

The Quiet Crypto Revolution

**How Blockchain
and Cryptocurrency Are
Changing Our Lives**

Klaas Jung

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The Quiet Crypto Revolution: How Blockchain and Cryptocurrency Are Changing Our Lives

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About the Author



Klaas Jung is a seasoned IT management professional and writer who brings a unique perspective to the ever-evolving world of blockchain and cryptocurrency. With over 20 years of experience in the IT industry, he has a wealth of knowledge and understanding of the technical and practical aspects of this revolutionary technology. His first book, *100% Successful IT Projects*, was a practical guide to managing IT projects and achieving success.

As a father of three, Klaas is deeply concerned with the future and the impact that blockchain and cryptocurrency will have on the world. He believes that it's important to educate and prepare the next generation for the technological advancements that lie ahead. This is why he has written this book, *The Quiet Crypto Revolution*, a comprehensive guide that covers all aspects of blockchain and cryptocurrency, from its history and current state to its potential future developments and implications for various industries. Klaas's passion for writing and his ability to convey complex information in an easy-to-understand manner make him the perfect guide on this exciting journey into the future of blockchain and cryptocurrency.

Acknowledgments

As I reflect on the journey of writing this book, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude for the people who have supported me throughout this process.

First and foremost, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to my wife, whose unwavering belief in my abilities has been a continuous source of strength. Your spot-on review comments, support, patience, and love have been the bedrock upon which this project was built. You have stood by me through late nights and early mornings, always understanding, always encouraging.

To my children, thank you for your understanding when I was engrossed in my writing and for being my greatest motivation. Your innocent questions about my work have often sparked fresh perspectives and reminded me of the importance of making complex ideas accessible to all. This work is a testament to the lessons you teach me every day.

To my extended family, your constant encouragement and faith in my work have meant more than words can express. I am grateful for your understanding during the times when I had to seclude myself to meet writing deadlines.

I am grateful to Apress, my publisher, for believing in this project and for providing me with the platform to share my insights on this rapidly evolving technology. The professionalism and support of the editorial team have been invaluable in shaping this book into its final form.

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This book is a product of commitment, resilience, and the unwavering support of my family. It is also a testament to the professional partnerships that have enabled me to share my knowledge and perspective with a wider audience.

To all of you, thank you for being a part of this journey, for inspiring me, and for making this book possible.

Preface

As the author of this book, I would like to take a moment to share my personal journey that led to the creation of this work.

I have read many inspiring books over the years, and I always thought about how great it would be if you could share your own knowledge with other people to help them improve their lives. I'm referring to books like *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* by Stephen Covey, *Good to Great* (and the sequel *Built to Last*) by Jim Collins, *Thinking Fast and Slow* by Daniel Kahneman, *Start with Why* by Simon Sinek, and many others.

These books have had a profound impact on my understanding of various aspects of life and business. They have inspired me to think differently and to question the status quo. It is the authors of these books I have read that have inspired me to start writing my own books to try to inspire other people. I humbly acknowledge that I am not even close to being on the same level as these authors, but through writing this book, my goal is to simply inspire and spark interest among others with the knowledge and insights I have gained.

My previous book, *100% Successful IT Projects*, was born out of my over 20 years of experience in managing IT projects. I felt that by sharing some of the key insights I had gained over the years, I could help others navigate the complex world of IT project management. Writing this first book was a challenging and enlightening experience, as I had to learn to transition from the concise, direct writing style of reports to the more descriptive and narrative style required in book-writing. This experience taught me that even though it's not easy to write a book, it's fun to do, and I definitely wanted to do it again.

PREFACE

Now, over to this book. Back in 2010, I was working on a project with a group of software development colleagues who had a keen interest in technology and innovation. One day, during our lunch break, the conversation shifted to a relatively unknown digital currency called Bitcoin. My colleagues were excitedly discussing the concept of decentralized digital money and their plans to build a trading bot to capitalize on the emerging market.

At the time, Bitcoin was still in its infancy, and I was intrigued by the idea of a currency that operated outside the traditional financial system. As we continued our discussion, I became increasingly fascinated by the potential of this new technology. I started to research Bitcoin, delving into whitepapers, forums, and articles to learn as much as I could about the underlying technology, blockchain.

