

### The Promise Of A Pencil: How An Ordinary Person Can Create Extraordinary Change

Do you want more free books like this? Download our app for free at https://www.QuickRead.com/App and get access to hundreds of free book and audiobook summaries. Founded on just \$25, international charity Pencils of Promise has built more than 200 schools in developing countries around the world. This book tells the story of the charity's growth and the mission of its founder, Adam Braun. The Promise of a Pencil illustrates the simple key theories that characterize Adam Braun's inspiring mission. In addition to telling the story of Braun's charity, the principles outlined in this book will guide readers to find their passion, maximize their potential, and live a life full of joy and meaning through serving others.

Beloved children's entertainer Emily Arrow's first picture book, perfect for (little) makers everywhere: a story about finding a space to create! A young bunny makes the rounds of a studio building, taking in all the different artists in their habitats. Making, thinking, sharing, performing. . . . but can our bunny find the perfect space to let imagination shine? In this charming ode to creativity, noted children's singer and entertainer Emily Arrow introduces readers to the concept of the studio: a place for painters, dancers, singers, actors, sculptors, printmakers . . . and you! Whether it's a purpose-made space with big windows, a room filled with equipment, or the corner of a bedroom, your studio can be anywhere— you just have to find it!

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • An inspiring personal story of redemption, second chances, and the transformative power within us all, from the founder and CEO of the nonprofit charity: water. At 28 years old, Scott Harrison had it all. A top nightclub promoter in New York City, his life was an endless cycle of drugs, booze, models—repeat. But 10 years in, desperately unhappy and morally bankrupt, he asked himself, “What would the exact opposite of my life look like?” Walking away from everything, Harrison spent the next 16 months on a hospital ship in Brazil and discovered his true calling. In 2006, with no money and less than no experience, Harrison founded charity: water. Today, his organization has raised over \$400 million to bring clean drinking water to more than 10 million people around the globe. In Thrist, Harrison recounts the twists and turns that built charity: water into one of the most trusted and admired nonprofits in the world. Renowned for its 100% donation model, bold storytelling, imaginative branding, and radical commitment to transparency, charity: water has disrupted how social entrepreneurs work while inspiring millions of people

to join its mission of bringing clean water to everyone on the planet within our lifetime. In the tradition of such bestselling books as Shoe Dog and Mountains Beyond Mountains, Thrist is a riveting account of how to build a better charity, a better business, a better life—and a gritty tale that proves it's never too late to make a change. 100% of the author's net proceeds from Thrist will go to fund charity: water projects around the world.

This is a sturdy one that is made even more emphatic by Davies's terse writing style. The text is heightened in every way by Carlin's outstanding mixed-media artwork.” —Booklist (starred review) On a mean street in a mean, broken city, a young girl tries to snatch an old woman's bag. But the frail old woman says the thief can't have it without giving something in return: the promise. It is the beginning of a journey that will change the girl's life — and a chance to change the world, for good.

The Blue Zones

How an Ordinary Person Can Create Extraordinary Change

Pencil

The Pencil of Nature

How We Almost Lost Our Democracy and Still Could

Captivology

An expert on human longevity reveals the sometimes unusual but effective secrets of diet, behavior, fitness, and attitude collected from long-lived communities around the world, revealing the critical everyday lifestyle choices and behavior that correspond to a longer, healthier life. Reprint.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • From the longtime CEO and chairman of Starbucks, a bold, dramatic work about the new responsibilities that leaders, businesses, and citizens share in American society today—as viewed through the intimate lens of one man’s life and work. What do we owe one another? How do we channel our drive, ingenuity, even our pain, into something more meaningful than individual success? And what is our duty in the places where we live, work, and play? These questions are at the heart of the American journey. They are also ones that Howard Schultz has grappled with personally since growing up in the Brooklyn housing projects and while building Starbucks from eleven stores into one of the world’s most iconic brands. In From the Ground Up, Schultz looks for answers in two intertwined narratives. One story shows how his conflicted boyhood—including experiences he has never before revealed—motivated Schultz to become the first in his family to graduate from college, then to build the kind of company his father, a working-class laborer, never had a chance to pay for: a business that tries to balance profit and human dignity. A parallel story offers a behind-the-scenes look at Schultz’s unconventional efforts to challenge old notions about the role of business in society. From health insurance and free college tuition for part-time baristas to controversial initiatives about race and refugees, Schultz and his team tackled societal issues with the same creativity and rigor they applied to changing how the world consumes coffee. Throughout the book, Schultz introduces a cross-section of Americans transforming common struggles into shared successes. In these pages, lost youth find first jobs, aspiring college students overcome the yoke of debt, post-9/11 warriors replace lost limbs with indomitable spirit, former coal miners and opioid addicts pave fresh paths, entrepreneurs jump-start dreams, and better angels emerge from all corners of the country. From the Ground Up is part candid memoir, part uplifting blueprint of mutual responsibility, and part proof that ordinary people can do extraordinary things. At its heart, it’s an optimistic, inspiring account of what happens when we stand up, speak out, and come together for purposes bigger than ourselves. Here is a new vision of what can be when we try our best to lead lives through the lens of humanity. “Howard Schultz’s story is a clear reminder that success is not achieved through individual determination alone, but through partnership and community. Howard’s commitment to both has helped him build one of the world’s most recognized brands. It will be exciting to see what he accomplishes next.”—Bill Gates

