview

The market is saturated with books chronicling Steve Jobs' life, but not all are created equal. Some offer intimate details and personal reflections, while others focus on his business acumen and impact on the tech industry. Understanding these nuances is crucial to finding the perfect fit.

H2: Walter Isaacson's "Steve Jobs": The Gold Standard

Walter Isaacson's biography, often considered the definitive account of Steve Jobs' life, remains a benchmark. It's a meticulously researched work, based on over 40 interviews with Jobs himself, along with his family, friends, colleagues, and competitors.

H3: Strengths of Isaacson's Biography:

Unparalleled Access: Isaacson secured unprecedented access to Jobs, resulting in intimate details about his personal life and business strategies.

Comprehensive Coverage: The book covers Jobs' entire life, from his early years to his final days, providing a holistic perspective.

Impartial Tone: While admiring Jobs' achievements, Isaacson doesn't shy away from portraying his flaws and complexities.

H3: Potential Drawbacks of Isaacson's Biography:

Length: It's a substantial read, requiring significant time commitment.

Price: It can be more expensive than some alternative biographies.

H2: Beyond Isaacson: Alternative Biographies and Perspectives

While Isaacson's book reigns supreme, several other biographies offer valuable perspectives and insights.

H3: "Becoming Steve Jobs" by Brent Schlender and Rick Tetzeli:

This biography, written by journalists who knew Jobs personally, offers a more nuanced perspective, particularly on his transformation from a volatile young entrepreneur to a more empathetic leader. It highlights his personal growth and evolution.

H3: "Steve Jobs: The Exclusive Biography" by Karen Blumenthal:

This book offers a more accessible and concise account of Jobs' life, ideal for readers looking for a quicker read without sacrificing significant detail. It's a great starting point for those new to the topic.

H2: Beyond the Traditional Biography: Exploring Other Formats

Beyond traditional biographies, several other formats explore Steve Jobs' life and legacy.

H3: Documentaries and Films:

Numerous documentaries and films, including the critically acclaimed "Steve Jobs" starring Ashton Kutcher, provide alternative perspectives and visual storytelling. These can supplement your reading and provide a different understanding of his life.

H3: Podcasts and Audiobooks:

For those preferring an auditory experience, audiobooks and podcasts offer convenient access to the stories of Steve Jobs' life. These are particularly helpful for multitasking individuals.

H2: Choosing the Right Book Based on Your Interests

The best Steve Jobs biography for you depends on your specific interests:

For a comprehensive and detailed account: Walter Isaacson's biography is the clear winner.

For a more nuanced perspective on his personal growth: Consider "Becoming Steve Jobs."

For a quicker, more accessible read: Choose Karen Blumenthal's biography.

For a visual and engaging experience: Explore documentaries and films.

For convenient listening: Opt for audiobooks and podcasts.

Conclusion:

Ultimately, exploring the life of Steve Jobs through various biographies offers invaluable insights into innovation, leadership, and the human condition. Whether you choose Isaacson's classic or delve into alternative accounts, the journey of understanding this iconic figure is guaranteed to be both enriching and inspiring. Select the format and approach that best suits your learning style and time constraints, and enjoy the journey of discovering the extraordinary life of Steve Jobs.

FAQs:

1. Is Walter Isaacson's book the only Steve Jobs biography worth reading? No, while Isaacson's book is considered the definitive biography, other books offer unique perspectives and approaches. "Becoming Steve Jobs" and Blumenthal's biography are excellent alternatives.
2. Are there any shorter biographies of Steve Jobs available? Yes, Karen Blumenthal's biography is a concise and accessible alternative for readers seeking a shorter read.
3. What are the key differences between the different Steve Jobs biographies? The key differences lie in the author's access to Jobs, their perspective (more critical or celebratory), and the depth of detail provided.

4. What is the best format to learn about Steve Jobs' life – book, documentary, or audiobook? The best format depends on your personal preferences. Books offer depth, documentaries provide visuals, and audiobooks allow for multitasking.