As I explored the world of Bitcoin, I began to understand the broader implications of blockchain technology beyond cryptocurrencies. It became apparent that this decentralized, transparent, and secure technology could have a significant impact across various industries, potentially revolutionizing everything from supply chain management to healthcare and voting systems.

My curiosity piqued. I decided to attend a local meetup dedicated to blockchain technology. There, I met other like-minded individuals who shared my passion for the potential of blockchain to transform the way we live and work. We exchanged ideas and discussed the countless possibilities that this groundbreaking technology could bring.

It was during one of these meetups that I first heard about the concept of smart contracts—self-executing contracts that could automate various processes, increasing efficiency and reducing the need for intermediaries. I was captivated by the idea of a world in which businesses and individuals could interact directly, securely, and transparently through the use of blockchain technology.

As my knowledge and understanding of blockchain technology grew, I began to see the broader applications and potential beyond cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin. While the initial conversation about Bitcoin and the trading bot had sparked my interest, it was the transformative potential of blockchain technology that truly ignited my passion and set me on a path to learn, share, and advocate for its adoption across various industries.

Through this book, I hope to share not only my passion for cryptocurrencies but also the wider implications and potential of blockchain technology. My aim is to inspire others to see the incredible ways in which this technology can reshape our world, improve our lives, and create new opportunities for innovation and growth.

Over the past few years, I have delved into the depths of the crypto world and discovered the hidden potential of information sources such as YouTube and Twitter. Through following a variety of YouTube channels and Twitter accounts, I have gained an immense amount of knowledge and insight. I was watching YouTube channels sometimes for hours per day. In total I must have put at least 3500–5000 hours of research in this book. If you are interested to see how I got so enthusiastic about crypto, I will suggest just a few of the YouTube channels I like so you can have a look yourself as well: Benjamin Cowen (Into the Cryptoverse, cryptanalysis), Blockchain Backer (technical price analysis), CryptosRUs (crypto news and insights), Heresy Financial (financial education), and Coin Bureau (crypto news).

Besides Twitter and YouTube, I also got addicted to crypto news sites like CoinDesk (www.coindesk.com/, Crypto News and Data Hub), Cointelegraph (<https://cointelegraph.com>, Latest Crypto Trends and Insights), and CoinMarketCap (<https://coinmarketcap.com>, Crypto Market Data and Rankings). I can recommend these if you want to stay up to date or expand your crypto knowledge.

PREFACE

In 2014, I was so deeply interested in the potential of cryptocurrency that I decided to launch my own Bitcoin-based startup. I created a platform for purchasing Bitcoin using iDEAL, which was a widely used online payment method in the Netherlands at the time. Initially, this venture was intended as a hobby; however, it rapidly gained traction and evolved into a full-fledged business endeavor that required more time and resources than I was able to commit while maintaining my primary employment. When I started experiencing some serious problems with people who were trying to commit fraud using my platform, I terminated the project. But I learned so much about Bitcoin, blockchain, crypto, and running an online business.

It is with this new gained knowledge and understanding about this subject that I am motivated to transfer my knowledge to others through this book. My hope is that you will be able to take something valuable away from the information within these pages and start to see how crypto is going to change the world in many ways.

Crypto has the potential to change how we live our daily lives in the near future. In this book I will explain in detail and in an easy-to-understand language that it allows for greater financial freedom and autonomy and can disrupt traditional financial systems. This is possible through the use of decentralized finance (DeFi) and non-fungible tokens (NFTs), which allows peer-to-peer lending and borrowing and trading without the need for banks, revolutionizing the way we think about ownership. Also, smart contract technology can automate various financial processes, increasing efficiency and effectiveness. Additionally, crypto can increase the speed and security of transactions in ecommerce and online marketplaces. Crypto can increase financial privacy and security by using encryption techniques that do not require personal information to be shared, which can help prevent identity theft and financial fraud. Don't worry if these concepts overwhelm you right now; they will all be explained in this book.

Overall, crypto has the potential to change how we use money, how the world will be structured financially, how we define ownership, and this will impact every aspect of our life. I say it's worth watching closely in the coming years. In this book, I will go into detail about all of it. Make sure you don't get left behind as the world rapidly moves on. Crypto is going to change the world we live in ways we can't even imagine yet, and I hope this book helps you get started on (or move to the next level of) your own journey into the crypto space.

Important note: Nothing in this book is financial advice; it's just educational content. And before making any financial decisions, you should always do your own research first.