An in-depth look at America's most controversial charter schools, and the moral and political questions around public education and school choice. *The promise of public education is excellence for all. But that promise has seldom been kept for low-income children of color in America. In How the Other Half Learns*, teacher and education journalist Robert Pondiscio focuses on Success Academy, the network of controversial charter schools in New York City founded by Eva Moskowitz, who has created something unprecedented in American education: a way for large numbers of engaged and ambitious low-income families of color to get an education for their children that equals and even exceeds what wealthy families take for granted. Her results are astonishing, her methods unorthodox. Decades of well-intended efforts to improve our schools and close the "achievement gap" have set equity and excellence at war with each other: If you are wealthy, with the means to pay private school tuition or move to an affluent community, you can get your child into an excellent school. But if you are poor and black or brown, you have to settle for "equity" and a lecture—about fairness. About the need to be patient. And about how school choice for you only damages public schools for everyone else. Thousands of parents have chosen Success Academy, and thousands more sit on waiting lists to get in. But Moskowitz herself admits Success Academy "is not for everyone," and this raises uncomfortable questions we'd rather not ask, let alone answer: What if the price of giving a first-rate education to children least likely to receive it means acknowledging that you can't do it for everyone? What if some problems are just too hard for schools alone to solve?

"Amira, look at me," Mima insists.She collects both my hands in hers. "The Janjaweed attack without warning.If ever there were a refugee—run." Finally, Amira is twelve. Old enough to wear a toob, old enough for new responsibilities. And maybe old enough to go to school in Nyala—Amira's one true dream. But life in her peaceful Sudanes village is shattered when the Janjaweed arrive. The terrifying attacks ravage the town and unleash unspeakable horrors. After she loses nearly everything, Amira needs to dig deep within herself to find the strength to make the long journey—on foot—to safety at a refugee camp. Her days are tough at the camp, until the gift of a simple red pencil opens her mind—and all kinds of possibilities. New York Times bestselling and Coretta Scott King Award-winning author Andrea Davis Pinkney's powerful verse and Coretta Scott King Award-winning artist Shane W. Evans's breathtaking illustrations combine to tell an inspiring tale of one girl's triumph against odds.

A Story of Redemption, Compassion, and a Mission to Bring Clean Water to the World
Passion to Purpose
Burn Your Goals: The Counter Cultural Approach to Achieving Your Greatest Potential

A Marriage Without Regrets

A Seven-Step Journey to Shed Self-Doubt, Find Inspiration, and Change Your Life (and the World) for the Better

Learn Better

Immerse yourself in the Bible's promises with these beautifully crafted, hand-drawn verses by Lori Siebert—all ready for your own creative touch. As you spend a few restful moments coloring and contemplating these well-loved passages of Scripture, each page will become a personal reminder that God's Word is for you. #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • The vital inside account of American democracy in its darkest hour, from the rise of autocracy unleashed by Trump to the January 6 insurrection, and a warning that those forces remain as potent as ever—from the congressman who led the first impeachment of Donald J. Trump “Engaging and informative . . . a manual for how to probe and question power, how to hold leaders accountable in a time of diminishing responsibility.”—The Washington Post With a new afterword by the author In the years leading up to the election of Donald Trump, Congressman Adam Schiff had already been sounding the alarm over the resurgence of autocracy around the world, and the threat this posed to the United States. But as he led the probe into Donald Trump's Russia and Ukraine-related abuses of presidential power, Schiff came to the terrible conclusion that the principal threat to American democracy now came from within. In *Midnight* in Washington, Schiff argues that the Trump presidency has so weakened our institutions and compromised the Republican Party that the peril will last for years, requiring unprecedented vigilance against the growing and dangerous appeal of authoritarianism. The congressman chronicles step-by-step just how our democracy was put at such risk, and traces his own path to meeting the crisis—from serious prosecutor, to congressman with an expertise in national security and a reputation for bipartisanship, to liberal lightning rod, scourge of the right, and archenemy of a president. Schiff takes us inside his team of impeachment managers and their desperate defense of the Constitution amid the rise of a distinctly American brand of autocracy. Deepening our understanding of prominent public moments, Schiff reveals the private struggles, the internal conflicts, and the triumphs of courage that came with defending the republic against a lawless president—but also the slow surrender of people that he had worked with and admired to the dangerous immorality of a president engaged in an historic betrayal of his office. Schiff's fight for democracy is one of the great dramas of our time, told by the man who became the president's principal antagonist. It is a story that began with Trump but does not end with him, taking us through the disastroous culmination of the presidency and Schiff's account of January 6, 2021, and how the antidemocratic forces Trump unleashed continue to define his party, making the future of democracy in America more uncertain than ever.