5. Where can I find these books and other resources? You can find these books on major online retailers like Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and at your local bookstore. Documentaries and films are available on streaming platforms like Netflix and Apple TV+. Audiobooks can be found on Audible and other audiobook platforms.

steve jobs biography book: *Steve Jobs* Walter Isaacson, 2011 Based on more than 40 interviews with Jobs conducted over two years--as well as interviews with more than 100 family members, friends, adversaries, competitors, and colleagues--Isaacson has written a riveting story of the roller-coaster life and searingly intense personality of a creative entrepreneur whose passion for perfection and ferocious drive revolutionized six industries: personal computers, animated movies, music, phones, tablet computing, and digital publishing.

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steve jobs biography book: *Becoming Steve Jobs* Brent Schlender, Rick Tetzeli, 2015-03-24 THE SUNDAY TIMES AND #1 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER - with a new foreword by Silicon Valley legend Marc Andreessen. 'For my money, a better book about Jobs than Walter Isaacson's biography' New Yorker 'A fascinating reinterpretation of the Steve Jobs story' Sunday Times We all think we know who Steve Jobs was, what made him tick, and what made him succeed. Yet the single most important question about him has never been answered. The young, impulsive, egotistical genius was ousted in the mid-80s from the company he founded, exiled from his own kingdom and cast into the wilderness. Yet he returned a decade later to transform the ailing Apple into the most successful company the world had ever seen. How did this reckless upstart transform himself into a visionary business leader? The first comprehensive study of Jobs' career following his dismissal from Apple, written with unparalleled access and insight, BECOMING STEVE JOBS offers a startling new portrait of the most important business figure in modern history. The most intimate biography yet of Jobs, written by the journalist who knew him better than any other, BECOMING STEVE JOBS draws on recently discovered interviews that have never before seen the light of day, and answers for the first time the most pressing questions about what made this legendary business leader such a success.

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Apple, Inc., which he co-founded in 1976, Steve Jobs stepped down from that role in August 2011, bringing an end to one of the greatest, most transformative business careers in history. Over the years, Jobs has given countless interviews to the media, explaining what he calls 'the vision thing' — his unmatched ability to envision, and successfully bring to the marketplace, consumer products that people find simply irresistible. Drawn from more than three decades of media coverage — print, electronic, and online — this book serves up the best, most thought-provoking insights spoken by Steve Jobs: more than two hundred quotations that are essential reading for everyone who seeks innovative solutions applicable to their business, regardless of size. It's the perfect gift or reference item for everyone interested in this icon.

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steve jobs biography book: The Bite in the Apple Chrisann Brennan, 2013-10-29 An intimate look at the life of Steve Jobs by the mother of his first child providing rare insight into Jobs's formative, lesser-known years. Steve Jobs was a remarkable man who wanted to unify the world through technology. For him, the point was to set people free with tools to explore their own unique creativity. Chrisann Brennan knows this better than anyone. She met him in high school, at a time when Jobs was passionately aware that there was something much bigger to be had out of life, and that new kinds of revelations were within reach. The Bite in the Apple is the very human tale of Jobs's ascent and the toll it took, told from the author's unique perspective as his first girlfriend, co-parent, friend, and—like many others—object of his cruelty. Brennan writes with depth and breadth, and she doesn't buy into all the hype. She talks with passion about an idealistic young man who was driven to change the world, about a young father who denied his own child, and about a man who mistook power for love. Chrisann Brennan's intimate memoir provides the reader with a human dimension to Jobs' myth. Finally, a book that reveals a more real Steve Jobs.

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steve jobs biography book: Steve Jobs Josh Gregory, 2013 This definitive series introduces the events that have helped shape the United States, from the country's beginning to the present day. Strong narratives and eye-catching images tell the stories behind the nation's growth and development. Key Features: Sidebars illustrate how history affects the present day Glossaries define important vocabulary specific to each book Timelines and maps increase readers' understanding of historical context Gripping narrative keeps students turning the pages Contains commentary about how the event has helped shape the world as we know it Additional content for further learning on this subject available at www.factsfornow.scholastic.com

