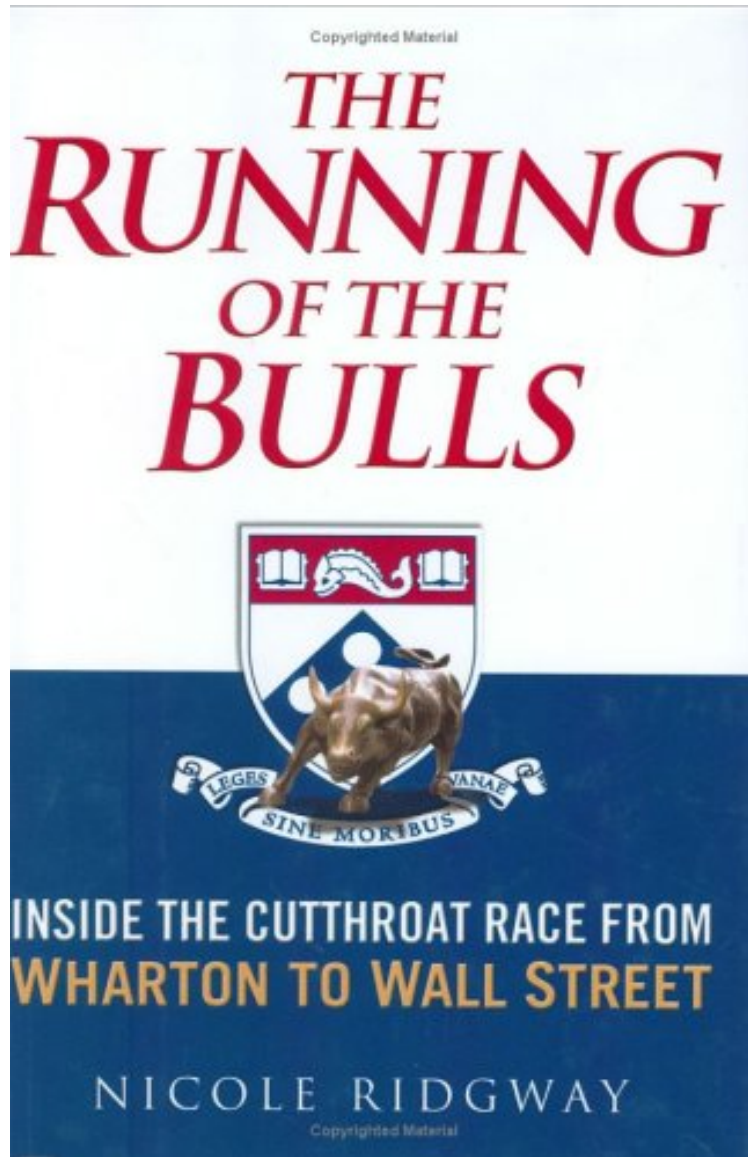


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featured are incredibly talented and the reader can't help but admire and revere how hard they work to achieve their goals. A great read for anyone searching for insight into the minds of those at the top. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good, Not Great By Tonyy Pretty interesting, informative book, but the writing is terrible. The author uses weird phrasing over and over again, and some of the passages just sound strange and jarring to the ear. Get this book for its informative info, not for the actual writing. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent read! By Tacos are great This is a great book if you are looking into what drives very very gifted and talented students to insane lengths. The stories of what the students went through really makes you appreciate and respect their abilities and dedication. This is a good read for inspiration if you are in school.

The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania is the #1-ranked undergraduate business program in the country, the place where Comcast CEO Brian Roberts, Revlon CEO Ron Perelman, real-estate magnate Donald Trump, and hundreds of other Wall Street titans and Fortune 500 tycoons got their start. Each year five hundred of the best students from around the world are culled from thousands of applicants to join the school and begin a rigorous, four-year curriculum that many in the world of finance consider the equivalent of an MBA. And in the autumn of their senior year, they will begin a ten-week, tension-packed recruiting process where they will put their \$150,000 educations to the test, vying for a precious position with the world's elite investment banking and consulting firms like Goldman Sachs or McKinsey with the potential of a six-figure income and a \$10,000 signing bonus on the line. *The Running of the Bulls* tells the inside story of this process, and the fascinating institution behind it, through the experiences of seven Wharton students from the class of 2004, including a son of a manufacturing magnate in Bombay, a cheerleader from Texas determined to be a top investment banker, and a first-generation Indian American from Seattle who begins to question whether the Wall Street world is the right place for him. Financial reporter Nicole Ridgway follows each of them through the intensity of recruiting season, when candidates schmooze with employers at lavish presentations then get bombarded with questions at grueling day-long interviews designed to test their will as much as their intellect. In the tradition of Scott Turow's *One L* and Michael Lewis's *Liar's Poker*, *The Running of the Bulls* is fast-paced and provocative, a rollicking portrait of the high-stakes game of how Wall Street chooses its next generation.