The inspirational story of a former Microsoft executive’s quest to build libraries around the world and share the love of books What’s happened since John Wood left Microsoft to change the world? Just ask six million kids in the poorest regions of Asia and Africa. In 1999, at the age of thirty-five, Wood quit a lucrative career to found the nonprofit Room to Read. Described by the *San Francisco Chronicle* as “the Andrew Carnegie of the developing world,” he strived to bring the lessons of the corporate world to the nonprofit sector—and succeeded spectacularly. In his acclaimed first book, *Leaving Microsoft to Change the World*, Wood explained his vision and the story of his start-up. Now, he tackles the organization’s next steps and its latest challenges—from managing expansion to raising money in a collapsing economy to publishing books for children who literally have no books in their native language. At its heart, *Creating Room to Read* shares moving stories of the people Room to Read works to help: impoverished children whose schools and villages have been swept away by war or natural disaster and girls whose educations would otherwise be ignored. People at the highest levels of finance, government, and philanthropy will embrace the opportunity to learn Wood’s inspiring business model and blueprint for doing good. And general readers will love *Creating Room to Read* for its spellbinding story of one man’s mission to put books within every child’s reach.

The former editor of Mashable and cofounder of DominateFund examines the psychological phenomena that captivate our attention—and how we can leverage them to draw and retain attention for our ideas, work, companies, and more. Whether you’re an artist or a salesperson, a teacher or an engineer, a marketer or a parent—putting the spotlight on your ideas, insights, projects and products requires a deep understanding of the science of attention. In *Captivology*, award-winning journalist and entrepreneur Ben Parr explains how and why the mind pays attention to some events or people—and not others—and presents seven captivating triggers—techniques guaranteed to help you capture and retain the attention of friends, colleagues, customers, fans, and even strangers. Parr combines the latest research on attention with interviews with more than fifty scientists and visionaries—Facebook’s Sheryl Sandberg, film director Steven Soderbergh, LinkedIn CEO Jeff Weiner, magician Jon Armstrong, New York Times bestselling author Susan Cain, Nintendo’s Shigeru Miyamoto, founder of Reddit Alexis Ohanian, and more—who have successfully brought their ideas, projects, companies, and products to the forefront of cultural consciousness. The result is an insightful and practical book that will change how you assign jobs to your kids or staff, craft a multi-million dollar ad campaign, deliver your next presentation, attract users to your product, or convince the world to support your cause.

Equality, excellence, and the battle over school choice

I Promise

Lessons for Living Longer from the People Who've Lived the Longest

Peek Inside a Pencil

The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us

Using the Convention on the Rights of the Child as a framework, issues such as child trafficking, child soldiers and child maltreatment are examined in nations around the world, as well as efforts to solve these problems.

The greatest joy and fulfillment are within your reach, but they require an enduring Promise to The One...someone you might not expect. It's not your boss, your spouse, your children, or others—no, the ultimate commitment is The Promise you make to yourself to discover your purpose and gifts and share them with the world. Everyone has been hurt or negatively impacted by broken promises. Promise-breaking and a lack of integrity are symptomatic of the most chronic illness faced by society today. Even though many leadership courses and ethics programs tout "integrity" as a buzzword, few of us are really assessing our own values unless someone calls us out on a discrepancy. But even when others don't catch on to the façade, when our values aren't in alignment with our actions and when our actions aren't consonant with our gifts and passions, we're left feeling isolated, drained, and depressed. No recognition or acceptance from others can fill the void in the same way as when you keep a Promise to yourself and actually follow through on it. The Promise is the highest level of engagement we commit to in any experience. The Promise is greater than a goal—it's a sacred commitment. It's complete dedication to identifying your Signature Moves—the unique talents you've been given that, when developed and used to better others' lives, make you a Legendary Leader. What choices do you make when no one is watching? How do you approach a decision that requires you to let either yourself or someone else down? How do you stay committed to your values, even when the less-rewarding path is more convenient? A renowned speaker and performer who has helped audiences worldwide appreciate what accountability really means, Jason Hewlett shares his program for self-discovery and taking ownership of your gifts in The Promise to The One. His unique three-step method—IDENTIFY • CLARIFY • MAGNIFY—will enable you to pinpoint your strengths, shape them into an identity to which you commit, and develop them so that they can improve others' lives as well as your own. Filled with Jason's signature wit and vulnerability as well as actionable exercises, this book will help you refine your character and reach your dreams through the power of kept Promises. Start your journey to living a life of Promise Making and Keeping...beginning with The Promise to The One.

