

MONEY NOBODY TAUGHT YOU · BOOK 1

THE YEN HEIST

TEEN EDITION



PAUL BLANKENBURG

The Yen Heist

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Money Nobody Taught You: Book 1

*How Money in Tokyo Moves Your
Paycheck*

by **Paul Blankenburg**

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Not investment advice. This book is a story that teaches money ideas. Nothing here is a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold anything. Markets move. Past events are not promises. Do your own homework, and talk to a qualified advisor if you need one.

Characters are fictional. Teaching numbers in this book are made-up examples and are labeled as such.

References to the August 2024 yen carry unwind describe a well-known general market event, not a precise trade diary.

Which One Are You?



Marcus, 15: The Paycheck-to-Paycheck Guy Part-time warehouse job after school. Half his check goes to Mom for bills. Checks his balance before every swipe. Saving for a car and so *close* he can taste it.

Nia, 16: The One Who Asks Marcus's big sister. High school junior. Makes

smoothies after school. Saving for her first car. Will ask the question you were too proud to ask, and then make fun of you for not asking it.

Dev, 18: The “I’ve Got This” Guy High school senior, just turned 18. Learned investing from videos. Buys what’s trending. Talks big. Secretly scared he’s faking it.

Jaz, 17: The Careful Saver High school health-science student in a CNA program, night shifts at the hospital, a loan for her CNA classes. Keeps everything in plain savings because investing feels like gambling.

Uncle Ray, 50s: The Guy You Wish You Had Frac mechanic. Yellow hard hat. Coffee mug the size of a fire

hydrant. Calm, blunt, and he explains money like it's a broken pump.

Chapter 1: The Alert

8:02 A.M.

The phone screamed.

Not a ringtone. Not a text. The loud, ugly alarm your phone saves for tornadoes.

Marcus almost dropped his coffee. Dev almost dropped the phone.



ALERT, 8:02 AM USDJPY ▼

FALLING FAST *It's starting.*

8:02 A.M.



“Dev,” Marcus said. “Why is your phone doing that?”

Dev stared at the screen like it owed him money.

“I didn’t set that,” he said. “I don’t even know what that is.”

“It’s *your* phone.”

“I know it’s my phone, Marcus.”

They were standing in Uncle Ray’s driveway in Fort Worth. Monday

morning. The Texas sky was already too big and too bright. Marcus had a late start at school. Dev was “doing online school,” which today meant Ray’s driveway.

And then Dev’s face did something Marcus had never seen it do.

It went pale.

The Money on the Line

“Hey,” Marcus said. “You good?”

Dev swallowed. “Last week I moved my savings.”

“Moved it where?”

“Into a fund. A guy I follow said it was about to take off.” Dev opened his investing app. Red. All of it red. “Four