.com Partly a coming-of-age tale, partly a survey of job options for recent college graduates at the high end of society's bell curve, and partly a snapshot of a particular school and its culture, *The Running of the Bulls* offers many things to different readers. The book centers on stories gleaned by journalist Nicole Ridgway during the 2003-2004 school year from undergraduate students at Wharton, the University of Pennsylvania's business program. Ridgway certainly succeeds in getting close to the students: at times, the narrative feels like reality TV in literary format. Readers are treated to gritty, in-depth narratives around career searches by six Wharton students. The six students profiled by Ridgway are intended as a cross-section of the overall Wharton class: hungry, ambitious, and surprisingly career-oriented for such young people. Hippies these are not. Readers follow the six students as they pursue entry-level assignments at the elite fixtures of modern American business: investment banking on Wall Street (for example, Goldman Sachs and Lazard Freres, Citigroup, Lehman Brothers); industry (L'Oreal, Johnson and Johnson, General Mills, Microsoft); entrepreneurship ("One Stop College Shop"); nonprofits (Peace Corps, IMF, and World Bank); and of course, consulting (McKinsey, Bain, BCG). The diversity of the six students' career considerations, as well as their gender and ethnic mix will lead many readers to find one or another of the characters with whom they feel most sympathetic. The book's strength lies in its rich detail: students who've recently gone through or will go through the job-hunting process will easily recognize Ridgway's stories about nerve-wracking interviews, the negotiating dance around job offers, and the experience of internships. In particular, students who want a feel for the Penn campus and the Wharton program will relish the details of the physical environment, as well as the sometimes blow-by-blow accounts of interviews faced by the eager-beaver job seekers. If you want to understand what kinds of interview questions Microsoft asks its college hires, or how white-shoe Wall Street firms treat their summer interns after the offer letters are signed and first-day orientation ends, this book is for you. That said, Ridgway supplements this anecdotal detail with macro-level perspective, too. HR professionals and currently employed workers, for example, may be interested in the average compensation of Wharton graduates in 2003-2004--an impressive \$50K base salary, and nearly \$20K in various bonuses. *Running with the Bulls* follows a chronological format, so that readers follow the six students through the school year. Starting with resume submission, going through interviews, in some cases trying internships, and then ultimately ending with full-time jobs, the Wharton class's experiences show the ups and downs faced by young career seekers. In the end, entrepreneurs and nonprofit fans may be disappointed, but perhaps not surprised, to find that all six of the book's subjects, end up in Establishment-oriented jobs, but with this story, the journey, rather than the proverbial final destination, proves to be the most interesting part. --Peter Han From Publishers Weekly Wharton, the business school of the University of Pennsylvania, has a glamorous reputation that is fueled in part by illustrious alumni, like Donald Trump and Ronald Perelman, and Forbes reporter Ridgway makes a big deal of its prominence. The institution's distinction, however, does not rub off onto Ridgway's undistinguished account of the

2003-2004 academic year. She follows six seniors as they make their way through the corporate recruitment process while completing their degrees. Though she tries to make everything sound special (it happened at Wharton!), what she lays out is a series of generic experiences-from internships to interviews to job offers-that could have taken place at any business school. The students themselves present a limited range of high-achieving personalities, and since there's never any doubt that they'll be able to find jobs, Ridgway is unable to infuse their stories with any real dramatic tension. What might have made an interesting magazine article proves too thin when stretched to book length. Wharton officials are bound to love it, though-there's barely any acknowledgment that other business schools exist, or any substantial challenge to the school's prestige. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From the Back Cover "Nicole Ridgway captures the intensity, competition, and drive that Wharton's top undergraduates bring to their college experience. They set the standard - even for their professors and Wharton MBA students. If you are looking for a reason why America may retain its premier place in the global economy, read this book!" -G. Richard Shell, author of *Bargaining for Advantage: Negotiation Strategies for Reasonable People* and Professor of Legal Studies and Management at the Wharton School "The contestants? The bright, accomplished, and altogether winsome students at one of the best business schools in the country. The prize? A job at a consulting firm or investment bank that can make the few who win it very, very rich. The name of the game? *The Running of the Bulls*, and it can get ugly. Hugely informative and supremely entertaining, this is a marvelous book." -Peter Robinson, author of *Snapshots From Hell: The Making of an MBA*