Pencil and his boy Jackson are a great pair: they draw, they sketch, they scribble. But then Jackson gets Tablet and Pencil finds himself dumped in the dreaded junk drawer; he just can't compete with Tablet's videos, games, and movies. How will Pencil ever reclaim Jackson's attention? With the help of some new pun-loving junk-drawer friends (and a drooling, pencil-chomping dog), Pencil sketches out a plan to draw Jackson back into their friendship. A former editor whose first book was shortlisted for a Crystal Kite award, author Ann Ingalls uses kid-friendly puns and an upbeat tone in this story that celebrates friendship, collaboration, and unplugged fun. Buoyed by award-winning artist Dean Griffith's always-exuberant illustrations, *Pencil: A Story with a Point* is a gentle reminder that technology is no match for imagination.

"This book isn't about how to have a perfect marriage, or to change our spouses," says Kay. "It's about having the kind of marriage where you can stand before God and say, 'Lord, I was all that You intended me to be.' Only when we make that kind of commitment can we truly have a marriage without regrets!" Speaking candidly about her first marriage, her conversion to Christianity, and her longtime marriage to Jack, Kay offers practical advice on effective communication, security and significance, difficult relationships, parenting, and God's guidelines for divorce and remarriage. Readers will discover what the Bible says about... resolving conflict understanding each partner's role improving the sexual relationship becoming financially wise respecting and keeping marriage vows This rerelease with a fresh new cover (more than 110,000 copies sold) contains the marriage-building and life-changing material Kay has presented to enthusiastic audiences worldwide—helping thousands of people in many countries experience supportive, Christ-centered marriages.

Finding Inspiration from Entrepreneurs Who Do the Most with the Least

The Pencil

How I Moved Forward from Life's Darkest Hour

The Promise of a Pencil by Adam Braun (Summary)

The Science of Capturing People's Attention

The Mirror Thief

*The incredible story of the man behind TOMS Shoes and One for One, the revolutionary business model that marries fun, profit, and social good "A creative and open-hearted business model for our times."—The Wall Street Journal Why this book is for you: • You're ready to make a difference in the world—through your own start-up business, a nonprofit organization, or a new project that you create within your current job. • You want to love your work, work for what you love, and have a positive impact on the world—all at the same time. • You're inspired by charity: water, method, and FEED Projects and want to learn how these organizations got their start. • You're curious about how someone who never made a pair of shoes, attended fashion school, or worked in retail created one of the fastest-growing footwear companies in the world by giving shoes away. • You're looking for a new model of success to share with your children, students, co-workers, and members of your community. You're ready to start something that matters. With every book you purchase, a new book will be provided to a child in need. One for One.™*

*The New York Times bestseller that gives readers a paradigm-shattering new way to think about motivation from the author of When: The Scientific Secrets of Perfect Timing Most people believe that the best way to motivate is with rewards like money—the carrot-and-stick approach. That's a mistake, says Daniel H. Pink (author of To Sell Is Human: The Surprising Truth About Motivating Others). In this provocative and persuasive new book, he asserts that the secret to high performance and satisfaction—at work, at school, and at home—is the deeply human need to direct our own lives, to learn and create new things, and to do better by ourselves and our world. Drawing on four decades of scientific research on human motivation, Pink exposes the mismatch between what science knows and what business does—and how that affects every aspect of life. He examines the three elements of true motivation—autonomy, mastery, and purpose—and offers smart and surprising techniques for putting these into action in a unique book that will change how we think and transform how we live.*