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steve jobs biography book: To Pixar and Beyond Lawrence Levy, 2017-03-02 A Sunday Times Best Book of the Year 2017 One day in November 1994, Lawrence Levy received a phone call out of the blue from Steve Jobs, whom he'd never met, offering him a job running Pixar, a little-known company that had already lost Jobs \$50 million. With Pixar's prospects looking bleak, it was with some trepidation that Levy accepted the position. After a few weeks he discovered that the situation was even worse than he'd imagined. Pixar's advertising division just about broke even, its graphics software had few customers, its short films didn't make any money and, on top of all that, Jobs was pushing to take the company public. Everything was riding on the studio's first feature film, codenamed Toy Story, and even then it would have to be one of the most successful animated features of all time... Full of wisdom on bringing business and creativity together, and recounting the touching story of Levy's enduring friendship with Jobs, To Pixar and Beyond is a fascinating insider's account of one of Hollywood's greatest success stories.

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Apple Computer shows Steve Jobs's innovative management style and techniques, and how they can be translated to any business.

steve jobs biography book: Frederick Douglass David W. Blight, 2020-01-07 * Selected as One of the Best Books of the 21st Century by The New York Times * Winner of the Pulitzer Prize in History * "Extraordinary...a great American biography" (The New Yorker) of the most important African American of the 19th century: Frederick Douglass, the escaped slave who became the greatest orator of his day and one of the leading abolitionists and writers of the era. As a young man Frederick Douglass (1818-1895) escaped from slavery in Baltimore, Maryland. He was fortunate to have been taught to read by his slave owner mistress, and he would go on to become one of the major literary figures of his time. His very existence gave the lie to slave owners: with dignity and great intelligence he bore witness to the brutality of slavery. Initially mentored by William Lloyd Garrison, Douglass spoke widely, using his own story to condemn slavery. By the Civil War, Douglass had become the most famed and widely travelled orator in the nation. In his unique and eloquent voice, written and spoken, Douglass was a fierce critic of the United States as well as a radical patriot. After the war he sometimes argued politically with younger African Americans, but he never forsook either the Republican party or the cause of black civil and political rights. In this "cinematic and deeply engaging" (The New York Times Book Review) biography, David Blight has drawn on new information held in a private collection that few other historians have consulted, as well as recently discovered issues of Douglass's newspapers. "Absorbing and even moving...a brilliant book that speaks to our own time as well as Douglass's" (The Wall Street Journal), Blight's biography tells the fascinating story of Douglass's two marriages and his complex extended family. "David Blight has written the definitive biography of Frederick Douglass...a powerful portrait of one of the most important American voices of the nineteenth century" (The Boston Globe). In addition to the Pulitzer Prize, Frederick Douglass won the Bancroft, Parkman, Los Angeles Times (biography), Lincoln, Plutarch, and Christopher awards and was named one of the Best Books of 2018 by The New York Times Book Review, The Wall Street Journal, The Boston Globe, The Chicago Tribune, The San Francisco Chronicle, and Time.

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steve jobs biography book: Finding the Next Steve Jobs Nolan Bushnell, Gene Stone, 2013-07-16 From the legendary founder of Atari and Chuck E. Cheese's and Steve Jobs's first boss, the secrets to finding, hiring, keeping, and nurturing creative talent. The business world is changing faster than ever, and every day your company faces new complications and difficulties. The only way to resolve these issues is to have a staff of wildly creative people who live as much in the future as the present, who thrive on being different, and whose ideas will guarantee that your company will prosper when other companies fail. A celebrated visionary and iconoclast, Nolan Bushnell founded the groundbreaking gaming company Atari before he went on to found Chuck E. Cheese's and two dozen other companies. He also happened to launch the career of the late Steve Jobs, along with those of many other brilliant creatives over the course of his five decades in business. With refreshing candor, keen psychological insight, and robust humor, Bushnell explains in *Finding the Next Steve Jobs* how to think boldly and differently about companies and organizations—and specifically the people who work within them. For anyone trying to turn a company into the next Atari or Apple, build a more creative workforce, or fashion a career in a changing world, this book will enlighten, challenge, surprise, and amuse.

