

Chapter 1: Early Life and Background

Elon Musk was born on June 28, 1971, in Pretoria, South Africa. From a young age, he exhibited a keen interest in computing and technology. At the age of 12, he created and sold a simple game called Blaster. Elon's parents divorced when he was young, and he was largely raised by his father, Errol Musk, an electromechanical engineer.

Chapter 2: Education and Formative Years

Musk attended Waterkloof House Preparatory School and later graduated from Pretoria Boys High School. At 17, he moved to Canada to attend Queen's University, avoiding mandatory service in the South African military. After two years, he transferred to the University of Pennsylvania, earning degrees in physics and economics.

Chapter 3: Zip2 and X.com

In 1996, Elon Musk co-founded Zip2, a software company that provided business directories and maps for newspapers. Compaq acquired Zip2 in 1999 for nearly \$300 million. He then founded X.com, an online financial services company, which eventually became PayPal after a merger. PayPal was sold to eBay in 2002 for \$1.5 billion in stock.