*An Instant #1 New York Times Bestseller! "An Instant Indie Bestseller!" "An Amazon Best Book of the Year" • A B&N Best Book of the Year" A great gift for tiny go-getters and big dreamers, including for back to school! NBA champion and superstar LeBron James pens a slam-dunk picture book inspired by his foundation's I PROMISE program that motivates children everywhere to always #LoveYourGrowth. Just a kid from Akron, Ohio, who is dedicated to uplifting youth everywhere, LeBron James shows the key to a better future is to excel in school, do your best, and keep your family close. I Promise is a lively and inspiring picture book that reminds us that tomorrow's success starts with the promises we make to ourselves and our community today. Featuring James's upbeat, rhyming text and vibrant illustrations perfectly crafted for a diverse audience by #1 New York Times bestselling and Geisel Honor winning artist Nina Mata, this book has the power to inspire all children and families to be their best. Perfect for shared reading in and out of the classroom. I Promise is also a great gift for graduation, birthdays, and other occasions. Plus check out the audiobook, read by LeBron James's mother and I Promise School supporter Gloria James!*

*Our counter cultural approach to mental training has helped transform leaders in sports, business, and education. The stories, strategies, and tools within will leave you encouraged and inspired. If you are looking for a quick fix, look somewhere else. If you are looking to achieve your greatest potential on the journey of life, you have come to the right place.*

The Promise of a Pencil

How The Other Half Learns

My Best Friend Is As Sharp As A Pencil: And Other Funny Classroom Portraits

Learn or Die

Global Child Welfare and Well-being

The Velvet Promise

Susan and her sister, Rebecca, love watching their mother write letters to people in other camps. Their mother has one precious pencil, and she keeps it safe in her box for special things. One afternoon, their mother leaves the iglu to help a neighbour, and Susan, Rebecca, and their brother Peter are left with their father. They play all their regular games but are soon out of things to do—until their father brings out the pencil! As Susan draws and draws, the pencil grows shorter and shorter. What will their mother think when she comes home? Based on author Susan Avingaq's childhood memories of growing up in an iglu, this charming story introduces young readers to the idea of using things wisely.

Guided by "Akira-sensei," John comes to realize the greatest adversity on his journey will be the challenge of defeating the man in the mirror. This powerful story of one boy's journey to achieve his life long goal of becoming a samurai warrior, brings the Train to be CLUTCH curriculum to life in a powerful and memorable way. Some things you will learn... —No matter how it feels, you are always building your own house. —How and why you must surrender to the outcome in order to be at your best. —Why you never want to have your identity wrapped up in what you do. —Why your strength lies in faithfulness to the little things. —How to develop a heart posture of gratitude. —How to use the biggest challenges as a training ground for greatness. —Why the process is more important than the goal. —Why experts believe the thief of all joy. —How to develop a growth mindset. —Why talent is more of a curse than a blessing. “ So many valuable stories and lessons!” —Nick Ahmed, Arizona Diamondbacks

For centuries, artisans have argued that learning was about memorizing information. You're supposed to study facts, dates, and details; burn them into your memory; and then apply that knowledge at opportune times. But this approach to learning isn't nearly enough for the world that we live in today, and in *Learn Better* journalist and education researcher Ulrich Boser demonstrates that how we learn is as important as what we learn. In this brilliantly researched book, Boser maps out the new science of learning, showing how simple techniques like comprehension check-ins and making material personally relatable can help people gain expertise in dramatically better ways. He covers six key steps to help you "learn how to learn," all illuminated with fascinating stories like how Jackson Pollock developed his unique painting style and why an ancient Japanese counting device allows kids to do math at superhuman speeds. Boser's witty, engaging writing makes this book feel like a guilty pleasure, not homework. *Learn Better* will revolutionize the way students and society alike approach learning and makes the case that being smart is not an innate ability—learning is a skill everyone can master. With Boser as your guide, you will be able to fully capitalize on your brain's remarkable ability to gain new skills and open up a whole new world of possibilities.

In the tradition of The Promise of a Pencil and Kisses from Katie comes an inspirational memoir by the founder of Comfort Cases about his turbulent childhood in the foster care system and the countless obstacles and discrimination he endured in adopting his four children. Rob Scheer never thought that he would be living the life he is now. He 's happily married to his partner and love of his life, he 's the father of four beautiful children, and he 's the founder of an organization that makes life better for thousands of children in the foster care system. But life wasn' t always like this. Growing up in an abusive household before his placement in foster care, Rob had all the odds stacked against him. Kicked out of his foster family 's home within weeks after turning eighteen—with a year left of high school to go—he had to resort to sleeping in his car and in public bathrooms. He suffered from drug addiction and battled with depression, never knowing when his next meal would be or where he would sleep at night. But by true perseverance, he was able to find his own path and achieve his wildest dreams. “ A heartwarming, hopeful memoir brimming with humanitarianism and compassion ” (Kirkus Reviews), Rob 's story provides a glimpse into what it 's like to grow up in the foster care system, and sheds necessary light on the children who are often treated without dignity. Both a timely call to action and a courageous and candid account of life in the foster care system, A Forever Family ultimately leaves you with one message: one person can make a difference.

