



Diary of a Hedge Fund Manager: From the Top, to the Bottom, and Back Again

By Keith McCullough, Rich Blake

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A fast-paced ride through the world of hedge funds revealing the unvarnished truth of how Wall Street really operates, and how to use this to your advantage

An insider's view of the high stakes world of money management, *Diary of a Hedge Fund Manager* is both a practical guide for investors and the deeply personal story of a man who knows the system inside and out. One of the best young portfolio managers on Wall Street, and helping to run the hedge fund operation of one of the world's most prestigious firms, Keith McCullough finds himself a lone voice of reason as the economic crisis of 2008 looms large. Shown the door, his life takes a fascinating turn into the world of independent research and no-holds-barred criticism.

- Reveals the unvarnished truth of how Wall Street and hedge funds really operate
- Deftly details how to analyze the markets expertly and avoid group think using technical and fundamental measures
- Each topic is thoroughly discussed and followed up with lessons you can take away and put to use

Written with the authority of someone who knows how Wall Street and hedge funds work, yet accessible to even a casual follower of finance, *Diary of a Hedge Fund Manager* mixes a constructive critique of the investment industry with fundamental lessons that any investor will find valuable.

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- Sales Rank: #826601 in Books
- Published on: 2010-01-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.30" h x .86" w x 6.22" l, .87 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 224 pages

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Editorial Review

From the Inside Flap

Diary of a Hedge Fund Manager is an insider's view of the high-stakes money management world. In a distinctly straightforward and, at times, humorous style, Keith McCullough and Rich Blake take you on the journey of a young and successful hedge fund manager and former junior hockey player from Thunder Bay, Ontario, as he gets recruited to the Ivy League, stumbles onto the nexus of the hedge fund universe, and then gets a crack at running his own pile—becoming one of the best young portfolio managers on the Street.

But when the young portfolio manager finds himself working for one of the world's most prestigious firms—helping to run their hedge fund operation just as the market is starting to crack in 2007—McCullough becomes a lonely voice of reason in a world that rewards groupthink and disregards the adage about past performance having no bearing on future results. When McCullough finds himself shown the door, the story takes a fascinating turn into the world of independent research and no-holds-barred criticism.

Page by page, this fast-paced ride through the world of hedge funds reveals the unvarnished truth of how Wall Street and hedge funds really operate and offers real-world investment lessons you can take away and put to good use.

Written with the authority of someone who knows how Wall Street and hedge funds work, yet accessible to even a casual follower of finance, *Diary of a Hedge Fund Manager* mixes a constructive critique of the investment industry with fundamental lessons that any investor will find valuable.

From the Back Cover

"An engaging and fascinating memoir of a Wall Street insider who foresaw the crisis and lost his job for it. McCullough has written an insightful firsthand account of our modern Rome before—and after—its fall. The author stands head and shoulders above his peers with his phenomenal trading track record, personal integrity, and skill at communicating his unique experiences."

—Richard L. Peterson, MD, Managing Director, MarketPsy Capital LLC; author, *Inside the Investor's Brain*

"If an unholy offspring of Lester Bangs and Don Cherry traded and wrote a financial market diary, it might be something like the smart, hip, and crunching commentary hedge fund manager Keith McCullough delivers every day. Keith is on a short list of must-reads in a business filled with also-rans."

—Dr. Paul Kedrosky, Editor, *Infectious Greed*; Managing Director, IG Holdings; Senior Fellow, Kauffman Foundation

"*Diary of a Hedge Fund Manager* should be added to the list of must-read books on Wall Street. It is very rare that readers get this kind of insight into the world of what Wall Street calls the "smart money". McCullough's exciting and inspirational story reinforces the fact that hard work pays off. The book does a great job of pointing out that, on Wall Street, common sense and hard work trump a PhD—without actually saying it. His honesty is refreshing and reminds us all that the giants of the hedge fund world are mere mortals. This story is one that both Wall Street and Main Street can relate to and learn from."

—Douglas M. Famigletti, CFA, Managing Director, Griffin Asset Management, Inc.

"*Like Liar's Poker* and *Fiasco* before it, *Diary of a Hedge Fund Manager* offers a fascinating, funny, and frightening account of life on the Street. An indispensable account of how the financial-industrial complex

destroyed so much of the 'value' it purported to create."

—Dan Burrows, Senior Writer, DailyFinance

"The hedge fund world is notoriously secretive. But in *Diary of a Hedge Fund Manager*, Keith McCullough reveals what's behind the curtain to show an industry that frequently is little more than a lot of smoke and mirrors, much the same way that Toto revealed the Great and Mighty Wizard of Oz to be nothing more than an ordinary man."

—Michelle Leder, founder and Editor, footnoted.org; author, Financial Fine Print

About the Author

KEITH McCULLOUGH is the founder of Research Edge, a provider of independent securities markets research that has become the go-to source for analysis and trade recommendations among savvy money managers. He is also a Bloomberg TV Contributing Editor. McCullough started in the business in 1999 as an equity analyst at Credit Suisse First Boston. From there, he ran assets for Dawson-Herman Capital Management's Millennium Fund, and then launched his own fund, Falcon Henge Partners LLC, which was integrated in to Magnetar Capital. He then moved on to become a portfolio manager at Carlyle–Blue Wave until 2007. McCullough is a graduate of Yale University and also former captain of the Yale hockey team.

RICH BLAKE was the cofounder and executive editor of *Trader Monthly* magazine. He frequently contributes to CNBC's *Power Lunch* and to *Alpha* and *Portfolio* magazines. Prior to the launch of *Trader Monthly*, Blake wrote for *Institutional Investor*. He is the author of two books, *The Day Donny Herbert Woke Up* and *Talking Proud: Rediscovering the Magical Season of the 1980 Buffalo Bills*.

Users Review

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Patricia Welling:

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Glenn Remaley:

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