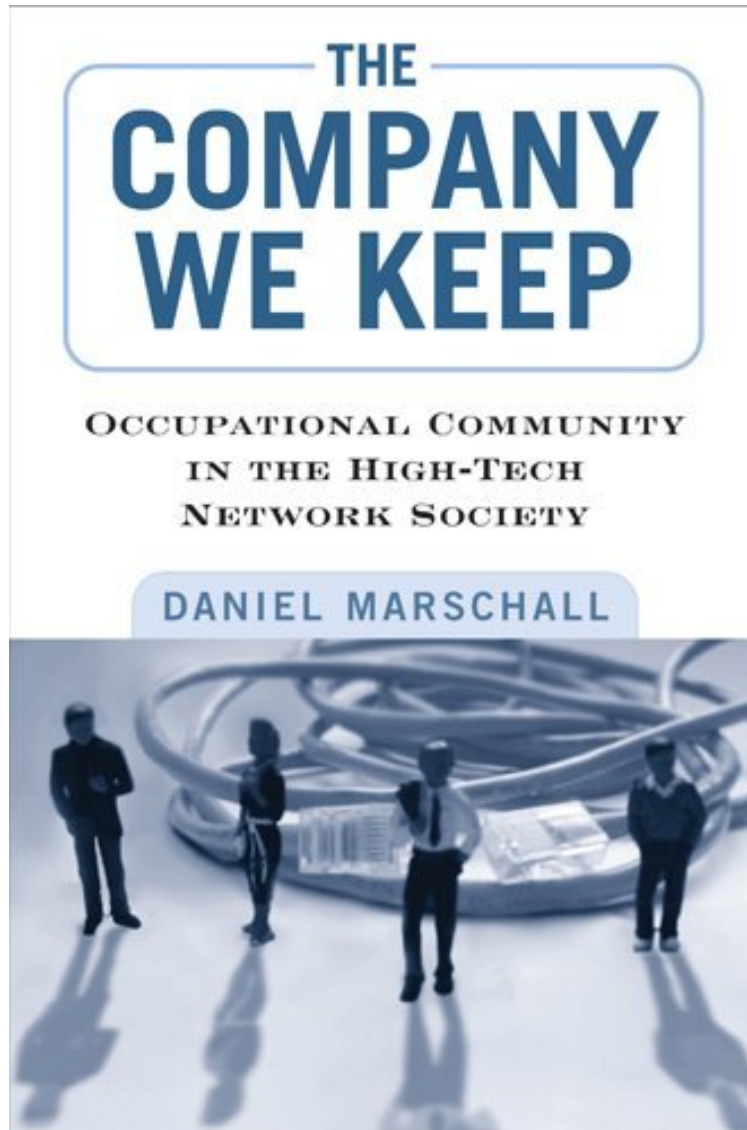


The Company We Keep: Occupational Community in the High-Tech Network Society

Daniel Marschall

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Daniel Marschall : The Company We Keep: Occupational Community in the High-Tech Network Society before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Company We Keep: Occupational Community in the High-Tech Network Society:

At the birth of the Internet Age, computer technologists in small, aggressive software development companies became

part of a unique networked occupational community. They were creative, team-oriented, and enthusiastic workers who built "boundaryless careers," hopping from one employer to another. In his absorbing ethnography *The Company We Keep*, sociologist Daniel Marschall immerses himself in IntenSivity, one such technological workplace. Chronicling the employees' experiences, Marschall examines how these workers characterize their occupational culture, share values and work practices, and help one another within their community. He sheds light on the nature of this industry marked by highly skilled jobs and rapid technological change. The experiences at IntenSivity are now mirrored by employees at Facebook and thousands of other cutting-edge, high-tech start-up firms. *The Company We Keep* helps us understand the emergence of virtual work communities and the character of the contemporary labor market at the level of a small enterprise.

"*The Company We Keep* traces the rise and fall of a high-tech software firm in ways that illuminate our current moment, in particular how an organizational community of hardcore software developers shapes the digital architectures through which we increasingly live. It is a strong contribution to the emerging literature on technologists and how they organize their work." - Thomas M. Malaby, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and author of *Making Virtual Worlds: Linden Lab and Second Life* nbsp;