The Promise of Amazing

Clay Water Brick

The Red Pencil

Color the Promises of God

An Adult Coloring Book for Your Soul

A Journey to Reimagine the Promise of America

*A 2018 Kirkus Best Book \* A National Council of Social Studies \* CBC Notable Trade Book \* An Outstanding International Trade Book (USBY) \* A Bank Street Children's Book Committee Best Book of the Year One night they came... The darkness grew colder, deeper, darker, and swallowed up everything... Marwan is a young boy on a journey he never intended to take, bound for a place he doesn't know. On his journey, he relies on courage and memories of his faraway homeland to buoy him. With him are hundreds and thousands of other human beings, crossing the deserts and the seas, fleeing war and hunger in search of safety. He must take one step after another—bringing whatever he can carry, holding on to dreams. This is the journey of one boy who longs for a home, and we follow his path, walking hand in hand with him as he looks forward with uncertainty and hopes for a peaceful future. This beautiful, heartfelt story gives a human face to the plight of refugees all over the world. Marwan's journey is everyone's journey.*

The Promise of a PencilHow an Ordinary Person Can Create Extraordinary ChangeSimon and Schuster

*In the tradition of Kabul Beauty School and Start Something That Matters comes an inspiring story of social entrepreneurship from the co-founder of Kiva, the first online microloending platform for the working poor. Featuring lessons learned from successful businesses in the world's poorest countries, Jessica Jackley's Clay Water Brick will motivate readers to more deeply appreciate the incredible entrepreneurial potential that exists in every human being on this planet—especially themselves. “The heart of entrepreneurship is never about what we have. It's about what we do.” Meet Patrick, who had next to nothing and started a thriving business using just the ground beneath his feet. . . Blessing, who built her shop right in the middle of the road, refusing to take the chance that her customers might pass her by. . . Constance, who cornered the banana market in her African village with her big personality and sense of mission. Patrick, Blessing, Constance, and many others are among the poorest of the world's poor. And yet they each had crucial lessons to teach Jessica Jackley—lessons about resilience, creativity, perseverance, and, above all, entrepreneurship. For as long as she could remember, Jackley, the co-founder of the revolutionary microloending site Kiva, had a singular and urgent ambition: to help alleviate global poverty. While in her twenties, she set off for Africa to finally meet the people she had long dreamed of helping. The insights of those she met changed her understanding. Today she believes that many of the most inspiring entrepreneurs in the world are not focused on high-tech ventures or making a lot of money; instead, they wake up every day and build better lives for themselves, their families, and their communities, regardless of the things they lack or the obstacles they encounter. As Jackley puts it, “The greatest entrepreneurs succeed not because of what they possess but because of what they are determined to do.” In Clay Water Brick, Jackley challenges readers to embrace entrepreneurship as a powerful force for change in the world. She shares her own story of founding Kiva with little more than a laptop and a dream, and the stories and the lessons she has learned from those across the globe who are doing the most with the least. Praise for Clay Water Brick “Jessica Jackley didn't wait for permission to change the world—she just did it. It turns out that you can too.”—Seth Godin, author of What to Do When It's Your Turn “Fascinating . . . gripping . . . bursting with lessons . . . Jessica Jackley has written a remarkable book. . . so thoroughly well meaning and engagingly put it is too magnetic to put down.”—Financial Times “Clay Water Brick is a tremendously inspiring read. Jessica Jackley, the virtuoso co-founder of the revolutionary microloending platform Kiva, shares uplifting stories and compelling lessons on entrepreneurship, resilience, and character.”—Adam Grant, author of Give and Take “A blueprint for anyone who wants to make the world a better place and find fulfillment in the process, no matter how scarce their resources or how steep the challenge.”—Arianna Huffington “This book is inspirational. And honest and practical. . . Well written, thoughtful; a selfless account of how to succeed by doing right and following your heart.”—Booklist*

*The riveting story of how a young man turned \$25 into more than 200 schools around the world and the guiding steps anyone can take to lead a successful and significant life. Adam Braun began working summers at hedge funds when he was just sixteen years old, sprinting down the path to a successful Wall Street career. But while traveling he met a young boy begging on the streets of India, who after being asked what he wanted most in the world, simply answered, “A pencil.” This small request led to a staggering series of events that took Braun backpacking through dozens of countries before eventually leaving one of the world's most prestigious jobs to found Pencils of Promise, the organization he started with just \$25 that has since built more than 200 schools around the world. The Promise of a Pencil chronicles Braun's journey to find his calling, as each chapter explains one clear step that every person can take to turn your biggest ambitions into reality, even if you start with as little as \$25. His story takes readers behind the scenes with business moguls and village chiefs, world-famous celebrities and hometown heroes. Driven by compelling stories and shareable insights, this is a vivid and inspiring book that will give you the tools to make your own life a story worth telling. \*All proceeds from this book will support Pencils of Promise.*

