

What Everyone Should Be Reading

What are the recommend "must read" books everyone is talking about?

Essentialism: The Discipline Pursuit of Less

Greg McKeown

This book is about giving yourself the permission to stop trying to do everything and to stop saying yes to everything. This book is about making your greatest contribution toward the things are really important; learn what is essential to you and eliminate the things that are not.

Successful Women Think Differently: 9 Habits to Make You Happier, Healthier, and More Resilient

Valorie Burton

This book looks into the habits of successful women; moreover, this book helps individuals set goals and how to bounce back from failures. The author helps women create new thought processes to empower them in their finances, work, spiritual life, health, and relationships. The author provides insight into who and what a woman is and how to succeed.

The Hate U Give

Angie Thomas

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really happened that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr.

Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace - One School at a Time

Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Rehn

Anyone who despairs of the individual's power to change lives has to read the story of Greg Mortenson, a homeless mountaineer who, following a 1993 climb of Pakistan's treacherous K2, was inspired by a chance encounter with impoverished mountain villagers and promised to build them a school. Over the next decade he built fifty-five schools—especially for girls—that offer a balanced education in one of the most isolated and dangerous regions on earth. Three Cups of Tea combines adventure with a celebration of the humanitarian spirit.

My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry

Fredrik Backman and Henning Koch

Elsa is seven years old and different. Her grandmother is seventy-seven years old and crazy. She is also Elsa's best, and only, friend. At night Elsa listens to her grandmother's stories where everybody is different and nobody needs to be normal. Then Elsa's grandmother dies and leaves behind a series of letters apologizing to people she has wronged. Elsa's grandmother leaves instructions that lead her to an apartment building full of drunks, monsters, attack dogs, and old cronies but also to the truth about fairy tales and a grandmother like no other. It is a story about life and death and one of the most important human rights: the right to be different.

Why CEOs Fail: The 11 Behaviors That Can Derail Your Climb to the Top and How to Manage Them

David Dotlich and Peter Cairo

In Why CEOs Fail, David L. Dotlich and Peter C. Cairo describe the most common characteristics of derailed top executives and how you can avoid them.

Multipliers: How the Best Leaders Make Everyone Smarter

Liz Wiseman and Greg McKeown

A thought-provoking, accessible, and essential exploration of why some leaders drain capability and intelligence from their teams, while others amplify it to produce better results. A foreword by Stephen R. Covey is included as well the five key disciplines that turn smart leaders into genius makers. Multipliers should be read by everyone including first-time managers to world leaders.

Xenophon's Cyrus the Great: The Arts of Leadership & War

Larry Hedrick

This book is about Cyrus the Great's actions as a leader how his practices fit in the modern world. The author dissects a new generation of leaders, including business executives and managers, military officers, and government officials.

Principles: Life and Work

Ray Dalio

Throughout this book, the author shares what he's learned over the course of his career. The author argues that life, management, economics, and investing can all be sorted into rules and understood like machines. The book's hundreds of practical lessons and include the author laying out the most effective ways for individuals and organizations to make decisions, approach challenges, and build strong teams. He also describes the innovative tools the firm uses to bring an idea to life.

Antifragile: Things that Gain from Disorder

Nassim Nicholas Taleb

In Antifragile, Taleb stands uncertainty on its head, making it desirable, even necessary, and proposes that things be built in an antifragile manner. The antifragile is beyond the resilient or robust. The resilient resists shocks and stays the same; the antifragile gets better and better. The book spans innovation by trial and error, life decisions, politics, urban planning, war, personal finance, economic systems, and medicine. And throughout, in addition to the street wisdom of Fat Tony of Brooklyn, the voices and recipes of ancient wisdom, from Roman, Greek, Semitic, and medieval sources, are loud and clear.

