

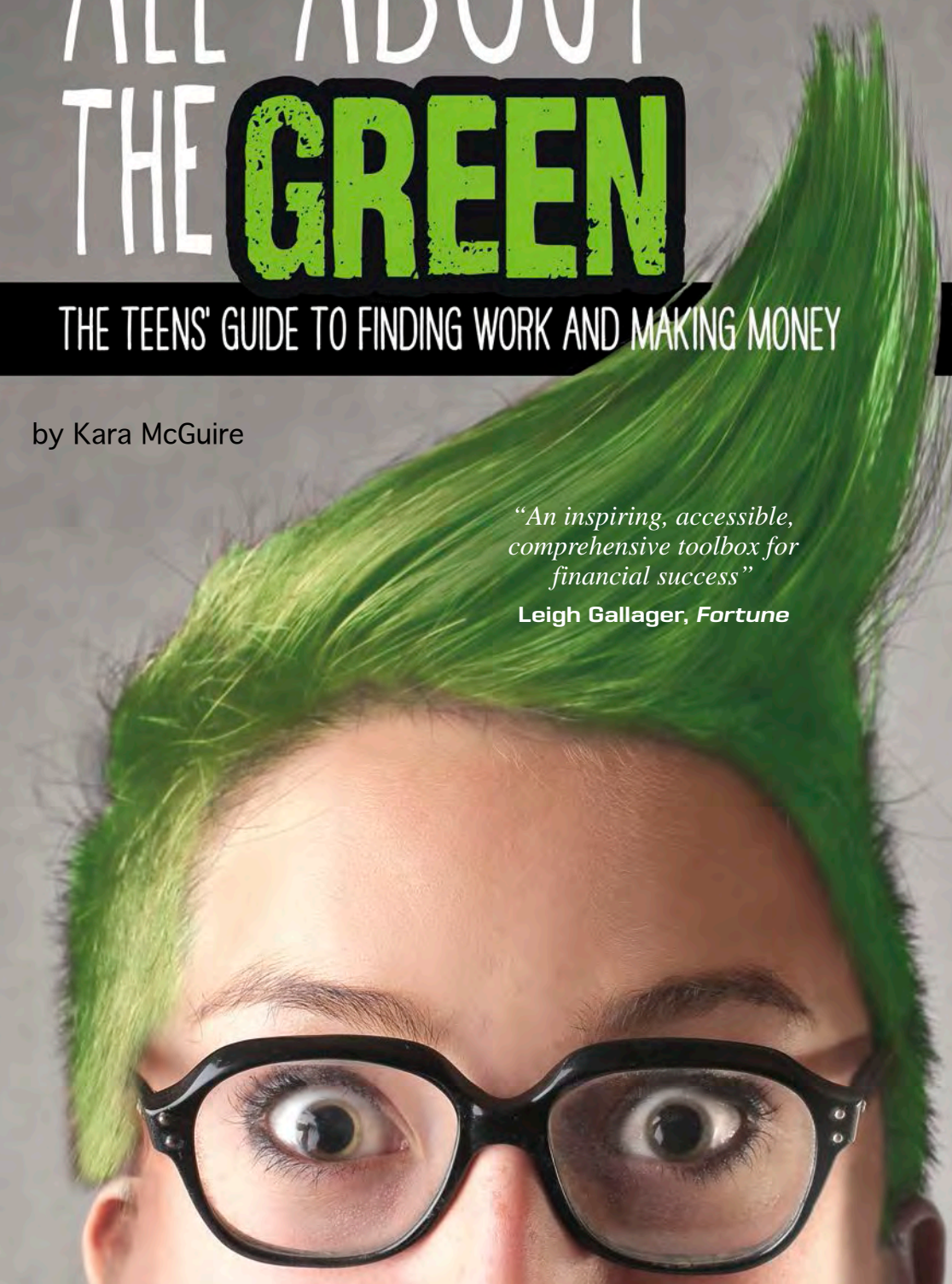
ALL ABOUT THE **GREEN**

THE TEENS' GUIDE TO FINDING WORK AND MAKING MONEY

by Kara McGuire

*"An inspiring, accessible,
comprehensive toolbox for
financial success"*

Leigh Gallager, Fortune



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LET'S MAKE SOME MONEY!

Everyone loves payday—from the first quarter you earned for setting the table to the weekly allowance you squirreled away to buy toys or iPhone apps. Then comes the day of that first official paycheck and all of the responsibility that comes with it.



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That includes spending wisely and saving for the future. It means making smart decisions but still having fun. Learn all about the ins and outs of making money—from paychecks to paying taxes, finding jobs, and starting businesses. And best of all, learn how to earn money without lifting a finger.