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steve jobs biography book: Who Was Steve Jobs? Pam Pollack, Meg Belviso, Who HQ, 2012-03-29 Steve Jobs, adopted in infancy by a family in San Francisco, packed a lot of life into fifty-six short years. In this *Who Was...?* biography, children will learn how his obsession with computers and technology at an early age led him to co-found and run Apple, in addition to turning

Pixar into a ground-breaking animation studio. A college dropout, Jobs took unconventional steps in his path to success and inspired the best and the brightest to come with him and “change the world.”

steve jobs biography book: Small Fry Lisa Brennan Jobs, 2019-12-09 “Dia menatapku dari majalah-majalah, koran-koran, dan layar-layar di kota mana pun aku berada. Itu ayahku dan tidak ada yang tahu, tapi itulah kenyataannya. Bagaimana sedihnya ditolak ayah sendiri? Getirnya harus merahasiakan fakta bahwa ayahmu salah satu orang paling terkenal di dunia? Seperti sinetron, tapi ini kisah nyata. Lisa Brennan-Jobs, putri sulung Steve Jobs, pencipta merek komputer dan gawai ternama, harus menanggung krisis identitas diri parah selama bertahun-tahun akibat hubungan keluarga yang rumit dan tidak stabil. Chrisann, ibu kandung Lisa, dan Steve Jobs tidak pernah berencana memiliki anak di usia muda. Gaya hidup Chrisann sebagai seorang seniman cenderung bebas, dan kondisi ekonominya terbatas. Ketika hubungan Chrisann dan Lisa memburuk, Lisa memutuskan untuk tinggal bersama sang ayah, yang kaya raya namun sering bersikap dingin kepadanya. Lisa berusaha keras untuk menjadi anak baik dan berprestasi, demi mencecap kasih sayang sang ayah. Tapi Steve Jobs tetap menjaga jarak dengan putrinya, membuat Lisa kecewa. Terkoyak antara benci dan cinta, Lisa berjuang untuk memahami dan menerima siapa dirinya. Tujuh tahun setelah Steve Jobs tiada akibat kanker pankreas, Lisa menghimpun keberanian untuk berbagi kisah hidupnya yang kontroversial. Inilah Small Fry, kisah Lisa Brennan-Jobs, yang menurut New York Times ditulis dengan “indah sekaligus memilukan”. NELAYAN KETIGA. Master, aku bertanya-tanya bagaimana ikan hidup di laut. NELAYAN PERTAMA. Yah, seperti manusia hidup di darat; yang besar-besar menyantap yang kecil-kecil. Tak ada perbandingan yang lebih tepat untuk orang kaya yang kikir daripada seekor paus; hilir mudik kian kemari, memancing ikan-ikan kecil yang malang ke depannya, lalu akhirnya melahap mereka semua dalam sekali telan. Paus-paus semacam itu kerap kudengar di darat, yang tak pernah berhenti menganga sampai mereka sudah menelan seluruh paroki, gereja, menara, lonceng-lonceng, dan semuanya. —Shakespeare, Pericles Sungguh pengalaman aneh, menjadi sosok anonim yang berdiri di tengah hujan salju, dan menjadi pusat perhatian publik. —Saul Bellow, Humboldt’s Gift Tiga bulan sebelum dia meninggal, aku mulai mencuri barang-barang dari rumah ayahku. Aku berkeliaran tanpa alas kaki dan menyelipkan benda-benda ke dalam sakuku. Aku mengambil perona pipi, pasta gigi, dua mangkuk warna biru tosca yang gompel, sebotol cat kuku, sepasang sandal balet usang, dan empat sarung bantal putih kusam. Setelah mencuri setiap benda, aku merasa puas. Aku berjanji pada diri sendiri bahwa ini akan menjadi yang terakhir. Namun, tak lama kemudian dorongan untuk mengambil benda lainnya kembali datang seperti dahaga. Aku berjingkat-jingkat memasuki kamar ayahku, berhati-hati agar tidak menginjak papan lantai yang berderit di ambang pintu. Kamar ini dulu ruang kerjanya, waktu dia masih kuat naik tangga, tapi dia tidur di sini sekarang. Kamar itu berantakan disesaki buku-buku, surat, dan botol-botol obat; apel-apel kaca, apel-apel kayu; berbagai penghargaan, majalah-majalah, dan bertumpuk-tumpuk kertas. Ada lukisan-lukisan berbingkai karya Hasui yang menggambarkan senja dan matahari terbenam di kuil-kuil. Sepetak cahaya merah muda terpendang di dinding di sampingnya. Dia berbaring bertopangkan bantal-bantal di tempat tidur, mengenakan celana pendek. Tungkainya telanjang dan sekurus lengan, menekuk seperti tungkai belalang. “Hai, Lis,” panggilnya. Segyu Rinpoche berdiri di sebelahnya. Akhir-akhir ini lelaki itu selalu ada saat aku datang berkunjung. Lelaki Brasil bertubuh pendek dengan mata cokelat berbinar, sang Rinpoche adalah biksu Buddha bersuara parau yang mengenakan jubah cokelat menutupi perut bulatnya. Kami memanggil lelaki itu dengan gelarnya. Zaman sekarang, orang-orang suci dari Tibet terkadang lahir di barat, di tempat-tempat seperti Brasil. Bagiku dia tidak “terlihat” suci—dia tidak tampak berjarak atau gaib. Di dekat kami, sebuah kantong kanvas hitam berisi zat gizi berdungung oleh mesin dan pompa, selangnya menghilang di suatu tempat di bawah seprai ayahku. “Menyentuh kakinya itu ide yang bagus,” Rinpoche berkata, meletakkan tangannya melingkari kaki ayahku di tempat tidur. “Seperti ini.” Aku tidak tahu apakah sentuhan kaki itu ide bagus untuk ayahku, atau untukku, atau untuk kami berdua. Oke,” kataku, lalu meraih satu kaki yang dibalut kaus kaki tebal, walaupun rasanya aneh ketika mengawasi wajah ayahku, karena saat dia mengernyit kesakitan atau

