

What happened at Theranos is a *dazzling* story of *deception*

It is quite a tale John Carreyrou tells in his book, "Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup." It is a story of *jaw-dropping* lying and greed so *immense* that billions of dollars fly by with every turn of the page.

dazzling 耀眼的；眼花缭乱的

deception 欺骗

jaw-dropping 骇人听闻的

immense 巨大的；广大的

The subject is Theranos, the start-up that promised to revolutionize blood testing. Still, the real subject is Elizabeth Holmes, who started the company as a 19-year-old Stanford University dropout—and who wore black *turtlenecks* in *blatant imitation* of Steve Jobs. She handled her elders the way a snake charmer handles snakes. Only in her case, she was the one with poison.

turtleneck 高翻领毛衣

blatant 公然的；喧嚣的

imitation 模仿

elder 老人；长辈

Her genius, Carreyrou says, was lying. She had come up with a blood test that could be taken with a *teeny-weeny* drop or two of blood from the finger. No pain, much gain. No more searching for a *vein*.

teeny-weeny 微小的

vein 血管；静脉

Holmes knew little about the technology, but she employed people who did. And, as Carreyrou writes, when these employees suspected the device was not working—the results were being faked and the lives of patients were put at risk—they were fired, often *escorted* off the premises that very day by *security personnel*.

escort 陪同；护送

security personnel 安保人员

Some board members and investors wondered about the excessive security. All were *dissuaded* or *pacified* by Holmes, a *zealot* who apparently believed so *fervently* in her vision that truth was just a matter of time. This is a Silicon Valley failing, which is why billions get invested on the promise of billions more being made—fake it till you make it, as the saying goes.

dissuade 劝阻

pacify 安慰；使平定

zealot 狂热者

fervently 热诚地