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## How to make a manual book

If you're staring at these words on this page, you're already familiar with the basics of reading on a screen. What we're talking about here is reading on your smartphone or tablet, more specifically reading entire books on your smartphone or tablet. The ebooks market has exploded over the last couple of years, enabling writers of all sorts to publish books of any size online for what are almost universally considered reasonable prices. As a result, there's a ton of different ways you can consume books on your smartphone and tablet, and right here is the home for all things books on Android. There's a lot to know, even if all you want to do is throw some money down and start reading. Each ebook store behaves a little differently, especially if you're a thrifty shopper looking for free or discount books or you're interested only in DRM-free titles, and the reading apps attached to those stores aren't the only ways you can consume books from those stores. There are dozens of apps out there that play nice with just about everything, with features that can take a smartphone reading experience from barely tolerable to your book delivery system of choice. Here's where you go to make sense of it all, or just browse for something new to try out. Time again to declutter the ol' bookshelves! And something tells me you'll appreciate these gems I found more than my "real life" friends would ;) If you want any of them, just shout below and you'll be entered to win! You'll notice some of them from previous giveaways or features on the blog here... The "originals" owned by J. Money!!! Haha... Good luck! \*\*\*\*\* Book #1: "Choose FI: Your Blueprint to Financial Independence" This one comes from the boys of Choose FI and CanIRetireYet.com and bound to spice up your financial life (hubba hubba)... Distilling the best of the popular ChooseFI podcast, this book pulls from the collective knowledge of those who have decided to build a lifestyle around their passions instead of allowing their finances to dictate their future. These stories demonstrate universal principles, giving you the opportunity to pick the elements that are the most applicable to your financial situation and "choose your own adventure." The book covers a wide range of topics that will help you build a strong financial foundation: Developing a growth mindset Defining your values and aligning them with your spending Cutting years from your estimated retirement date Questioning the status quo on "required expenses" Cutting travel expenses and putting family vacations within your reach Learning how to earn more and live with abundance Updating the common accepted wisdom on college education and the debt associated with it Cutting through the noise on investing to discover strategies that work Showing how to implement investment strategies that enable the lifestyle you desire while controlling downside risk Whether you have mountains of debt now or are recently debt-free and wondering what to do next. Choose FI : Your Blueprint to Financial Independence will give you the information to guide your next move. More at Amazon: Choose FI: Your Blueprint to Financial Independence \*\*\*\*\* Book #2: "Quit Like a Millionaire: No Gimmicks, Luck, or Trust Fund Required" Another FIRE'y book, from tag team Kristy and Bryce of Millennial-Revolution.com - one of the more feistier blogs out there ;) A bull\*\*\*\*-free guide to growing your wealth, retiring early, and living life on your own terms. Kristy Shen retired with a million dollars at the age of thirty-one, and she did it without hitting a home run on the stock market, starting the next Snapchat in her garage, or investing in hot real estate. Learn how to cut down on spending without decreasing your quality of life, build a million-dollar portfolio, fortify your investments to survive bear markets and black-swan events, and use the 4 percent rule and the Yield Shield--so you can quit the rat race forever. Not everyone can become an entrepreneur or a real estate baron; the rest of us need Shen's mathematically proven approach to retire decades before sixty-five. More at Amazon: Quit Like a Millionaire: No Gimmicks, Luck, or Trust Fund Required \*\*\*\*\* Book #3: "ProBlogger: Secrets for Blogging Your Way to a Six-Figure Income" Picked this bad boy up from a local thrift and couldn't pass it by :) Especially for only 50¢! Though admittedly I bought it more for nostalgia reasons than for learning (Darren and his ProBlogger.net site was pioneering back in the day!), so whoever wins this one will have to let me know how helpful it still is a decade later ;) It is the 2nd edition though! Lol... Thousands of aspiring bloggers launch new blogs every day, hoping to boost their income. Without solid advice from experts, most will fail. This bestselling guide, now fully revised with new and updated tips and tricks from two of the world's most successful bloggers, provides the step-by-step information bloggers need to turn their hobby into an income source or a fulltime career. More at Amazon: ProBlogger: Secrets for Blogging Your Way to a Six-Figure Income \*\*\*\*\* Book(let) #4: United States Defense Savings Bonds Booklet Lastly, the booklet as seen in our post last month - "You Save More Than Money With United States Savings Bonds!" These were issued by the Treasury Department during World War I and World War II, and were primarily aimed at "common