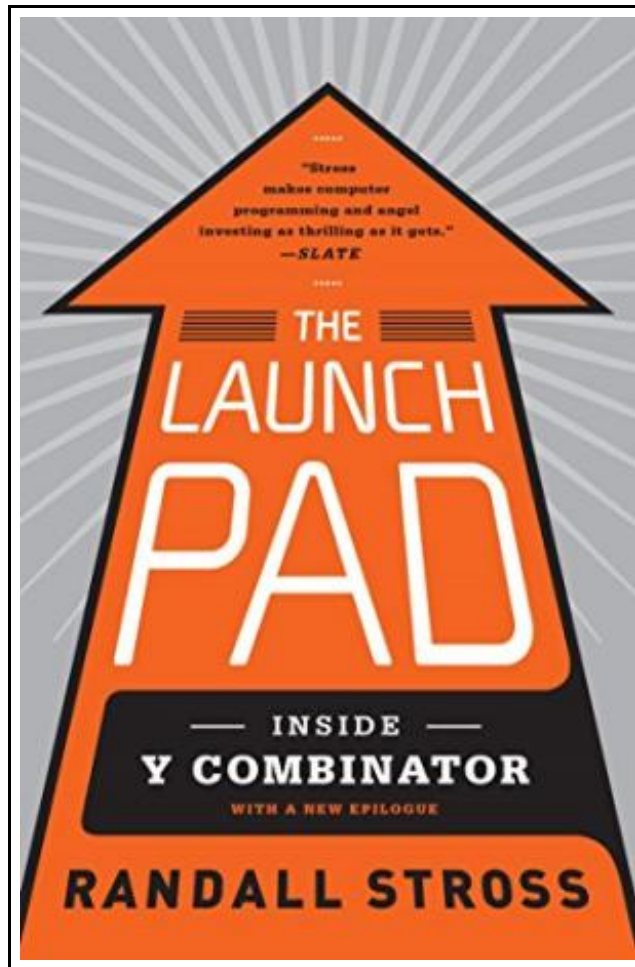


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Penguin Books Ltd, United Kingdom, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 198 x 129 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. In *The Launch Pad*, Randall Stross, author of *eBoys* and *Planet Google*, takes a behind-the-scenes look at how tomorrow s hottest startups are being primed for greatness. Twice a year, in the heart of Silicon Valley, a small investment firm called Y Combinator selects an elite group of young entrepreneurs. Months of intense work culminates in Demo Day, when investors and venture capitalists flock to hear their pitches. Any one of them might turn out to be the next Dropbox (class of 2007), or Airbnb (class of 2009). Randall Stross was granted unprecedented access to Y Combinator, enabling a unique inside tour of the world of software startups. He tells the full story of this ultra-exclusive institution, how it chooses the aspiring Mark Zuckerbergs, and how it teaches them to go from concept to profitability in record time. This is the definitive story of a seismic shift in the business world, in which coding skill beats job experience, pairs of undergraduates take on Goliaths, and inves-tors fall in love. *The Launch Pad* is both a gripping narrative and a gold mine of useful insights. A must-read for anyone interested in the realities of modern entrepreneurship .( Eric Ries, author of *The Lean Startup*). Stross account of the best new entrepreneurs and the exciting companies they re building at startup schools is a great read for founders and would-be founders alike . (Marc Andreessen, cofounder, Andreessen). Horowitz Randall Stross is the author of several acclaimed books, including *eBoys*, *Planet Google*, and *The Wizard of Menlo Park*. He has a Ph.D. in history from Stanford University.

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