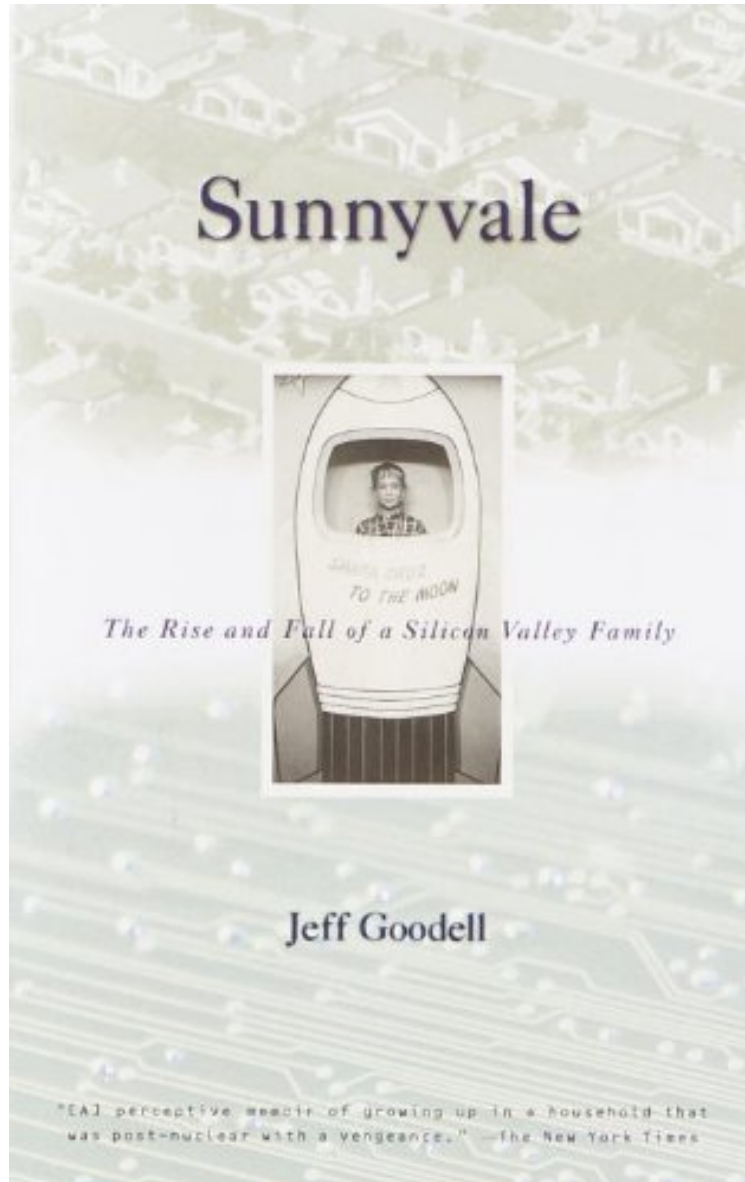


[Ebook free] Sunnyvale: The Rise and Fall of a Silicon Valley Family

Sunnyvale: The Rise and Fall of a Silicon Valley Family

Von Jeff Goodell

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Von Jeff Goodell : Sunnyvale: The Rise and Fall of a Silicon Valley Family before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sunnyvale: The Rise and Fall of a Silicon Valley Family:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A very powerful, beautifully written book about family Von Ein Kunde Silicon Valley provides an eerie backdrop for this book, which is about family, and the disappointments, tragedies and shattered expectations that are so much a part of

family life. Goodell takes the wood to the media hype about Silicon Valley as a place of unbounded wealth and joy, but that isn't the point of this book, which reviewers are correctly calling harrowing and beautiful. The target is family life, and our universal search to come to terms with the things that happen to our families. In Goodell's case, his family fell apart after his parents were divorced, and his brother brought a painful tragedy to what was a sad and difficult situation. This book reads like a terrific mystery, which is what it is. Why does tragedy strike our loved ones, how should we respond, and how can we move on? Goodell deals with these questions in wonderfully frank and beautifully written ways. This transcends memoir and speaks very powerfully to anybody who wrestles with the question of family. Personally, I found the juxtaposition of the Goodell family tragedy against the explosion of wealth and greed in Silicon Valley to be a very powerful combination. I felt I was reading the "Perfect Storm" set in the hopelessly naive expectations of an oblivious, helpless California family on the eve of one of the greatest explosions of wealth and cultural change in history. Great book for any parent and any kid.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. You can't fix life with a microchip.Von Carol RabenJeff Goodell's memoir about the disintegration of an American family (his own) in small-town Sunnyvale --set against the backdrop of California's surging growth of computer technology as well as the internet explosion into modern day America in nearby Silicon Valley-- shows us that behind the sterility of corporate computer America, looking further into the microchip mentality, there are actual people and their very human lives behind the mechanical scenes. The author paints a very human picture of family life when everything doesn't go perfect. There is no 'netguide' to find a handy solution, no 'Dysfunctional Families for Dummies' reference book for a quick fix. The book begins as his parents divorce when he is 19, and carries us through the next twenty years of emotional struggle as Goodell has experienced it. He deals with anger, resentment, heartache, disappointment, guilt, loss, and then assumes the responsibility for trying to fix everything that broke. It's not as easy as putting a new hard drive into a computer. Goodell matures as the book progresses from the cocky and condescending teen he was into the reflective and forgiving man he has become. The book is beautifully written and the reader easily drawn into the lives of the writer and his family members. Anyone who has dealt with their own family struggles (who hasn't?) can relate to this book and will find comfort from the fact that we are not alone --- everyone has a story and Goodell has poignantly given us his.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. a non-depressing depressing story?Von ltp1The important parts of this story could have taken place anywhere, anytime, or at least in several other places and times; Silicon Valley is not necessary for the story. The book isn't about Sunnyvale. It's about this particular family. There's not a lot of rise here, it's mostly fall, but it's one of the least depressing depressing stories I've read, not because the author tries to sugarcoat (he doesn't) but because there's no wallowing. The style is graceful, simple, direct. Unhappy things happen but there remains a life-goes-on and let's-keep-living tone. No pity, no attempts at cleverness, no agonizing. (Maybe there was in the life, but not in the telling.) That attitude and the good writing make this an enjoyable book about unhappy things. That and the fact that if you've endured any similarly unhappy events (divorce, illness, disputes, aimlessness, or violence in a fine upstanding family) you'll appreciate the empathy, and perhaps gain some insight.