citizens" to help raise money for the war efforts. Here's a snippet of how they worked: "When you fill this album with 50¢ stamps, it will have a total value of \$37.50 and it will buy a Defense Savings Bond worth, in 10 years, \$50. Your postmaster will give you, or you may secure from the Treasury Department at Washington, details of the Regular Purchase Plan, which has been adopted by many thousands of investors who are buying Savings Bonds each month at other intervals of their choice." The bonds came in \$25, \$100, \$500, and \$1,000 amounts, and essentially gave people a 2.9% (compounded semiannually) interest rate. But this one can be all yours for the special rate of \$0.00 :) \*\*\*\*\* Want any of these? Let me know which in the comments below or via email (only \*one\* per person please), and I'll randomly select the winners at the end of the weekend. Thanks for helping me be a good little minimalist!! Give these guys a new loving home for me! :) ----- UPDATE: Giveaway now over! Thanks for playing, everyone! The winners of the 4 books are... -- Quit Like a Millionaire -> Brandon S. -- Choose FI -> Laurie C. -- Pro Blogger -> Kate V. -- Bond booklet -> Austin K. Amazon links above are affiliate links... Jay loves talking about money, collecting coins, blasting hip-hop, and hanging out with his three beautiful boys. You can check out all of his online projects at jmoney.biz. Thanks for reading the blog! THE BACKGROUND: On November 2, Grand Central Publishing releases Everything I Know About Business I Learned From the Grateful Dead--the latest in a large genre of business books with titles that start with some version of All I Need to Know . . . proving either that business lessons are everywhere or that many business leaders are full of crap.THE QUIZ: So how implausible can these books get? Here are two real ones and two we made up. Can you tell which is which? Answers are below.By Matthew Geiger "Profits are made by tapping the untapped markets--the places others didn't dare go. That's what Ace did. Laces out!"By Tom Porter "Build successful businesses by mimicking the dignity, adaptability, and balance found in the natural world."By Tim Knox "If you work hard, treat people right, and use your common sense, you can be anything, do anything, accomplish anything."By Norrin Radd "When you start from scratch, you can act like you have nothing to lose. That's what makes you better than the competition." "Getting published" has always meant something special to us writer types: a book with your name on it says you've arrived. And now, thanks to the Internet, I'm a genuine published author. My publisher? Me.It took all of a day, using a new online service called Blurb. Its approach is remarkably accessible. You choose a theme, page layout, picture and text sizes, and fonts from a range of options. The software is easy to navigate, if frustratingly slow at times. I uploaded image files from a CD, dragged pictures into place, and watched pages fill up with my original work.Blurb gives you the choice of writing directly onto your book page or pasting from another document. My passages kept exceeding the standard layout, and reversing that process was tedious. (Blurb says it's fixing this.) That hurdle cleared, though, I previewed and priced my book, then sent it off to Blurb's contract printer. My collection of journal entries and photos from a year in Spain is now España, the book.Mom is so proud. But the bigger question is this: What does it mean that, for less than \$30, a relative novice can publish a single copy of a commercial-quality book? Blurb and its ilk are democratizing a tired oligopoly, opening up the pipes to... everyone, really. Want to publish your treatise on the government's extraterrestrial conspiracy? Sure! Your kid's refrigerator art? It's a coffee-table book!It's not as if there aren't enough books out there already: Nielsen BookScan reports that 1.2 million titles were sold in the United States in 2004, and just 2% sold more than 5,000 copies. Says Patricia Schroeder, CEO of the Association of American Publishers: "It's going to be very hard to organize this new load of information." The blogging phenomenon, though, offers a telling analogue. Just like Blurb, Web logging offers individuals easy access to a medium previously controlled by a select few. Now, some 75,000 new blogs crowd the Internet every day, according to blog researcher Technorati. Out of all of those, just 3 are among the top 33 news and media Web sites.But that doesn't represent a market failure. Rather, blogging has made it economically viable for writers to reach very narrow audiences. So it will be, say some, with books. "Mass market has been replaced by a mass of niches," explains Jeff Jarvis, a former print editor who now blogs and consults at BuzzMachine.com. "The old media term was 'fragmentation.' The new term is 'choice.' The book doesn't have to be big, just big enough."Blurb and others are greasing the wheels by creating their own alternative marketplaces, like an Amazon for everyone. BlurbNation hooks up authors with proofreaders, editors, and marketers, letting them bypass established publishers and still reach the right audience. So while I don't expect there will be much of a market for España (honestly, I'm not even sure the title deserves italics), I can still try. The book-world establishment may not be happy with that--but as I say, my mother is thrilled.

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