

What happened at Theranos is a dazzling story of deception

Notes & Cues:	<p>Article:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Summary:	