Essays and Stories

Drive

Creating Room to Read

Thirst

A Forever Family

Using Science to Build a Leading-Edge Learning Organization

Here's the perfect back-to-school gift for budding artists. Like the creator's previous picture book, My Dog Is as Smelly as Dirty Socks, this picture book encourages children to be creative and make their own object portraits. It's a fun activity for home or for the classroom. You can even check out portraits made by other readers in the "kids' gallery" of author Hanch Piven's Web site, www.pivenworld.com—and while you're at it, send in your own! Learn how to create a funny librarian, a colorful art teacher, or your best friend by seeing how one girl does it in this simple, playful picture book that's comprised of portraits made of objects. Once the girl has talked about—and drawn—the key figures in her school, she ends with the pièce de résistance—a class portrait!

The instant New York Times bestseller and publishing phenomenon: Marina Keegan's posthumous collection of award-winning essays and stories “sparkles with talent, humanity, and youth” (O, The Oprah Magazine). Marina Keegan's star was on the rise when she graduated magna cum laude from Yale in May 2012. She had a play that was to be produced at the New York Festival and a job waiting for her at The New Yorker. Tragically, five days after graduation, Marina died in a car crash. Marina left behind a rich, deeply expansive trove of writing that, like her title essay, captures the hope, uncertainty, and possibility of her generation. Her short story “Black Pastoral” was published on NewYorker.com. Her essay “Even Artichokes Have Dignity” was excerpted in the Financial Times, and her book was the focus of a Nicholas Kristof column in The New York Times. Millions of her contemporaries have responded to her work on social media. As Marina wrote: “We can still do anything. We can change our minds. We can start over...We're so young. We can't, we MUST not lose this sense of possibility because in the end, it's all we have.” The Opposite of Loneliness is an unforgettable collection of Marina's essays and stories that articulates the universal struggle all of us face as we figure out what we aspire to be and how we can harness our talents to impact the world. “How do you mourn the loss of a fiery talent that was barely a tendril before it was snuffed out? Answer: Read this book. A clear-eyed observer of human nature, Keegan could take a clever idea...and make it something beautiful” (People).

All of England rejoiced on her wedding day. But Judith vowed that her husband would get only what he took from her! At the flower-bedecked altar, the first touch of their hands ignited an all-consuming passion. Gavin Montgomery looked deep into her golden eyes and burned with desire for her...but his heart had been pledged to another. Humiliated and alone in a strange castle, Judith resolved to hate this husband who took her body, but rejected her love...never admitting her fear of losing him. But destiny held another fate for Judith...a fate that would keep at last... The Velvet Promise.

The author describes how he left a lucrative business consulting job to found the nonprofit Pencils of Promise, an organization responsible for building schools for the poor in developing countries around the world and which recently completed its two hundredth school.

Midnight in Washington

The Promise

Start Something That Matters

Mastering the Skills for Success in Life, Business, and School, or How to Become an Expert in Just about Anything

Choosing Hope

The Promise to the One

Kids use pencils everyday. Read to find out how a pencil is made. Paired to the fiction title Where is My Eraser? A cross between The Promise of a Pencil and She Means Business, this book from the co-founder of a charity dedicated to bringing education to students in rural Kenya demonstrates how finding your purpose can change the world and change your life. THE WORLD IS WAITING FOR YOUR BIG DREAM! Imagine if everyone took a few minutes each day to make the world talents fueled by their deepest passions. What an amazing world we would live in! This book is your guide to discovering your passion, living your purpose, and making a positive impact on the world. Amy McLaren's passion for world travel and education kickstarted her journey from unfulfilled schooteacher to the purpose-driven founder of Village Impact, a charity to help at-risk kids in Kenya in partnership with local communities. But this book isn't about doing exactly what Amy did or following a template to start a business or non-profit—it's about making your big dream into a reality. Learn how to: • Feed your brain with possibility to discover your passion. • Surround yourself with positivity and support. • Tap into the strengths and comfort zone and eliminate self-doubt for good. • Trust in yourself and have faith that things will work out. • Leave a legacy of good.

