

Acknowledgements

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<http://www.pokerstrategy.com/forum/thread.php?threadid=87154>.

I should also thank [Pokerstrategy.com](http://www.pokerstrategy.com) for giving me the free \$50 with which I started my poker journey, as well as an outlet for my ramblings on life and poker. Apart from \$50 of my own money, with which I started again after the closure of Full Tilt Poker, I've never had to make a deposit.

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Finally, I have to thank my lovely and long-suffering wife Julia, who appears here and in my blog as *mrsjb*. She's had to endure my poker obsession for the past four years. A less forgiving woman would probably have hacked me to pieces with one of the kitchen knives by now.

TT: My only substantial piece of writing before this book was my Masters thesis at university, which I managed to finish surprisingly well (98 out of 100 points, brag!). Other than that my literary skills have been limited as you can see in my blog at PokerStrategy.com

<http://www.pokerstrategy.com/forum/thread.php?threadid=65903>.

I am an enthusiastic public speaker, but a fish in writing. It's mainly JB's contribution that our book reads as well as it does. My role, along with Manu, was to put together a unique type of poker content and support JB on his path to poker enlightenment. JB is clearly the one person I have to thank the most that this book has become reality and I am proud of what we've put together for you.

I am also very grateful to all the students that I've coached over the last few years, and to the entire PokerStrategy.com community. Being able to teach a subject is a very different task from just being good at it. I do believe that my efforts at teaching poker made me a far better player than I could have become without this great environment. Furthermore I was lucky to meet many exceptionally smart people from all over the world who I know work together in various business endeavours.

Last but not least, I want to thank especially Ashley Lapiz (Ash05) and Jozef Cibicek (TheLastNail), two of my closest poker friends and definitely the two most influential. They both gave us helpful feedback on an earlier draft of this book. Back in 2007 and 2008, Ash mentored me through my first steps in the poker world. As an experienced player who played SNGs, FLHE, NLHE and PLO, he pointed me in the right direction in my early poker days, showed me

the most important strategy articles online and answered all my questions (there were many early on!) with an abundance of patience. Between 2008 and 2010, Jozef and I moved up the limits together, went on various journeys together and even started what would later become the famous "MonkeyMode" blog on PokerStrategy.com. We've experienced some crazy parties throughout Europe and shared strategy concepts on NLHE over the years. I don't know anybody else who loves the game more or dedicates more to it than Jozef. I am sure that one day he will play the highest stakes on this planet and outperform everybody at the tables. There is no doubt that we are going to hear more about him over the next few years. Who knows, he might even write a book on advanced NLHE concepts himself!?

Finally, I would like to send a lot of love to the "Pounders", a group of high stakes friends from Austria who should stay unnamed. They taught me what assets to invest in and enriched my life with various high quality discussions on poker, business and life in general. Their attributes, like staying humble, being very analytical and rarely being fooled by randomness, are inspirational. While they excelled in many games like Fixed Limit Holdem and Pot Limit Omaha at the highest stakes, they never seemed to fall in love with No Limit Holdem and I hope this book can help even them to take their NLHE games to the next level.

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<http://www.pokerstrategy.com/forum/thread.php?threadid=94010>.

I started with PokerStrategy's free \$50 starting capital so their impact on my career has been massive.

When I started giving poker a serious go, a few PokerStrategy members made a big impact on my progress. Out of that group, I would firstly like to thank Tomáš Vágner (ZhiCheng). His blog and private coachings helped me tremendously as a beginner. He made me believe I could actually make a living out of this game. Next, I want to give some special thanks to Rio Lim (supeyrio) and Jozef Šovčík (THEShade), who, although I've yet to meet them in person after all these years, were more supportive and helpful than any other friends I had around me at the time. You guys rule!

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