Seeking Wisdom

Peter Bevelin

This book is for those who love the constant search for knowledge. Bevelin focuses on how our thoughts are influenced, why we make misjudgments and tools to improve our thinking. Furthermore, Bevelin tackles such eternal questions as: Why do we behave like we do? What do we want out of life? What interferes with our goals? Read and study this wonderful exploration of wisdom. It may change the way you think and act in business and in life.

The Bully Pulpit

Doris Kearns Goodwin

Doris Kearns Goodwin describes the life and leadership of Theodore Roosevelt in this historical work. Roosevelt emerges as a larger-than-life character who takes on the financial trusts of huge corporations that are putting their rivals out of business, the unsafe and unfair working conditions of the common man, and the sales of unhealthy foods and medicines, all resulting from what he feels is too little government regulation.

Ideal Team Player

Patrick Lencioni

Throughout this book, Lencioni tells the story of Jeff Shanley, a leader desperate to save his uncle's company by restoring its cultural commitment to teamwork. Jeff must crack the code on the virtues that real team players possess, and then build a culture of hiring and development around those virtues. Lencioni presents a framework and tools for identifying, hiring, and developing ideal team players. This book is perfect for all people ranging from a leader trying to create a culture around teamwork, a staffing professional looking to hire real team players, or a team player wanting to improve yourself.

5 Dysfunctions of a Team

Patrick Lencioni

In this book Patrick Lencioni reveals the basics of teamwork by using a story of a technology company that is struggling to grow and find customers. The new CEO recognizes the potential of the organization and its people. However, the executives are not working together as a team and therefore impact the entire organization in a negative way. The team struggles to accept responsibilities and come to any agreements, resulting in negative morale. Throughout this book the five dysfunctions of a team become evident.

Get Things Done

David Allen

Getting Things Done is a manual for stress-free productivity, which helps you set up a system of lists, reminders and weekly reviews, in order to free your mind from having to remember tasks and to-dos and instead let it work at full focus on the task at hand.

The Armed Forces Officer

Richard M. Swain and Albert C. Pierce

This new edition takes the series' inspirational premise into the new century. It educates officers of all services, as well as civilians, about the fundamental moral-ethical requirements of being a commissioned officer in the armed forces of the United States. Understanding the common foundation of commissioned leadership and command of U.S. military forces is essential for achieving excellence in the joint operations of today's combat environment. This philosophy unites the officers of the uniformed services in the common calling of supporting, defending, and upholding the Constitution in service to their country.

4th Dimension of Leadership: A radical Strategy for Creating an Authentic Servant Leadership Culture

Ron Holfield

This book looks into the foundation of great leadership and the relationships that shape leadership styles. Throughout the book servant leadership is examined and practical strategies for creating aligned systems to make an authentic Servant Leadership culture is examined.

First 90 Days

Michael Watkins

This book creates a road map for taking charge in the first 90 days of a new executive position. The first days in a new position are critical because small differences in actions can have a huge impact on long-term results. This book summary will equip executives with strategies and tools to get up to speed faster and achieve more sooner. Watkins examines how to diagnose a situation and understand its challenges and opportunities.

Effective Executive

Peter F. Drucker

In this book you will learn that the role of leadership in every organization is to set clear priorities, focus the strengths of the people on those priorities, and make tough choices about what to do and what not to do in the face of uncertainty. Each point is illustrated with several historical examples, so you'll really understand why each idea is important and how it looks in the real world.

This City, This Man: The Cookinham Era in Kansas City

Bill Gilbert

In Antifragile, Taleb stands uncertainty on its head, making it desirable, even necessary, and proposes that things be built in an antifragile manner. The book spans innovation by trial and error, life decisions, politics, urban planning, war, personal finance, economic systems, and medicine.

Built to Last

Jim Collins

This book examines what lies behind the extraordinary success of 18 visionary companies and which principles and ideas they've used to thrive for a century.