To compete with today's increasing globalization and rapidly evolving technologies, individuals and organizations must take their ability to learn—the foundation for continuous improvement, operational excellence, and innovation—to a much higher level. In *Learn or Die*, Edward D. Hess combines recent advances in neuroscience, psychology, behavioral economics, and performance businesses to create an actionable blueprint for becoming a leading-edge learning organization. *Learn or Die* examines the process of learning from an individual and an organizational standpoint. From an individual perspective, the book discusses the cognitive, emotional, motivational, attitudinal, and behavioral factors that promote better learning. Organizational kinds of structures, culture, leadership, employee learning behaviors, and human resource policies that are necessary to create an environment that enables critical and innovative thinking, learning conversations, and collaboration. The volume also provides strategies to mitigate the reality that humans can be reflexive, lazy thinkers who seek confirmation of what they see in the self-image. Exemplar learning organizations discussed include the secretive Bridgewater Associates, LP; Intuit, Inc.; United Parcel Service (UPS); W. L. Gore & Associates; and IDEO. A time-bending, wildly entertaining masterpiece hailed by the *New York Times Book Review* as “Autidiously well written...the book I was raving about to my friends before I'd even finished it.” Publishers Weekly raved that “with near-universal appeal... Seay's debut novel is a true delight, a big, beautiful cabinet of wonders that is by turns an ominous and an enchanting historical adventure story.” Set in three cities in three eras, *The Mirror Thief* calls to mind David Mitchell and Umberto Eco in its mix of entertainment and literary bravado. The core story is set in Venice in the sixteenth century, when the famed makers of Venetian glass were perfecting one of the old world's most ingenious inventions: the mirror. Fascination—with its reflecting simple reality, or something more spiritually revealing?—the Venetian mirrors were state of the art technology, and subject to industrial espionage by desirous sultans and royals world-wide. But for any of the development team to leave the island was a crime punishable by death. One man, however—a world-weary war hero with nothi but his own wit—was the territory's terrifying enforcers of the edict, the ominous Council of Ten. . . . Meanwhile, in two other Venices—Venice Beach, California, circa 1958, and the Venice casino in Las Vegas, circa today—two other schemers launch similarly dangerous plans to get away with a secret. . . . All three stories will weave together into a spell-binding tour-de-force that is in a night novel that, in the end, returns the reader to a stunning conclusion in the original Venice. . . . and the bedazzled sense of having read a truly original and thrilling work of art.

Fostering Change One Child at a Time

Chop Wood Carry Water: How to Fall In Love With The Process of Becoming Great

A Story of Hope in the Battle for Global Literacy

Leaving Microsoft to Change the World

Studio: A Place for Art to Start

From the Ground Up

Robin Costantine's New Jersey romance The Promise of Amazing is a sexy, poignant, funny, and authentic bedot novel that will appeal to fans of books by Stephanie Perkins, Sarah Mlynowski, and Jennifer E. Smith. Wren Caswell is average. Ranked in the middle of her class at Sacred Heart, she's not popular, not a social misfit. Wren is the quiet good girl who's always done what she's supposed to—only now, in her junior year, this passive strategy is backfiring. She wants to change but doesn't know how. Grayson Barrett was the king of St. Gabe's: star of the lacrosse team, top of his class, and on the fast track to a brilliant future—until he was expelled for being a “term-paper pimp.” Now Gray is in a downward spiral and needs to change but doesn't know how. One fateful night, their paths cross at Wren's family's Arthurian-themed catering hall. What follows is the complicated, awkward, hilarious, and tender tale of two teens shedding their pasts, figuring out who they are—and falling in love.

“[S]tirring. . . a bold, inspiring and ultimately hopeful book.” —Arianna Huffington, cofounder and editor-in-chief of The Huffington Post and author of the New York Times bestseller Thrive “A beautiful portrait of the power of hope and love in the healing of a person, a community, and a country.” —Gabrielle Giffords, former congresswoman and New York Times bestselling author Kaitlin Roig-DeBellis is the first-grade teacher at Sandy Hook Elementary School who saved her entire class of fifteen six- and seven-year-olds from the tragic events that took place on December 14, 2012, by piling them into a single-occupancy bathroom within her classroom, mere feet from the brutal and indiscriminate massacre taking place outside the door. Since then, despite the unimaginably painful experiences she endured, she has chosen to share her experience with others, in the hope that they, too, can find light in dark moments. Choosing Hope is a lot of things. A written witness to a tragedy that will never be forgotten. A gripping firsthand testament to the power of good over the power of destruction. An inspirational memoir by a brave young woman whose story is one of courage, heroism, faith, and resilience. And a celebration of all the people who make the choice to pass along their hope and positivity