marah kelihatannya sama seperti saat dia hendak tersenyum. “Rasanya enak,” kata ayahku sambil memejamkan mata. Aku melirik lemari laci di sampingnya dan rak-rak di sisi lain kamar itu, mencari benda-benda yang kuinginkan, walaupun aku tahu aku takkan berani mencuri di depan matanya. Selagi dia tidur, aku berkeliaran di sekeliling rumah, mencari-cari entah apa. Seorang perawat duduk di sofa di ruang tamu, kedua tangan di pangkuan, bersiaga mendengarkan panggilan dari ayahku. Rumah itu sepi, suara-suara teredam, dinding batu bata bercat putih berlekuk-lekuk seperti bantal. Lantai terakota terasa sejuk di kakiku kecuali di bagian-bagian tempat matahari telah menghangatkannya menyamai suhu kulit. Dalam lemari di kamar mandi kecil dekat dapur, tempat dulunya ada satu edisi Bhagavad Gita yang sudah koyak-koyak, aku menemukan sebotol penyegar wajah mawar yang mahal. Dengan pintu tertutup, lampu dimatikan, duduk di penutup toilet, aku menyemprotkannya ke udara dan memejamkan mata. Percikannya jatuh di sekelilingku, sejuk dan suci, bagaikan di dalam hutan atau gereja batu tua. Selain itu, ada tabung perak lip gloss dengan sikat di salah satu ujungnya dan mekanisme pemutar di ujung satunya yang mengalirkan cairan ke tengah-tengah sikat. Aku harus memilikinya. Aku menjejalkan lip gloss itu ke dalam saku untuk kubawa pulang ke apartemen satu kamar di Greenwich Village yang kutempati bersama pacarku. Aku tahu pasti bahwa tabung lip gloss ini akan melengkapi hidupku. Di antara menghindari pembantu rumah tangga, adik-adikku, dan ibu tiriku di sepenjuru rumah supaya tidak ketahuan mencuri barang-barang, atau terluka saat mereka tidak memedulikanku atau membalas sapaanku, dan menyemprot diri sendiri dalam kamar mandi gelap agar aku tidak merasa terlalu menghilang—sebab di tengah tetes-tetes air yang berjatuhan aku merasa seakan-akan kembali mewujud. Berupaya menemui ayahku yang sakit di kamarnya mulai terasa seperti beban bagiku. Sepanjang tahun lalu aku berkunjung pada akhir pekan kurang lebih setiap dua bulan sekali. Aku sudah menyerah mengharapakan rekonsiliasi agung, seperti di film-film, tapi aku tetap saja datang. Di antara waktu kunjungan, aku melihat ayahku di mana-mana di New York. Aku melihatnya duduk dalam bioskop, lekuk leher yang sama persis sampai ke rahang dan tulang pipi. Aku melihatnya saat aku berlari menyusuri Sungai Hudson pada musim dingin, duduk di bangku menatap kapal-kapal di galangan; dan dalam perjalananku menaiki subway ke tempat kerja, melangkah pergi di peron menembus kerumunan. Para lelaki-lelaki kurus dengan kulit sewarna zaitun, jemari lentik, pergelangan tangan ramping, wajah berhias pangkal janggut yang kutemui di jalan, dari sudut-sudut tertentu, terlihat mirip dengannya. Setiap kali aku harus mendekat untuk mengecek, dengan jantung berdebar, walaupun aku tahu itu tidak mungkin dia karena dia sedang terbaring sakit di California. Sebelum ini, selama tahun-tahun yang kami lalui nyaris tanpa bicara, aku melihat fotonya di mana-mana. Melihat foto-foto itu memberiku perasaan ganjil. Rasanya sama seperti menangkap kilasan diriku dalam cermin di seberang ruangan dan mengira itu orang lain, lalu menyadari itu wajahku sendiri: Dia ada di sana, menatapku dari majalah-majalah, koran-koran, dan layar-layar di kota mana pun aku berada. Itu ayahku dan tidak ada yang tahu, tapi itulah kenyataannya. Sebelum berpamitan, aku pergi ke kamar mandi untuk menyemprotkan penyegar sekali lagi. Semprotan itu alami, yang artinya setelah beberapa menit berlalu aromanya tidak lagi tajam seperti mawar, tapi berbau busuk dan lembap seperti rawa, walaupun saat itu aku tidak menyadarinya. Sewaktu aku masuk ke kamarnya, Ayah tengah bersiap untuk berdiri. Aku mengamatinya menyatukan kedua tungkai dalam satu lengan, memutar tubuhnya sembilan puluh derajat dengan menekan kepala tempat tidur menggunakan lengan satunya, kemudian mengerahkan kedua lengan untuk mengangkat tungkainya melewati pinggiran tempat tidur dan memijak lantai. Ketika kami berpelukan, aku bisa merasakan tulang belakangnya, tulang rusuknya. Dia berbau apak, seperti keringat obat. “Nanti aku kembali lagi,” kataku. Kami melepaskan pelukan, dan aku mulai berjalan pergi. “Lis?” “Ya?” “Baumu seperti toilet.” [Mizan, Mizan Publishing, Qanita, Fiksi, Kisah, Keluarga, Dewasa, Indonesia]