Extreme Ownership: How the U.S. Navy Seals Lead and Win

Leif Babin and Jocko Willink

This book is about the notable leadership concepts learned and embraced as part of Navy SEAL's special unit. The two authors talk about their real experiences from the battlefield and write how these experiences can help with leading a business. The book describes combat military operations in a comprehensive way. Besides that, the authors describe their trainings to help show how effective leadership works and what the difference between effective and ineffective leadership is.

Grant

Ron Chernow

Grant is the story of Ulysses S. Grant. Chernow rather hopes that he will dispel the way Grant is commonly seen in his early life and examine how he is seen after his successes during and after the Civil War.

Factfulness: 10 Reasons We're Wrong About the World and Why Things Are Better Than You Think

Hans Rosling

In Factfulness, ten instincts are revealed that lead to distortion in our perspectives. This includes our tendency to divide the world into two camps to the way we consume media to how we perceive progress. This book is filled with inspiring anecdotes and stories. Factfulness is a book that will change the way you see the world and empower you to respond to the crises and opportunities of the future.

FISH! A Proven Way to Boost Morale and Improve Results

Stephen C. Lundin, Ph.D., Harry Paul, and John Christensen

Throughout this book, the authors assert that employees in the workplace have the power to change their own attitudes about their work to create a more productive and positive environment. This book looks into the example of the Pike Place fish market in Seattle, which is known for its lively fishmongers tossing fish. The idea is that if these workers, who have very difficult jobs can maintain an amazingly motivated attitude about their work, so can anyone.

For the Common Good: Redefining Civic Leadership

Ed O'Malley

For the Common Good: Redefining Civic Leadership is about the ideas that drive the work of the Kansas Leadership Center. The authors, David D. Christlip and Ed O'Malley, share their belief that "civic leadership" needs to become more purposeful, provocative and engaging in order to cope with today's civic challenges and to help transform the civic culture of our communities and region.

Discover Your True North

Bill George

Being a leader is about much more than title and management skill. Discover Your True North offers a concrete and comprehensive program for becoming an authentic leader, and shows how to chart your path to leadership success. This book shows you how to use your natural leadership abilities to inspire and empower others to excellence in today's complex global world. Discover Your True North enables you to become the leader you were born to be, and stay on track of your True North.

Triumph of the City

Edward Glaeser

In this book, Edward Glaeser states that declares that cities are actually the healthiest, greenest, and richest places to live. He travels through history and around the globe to reveal the hidden workings of cities and how they bring out the best in humankind. Glaeser makes a case for the city's importance and splendor, offering inspiring proof that the city is humanity's greatest creation and our best hope for the future.

Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When Stakes are High

Kerry Patterson, Joseph Grenny, Ron McMillan, and Al Switzler

This book is about how people communicate when stakes are high. Furthermore, this book offers tools to prepare for high-stakes situations, transform anger and hurt feelings into powerful dialogue, make it safe to talk about almost anything and be persuasive, not abrasive.

The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration

Isabel Wilkerson

With stunning historical detail, Wilkerson tells this story through the lives of three unique individuals. Wilkerson brilliantly captures their first treacherous and exhausting cross-country trips by car and train and their new lives in colonies that grew into ghettos, as well as how they changed these cities with southern food, faith, and culture and improved them with discipline, drive, and hard work.

The New Iberia Blues

James Lee Burke

The shocking death of a young woman leads Detective Dave Robicheaux into the dark corners of Hollywood, the mafia, and the backwoods of Louisiana in this gripping mystery.

How the Post Office Created America

Winifred Gallagher

Winifred Gallagher presents the history of the post office as America's own story, told from a fresh perspective over more than two centuries. The mandate to deliver the mail—then "the media"—imposed the federal footprint on vast, often contested parts of the continent and transformed a wilderness into a social landscape of post roads and villages centered on post offices. Now the post office is at a crossroads.

Between the World and Me

Ta-Nehisi Coates

This book It is written as a letter to the author's teenage son about the feelings, symbolism, and realities associated with being Black in the United States.