KurzbeschreibungIn Sunnyvale, California, in 1979, Jeff Goodell's family lived quietly on Meadowlark Lane, unaware that their town was soon to become ground zero in the digital revolution. Over the course of the next decade, as Silicon Valley boomed, the Goodell family unraveled. Splintered by their parent's divorce, Jeff and his siblings careen toward self-destruction, while their parents end up on opposite sides of the technological divide: their mother succeeds beyond her wildest dreams at "a small company with a dopey rainbow-colored logo," called Apple, while their father refuses to keep up with the times and loses his landscaping business. Affecting and personal, Sunnyvale is a portrait of one family's fate in a brutally Darwinian world. It is also a thoughtful examination of what has happened to the American family in the face of the technological revolution.From the Trade Paperback edition..deIn the town of Sunnyvale, in the heart of Silicon Valley, every day brings sunshine and progress, and everything is supposed to work out okay. Not surprisingly, this thoughtful and deeply affecting memoir tells the story of a family that falls apart (or rather "off the Norman Rockwell easel") in the midst of this fantasy. When Mrs. Goodell decides to get a divorce, she blasts off from Planet Marriage and hitches her future to the embryonic Apple Computer company. The other family members, however, quickly unravel. Jeff, the oldest son, quits his Apple job for the casinos of Lake Tahoe, fully believing he is "leaving behind a bunch of nerdy machine heads who were destined to live small, narrow lives empty of romance or mystery." His father, a landscape architect and a family man devastated by the divorce, finds himself becoming an anachronism in the Silicon Valley chip-and-code culture. And the sensitive youngest son, Jerry, plunges into drugs, alcohol, and sexual experimentation. While there are amusing anecdotes about what happens in the cubicles of the computer industry, Goodell focuses his clear eyes and likable style on the powerful relations of family members in crisis--on the corrosive power of competition between siblings, the disillusionment of seeing a parent fail, the despair of witnessing a loved one self-destruct, and the inevitable backlash that happens when we try to run away. Goodell himself is party to this universal irony for, despite trying to flee Silicon Valley culture, he's become one of its

best-known chroniclers. And in the Valley, he finds the greatest metaphor for escape: I feel like I'm looking down into the heart of a vast electronic hive, where the honey is time: faster chips, faster software, faster wires. It's not about efficiency--it is about cheating death. Dreaming of speed is the way engineers dream of immortality. The men in Goodell's family are, in their own ways, at odds with this reigning faith. Goodell has given us a powerful and ultimately redemptive example of a family caught in the vortex of rapidly changing times and the tragedy wrought on those left behind. --Lesley Reed.com

In the town of Sunnyvale, in the heart of Silicon Valley, every day brings sunshine and progress, and everything is supposed to work out okay. Not surprisingly, this thoughtful and deeply affecting memoir tells the story of a family that falls apart (or rather "off the Norman Rockwell easel") in the midst of this fantasy. When Mrs. Goodell decides to get a divorce, she blasts off from Planet Marriage and hitches her future to the embryonic Apple Computer company. The other family members, however, quickly unravel. Jeff, the oldest son, quits his Apple job for the casinos of Lake Tahoe, fully believing he is "leaving behind a bunch of nerdy machine heads who were destined to live small, narrow lives empty of romance or mystery." His father, a landscape architect and a family man devastated by the divorce, finds himself becoming an anachronism in the Silicon Valley chip-and-code culture. And the sensitive youngest son, Jerry, plunges into drugs, alcohol, and sexual experimentation. While there are amusing anecdotes about what happens in the cubicles of the computer industry, Goodell focuses his clear eyes and likable style on the powerful relations of family members in crisis--on the corrosive power of competition between siblings, the disillusionment of seeing a parent fail, the despair of witnessing a loved one self-destruct, and the inevitable backlash that happens when we try to run away. Goodell himself is party to this universal irony for, despite trying to flee Silicon Valley culture, he's become one of its best-known chroniclers. And in the Valley, he finds the greatest metaphor for escape: I feel like I'm looking down into the heart of a vast electronic hive, where the honey is time: faster chips, faster software, faster wires. It's not about efficiency--it is about cheating death. Dreaming of speed is the way engineers dream of immortality. The men in Goodell's family are, in their own ways, at odds with this reigning faith. Goodell has given us a powerful and ultimately redemptive example of a family caught in the vortex of rapidly changing times and the tragedy wrought on those left behind. --Lesley Reed