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1946 it was the first introduction of many westerners to yoga and meditation. The famous opera singer Amelita Galli-Curci said about the book: Amazing, true stories of saints and masters of India, blended with priceless superphysical information-much needed to balance the Western material efficiency with Eastern spiritual efficiency-come from the vigorous pen of Paramhansa Yogananda, whose teachings my husband and myself have had the pleasure of studying for twenty years.

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entourage à parler librement. « Il y a beaucoup de choses dont je ne suis pas fier, dit-il, notamment la façon dont, à vingt-trois ans, j'ai géré la situation lorsque ma petite amie est tombée enceinte. Mais je n'ai pas de cadavres dans le placard que j'essaie de cacher. » C'est avec une extrême franchise que Steve Jobs parle des personnes avec qui il a travaillé ou été en concurrence. Il peut profondément exaspérer les gens autour de lui. Ses amis, ennemis et collègues évoquent sans langue de bois ses passions, ses démons, ses désirs, son intransigeance, et son obsession du contrôle qui ont forgé sa vision des affaires et les innovations qui en ont découlé. La personnalité de Steve Jobs et les produits qu'il crée sont étroitement liés, comme les différentes parties d'un système intégré - tous les produits Apple et ses logiciels participent de cette logique. Le parcours de Jobs est exemplaire, un modèle en terme d'innovation, de caractère, de direction d'entreprise et de valeurs.

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