Title: "Greedy" Ken Griffin is Worst Boss Ever.

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nas expanded into one or the biggest trading nouses in the world, handling about 40% of all U.S. retail trading volume and one in every four U.S. equities trades.

But even that isn't enough for the ultra-ambitious Griffin, who is said to frequently check that Citadel Securities remains atop a ranking of market-making rivals like Virtu Financial Inc. and Susquehanna International Group, people familiar with the matter said. Griffin, with a net worth topping \$30 billion, has a reputation for driving an intense, competitive culture. Zhao recalls how he was in his second year at the firm as a low-level quant in 2007 when Griffin drafted him to help build out mortgage models. What Zhao thought would be a few hours of work turned into a three-month sprint with Griffin physically moving into Zhao's office.

"For many weeks Ken was looking over my shoulder, hovering above my keyboard, putting out statistical analysis, models and graphs," said Zhao, a child math prodigy with a PhD in statistics from the University of California, Berkeley, speaking in his first ever in-person interview with a news organization.

Now, the company plans to add business in Europe and Asia, and wants to be a major liquidity provider in the exploding cryptocurrency market, a goal underscored by the \$1.15 billion it recently received from two prominent Silicon Valley investors. That deal, valuing the firm at \$22 billion, could also herald an initial public offering -- propelling it onto the very stock markets it now dominates.

As a designated market maker, the firm handles trades for more than 60% of listed names on the New York Stock Exchange, where employees still occupy two booths on the trading floor, decked in royal blue jackets with Citadel Securities logos.

In interviews throughout February, Citadel Securities executives didn't dismiss an IPO though said a listing wasn't on its immediate agenda. Still, the step would help it build on its expansion particularly with institutional