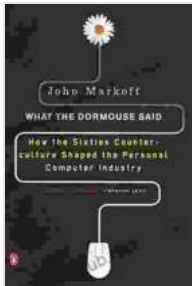# How The Sixties Counterculture Shaped The Personal Computer Industry

What the Dormouse Said: How the Sixties Counterculture Shaped the Personal Computer Industry by John Markoff

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 610 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 333 pages

Seeds of Revolution

The counterculture of the 1960s was a period of social and cultural upheaval that challenged traditional norms and values. It was a time of experimentation, exploration, and a desire to build a better world. This spirit of innovation and creativity would eventually find its way into the realm of technology, particularly the personal computer industry.

The Homebrew Computer Club

In the early 1970s, a group of like-minded hobbyists and engineers founded the Homebrew Computer Club in Menlo Park, California. This club became a breeding ground for some of the most important figures in the personal computer revolution, including Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak, and Bill Gates. The club members shared ideas, collaborated on projects, and helped to create the foundation for the personal computer industry.

The Altair 8800

In 1975, the Altair 8800 was released, and it became an instant sensation among hobbyists. This early personal computer was sold as a kit, and users had to assemble and wire it themselves. The Altair 8800 inspired a wave of innovation and creativity, and it helped to bring the personal computer to the attention of a wider audience.

The Apple II

In 1976, Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak founded Apple Computer and released the Apple II. This computer was designed to be more user-friendly than the Altair 8800, and it quickly became a bestseller. The Apple II made personal computers accessible to a wider range of people, and it helped to usher in the era of the personal computer revolution.
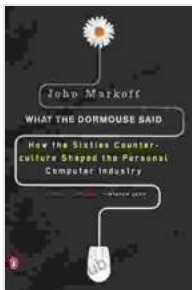
The IBM PC

In 1981, IBM released the IBM PC, which helped to establish the personal computer as a mainstream device. The IBM PC was not as innovative as the Apple II, but it was well-made and reliable, and it became the standard for personal computers in businesses and homes around the world.

The Legacy of the Sixties Counterculture

The counterculture of the 1960s had a profound impact on the personal computer industry. The spirit of innovation, creativity, and experimentation that characterized the counterculture helped to lay the foundation for the personal computer revolution. The personal computer has become an

essential tool in our lives, and it is used for everything from work and communication to education and entertainment. Without the counterculture of the 1960s, the personal computer industry would not be what it is today.

The counterculture of the 1960s was a time of great change and upheaval. It was a time when people challenged the status quo and sought to create a better world. This spirit of innovation and creativity would eventually find its way into the realm of technology, and it would have a profound impact on the personal computer industry. The personal computer has become an essential tool in our lives, and it is used for everything from work and communication to education and entertainment. Without the counterculture of the 1960s, the personal computer industry would not be what it is today.

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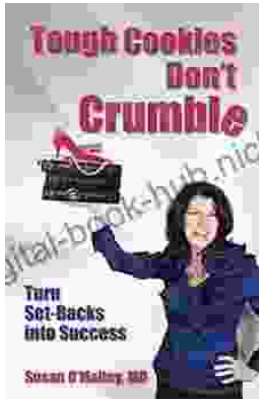
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