JOBS AND CAREER PLANNING

It's common for teens to juggle schoolwork and paid work, whether it's the occasional babysitting job or waiting tables 20 hours a week at a restaurant. Teens need money for hanging out, for hobbies, or for gas for the car. Then there is the cost of big things, such as saving for a car, helping with college tuition, or taking an overseas trip with the school orchestra. It's understandable why sometimes earning money seems more important than keeping up grades or working on college applications.

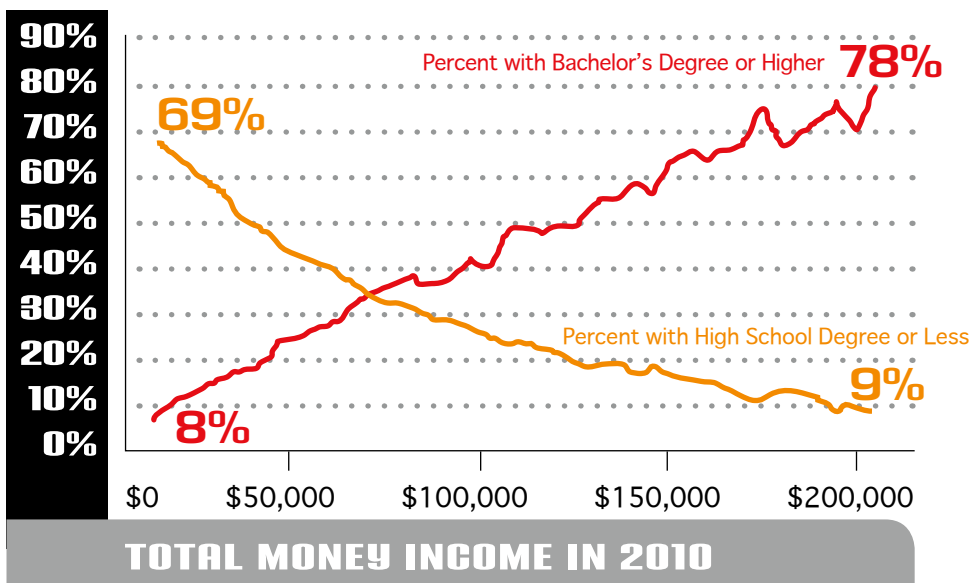
EDUCATION AND EARNINGS

Your number one job as a teen is to get good grades, gain experiences from school and community activities, and prepare for higher education. Your education affects job opportunities and how much you will be able to earn. The lifetime median earnings of a worker with just a high school diploma is \$1.3 million. It may sound like a ton of money today, but it averages to \$15 per hour—that's not much once you consider daily expenses and how long you could live. Americans with a bachelor's degree can plan on median lifetime earnings of \$2.3 million. Those who stay in school for a doctoral or professional degree, such as medicine or law, earn a median of \$3.6 million.

Although there are certainly exceptions to this rule, having a bachelor's degree increases your chances of earning more money and opens more doors to interesting, fulfilling careers. As the chart indicates, nearly 80 percent of people with college degrees or higher earn \$200,000 a year or more. Less than 10 percent of people with a high school education earn a similar amount.

If a four-year college is not in your plans, some people, such as electricians, construction managers, and sales managers, have average lifetime earnings that come close to the earnings of workers with bachelor's degrees.

WELL-EDUCATED AMERICANS HAVE HIGH INCOMES



Source: Census and http://taxfoundation.org/article/who-are-americas-millionaires#_ftn5

WHAT IS A COLLEGE MAJOR WORTH?

Here's something to think about when you go off to college. The average starting salary for college grads in 2014 was \$45,473.

HERE'S THE AVERAGE BY MAJOR:

- > **BUSINESS: \$53,901**
- > **COMMUNICATIONS: \$43,924**
- > **COMPUTER SCIENCE: \$61,741**
- > **EDUCATION: \$40,863**
- > **ENGINEERING: \$62,719**
- > **HEALTH SCIENCES: \$51,541**
- > **HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES: \$38,365**
- > **MATH AND SCIENCES: \$43,414**

Source: National Association of Colleges and Employers Salary Survey, April 2014
<https://www.nacweb.org/uploadedFiles/Content/static-assets/downloads/executive-summary/2014-april-salary-survey-executive-summary.pdf>

HOW MUCH \$\$\$ DOES IT TAKE TO BE HAPPY?

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Hank Williams Jr.

“Mo money, mo problems.”

—**BIGGIE SMALLS**

“Well now, money can’t buy you happiness, but neither can poor ole me.” —**HANK WILLIAMS JR.**

Hank and Biggie were wrong. More money does not automatically equal more problems. And while you can’t buy happiness with cold, hard cash, researchers have found that when people expand their income, they report more life satisfaction, no matter how much money they start with.