

2023 summer reading

McKinsey's annual book list is back—with something for everyone.



Genres

Biography & memoir

Homayoun Hatami

Senior partner and managing partner, global client capabilities, McKinsey

“Here’s what I’m reading this summer.”

— *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer*

Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin

Penguin Random House, April 2006

Chelsea Stoner

General partner, Battery Ventures

“This is the fascinating story of little-known US president James A. Garfield, who didn’t want to be president but was nominated against his will at the convention anyway—very dissimilar to the expensive, glitzy president-nominating process the whole world is watching in the United States today. The book details how campaigns were run in the late 1880s, how far away from that process we are now, and the implications this has for US society.”

— *Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine, and the Murder of a President*

Candice Millard

Penguin Random House, June 2012

Brian Doubles

President and CEO, Synchrony

“In times both good and bad, Seinfeld reminds us to appreciate the silver linings and find levity in unexpected moments. This is a lighthearted read that provides a witty break from daily life—and plenty of great laughs.”

— *Is This Anything?*

Jerry Seinfeld

Simon & Schuster, October 2020

Ariela Safira

Founder and CEO, Real

“A reminder that our society may be doing many things incorrectly, and it just takes strong willpower to push for a better way.”

— *Mountains beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World*

Tracy Kidder

Penguin Random House, August 2009

Marc Rosen

CEO, JCPenney

“I love learning from great leaders, and this book adds so much about family and culture, too.”

— *My Life in Full: Work, Family, and Our Future*

Indra Nooyi

Penguin Random House, September 2021

Ginni Rometty

Former chair and CEO, IBM; cochair, OneTen

“It doesn’t matter what circumstance you’re born into; this book speaks to the importance of role models in your life—and particularly male role models for a young Black man. It also cements why I believe the ‘skills first’ movement creates opportunities in a world where so many have the aptitude but not the access to succeed.”

— *My Seven Black Fathers: A Young Activist’s Memoir of Race, Family, and the Mentors Who Made Him Whole*

Will Jawando

Macmillan, May 2022

Pierre Gentin

Senior partner and chief legal officer, McKinsey

“The fascinating story of the Baez sisters—Joan and Mimi—Richard Fariña, and Bob Dylan in the New York folk-music scene of the early 1960s. A compelling and entertaining picture of some of the remarkable personalities who came to play defining roles in both folk and rock music.”

— *Positively 4th Street: The Lives and Times of Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Mimi Baez Fariña, and Richard Fariña* (tenth-anniversary edition)

David Hajdu

Macmillan, April 2011

Mina Al-Oraibi

Editor in chief, *National*

“The role of art, identity, and self-reflection are all explored in this concise but vivid book. The author

spends a solitary night in the Punta della Dogana museum, in Venice, where historic artworks help her understand her own past. This is a book to read to reflect on the roles that art, writing, work, and family play in forging identity. Entire sentences are like works of poetry.”

— *The Scent of Flowers at Night*

Leïla Slimani (translated by Sam Taylor)
Hachette UK, April 2023

Business

Brian Doubles

President and CEO, Synchrony

“This book is an interesting dissection of the GameStop short squeeze that highlights the way in which social media is changing so many parts of our world. It sheds new light on how we share, analyze, and use information in a way that’s shifting investment power from Wall Street to Main Street.”

— *The Antisocial Network: The GameStop Short Squeeze and the Ragtag Group of Amateur Traders That Brought Wall Street to Its Knees*

Ben Mezrich
Hachette Book Group, September 2021

Ariela Safira

Founder and CEO, Real

“The most honest business book I’ve read to date, highlighting the real journey of founding a company.”

— *Burn Rate: Launching a Startup and Losing My Mind*

Andy Dunn
Penguin Random House, May 2022

David Kramer

President, United Talent Agency

“This book is about much more than its title may indicate. It is not about money but rather about how to think about life, time, priorities, and truly getting and giving the most of yourself. Why wait until the end to make life’s most critical decisions for you and the ones you love?”

— *Die with Zero: Getting All You Can from Your Money and Your Life*

Bill Perkins
HarperCollins Publishers, May 2021

Jenny Abramson

Founder and managing partner, Rethink Impact

“This is a beautiful personal story coupled with tangible business lessons from the former chair and CEO of IBM, Ginni Rometty—one of the most authentic and badass leaders I know.”

— *Good Power: Leading Positive Change in Our Lives, Work, and World*

Ginni Rometty
Harvard Business School Publishing,
March 2023

Mads Nipper

President and CEO, Ørsted

“Having worked with Solitaire, I know this book offers tangible examples of courageous moves that can literally change the world.”

— *The Solutionists: How Businesses Can Fix the Future*

Solitaire Townsend
Kogan Page, April 2023

Zubaida Bai

President and CEO, Grameen Foundation

“Mary Ellen Iskenderian masterfully explains that women need a lot more than just a loan to be included in formal society. She positions the billion women who are not a part of the formal system as an opportunity for the financial world rather than as victims of charity. The key is not to show sympathy to women but to include them in the financial system.”

— *There’s Nothing Micro about a Billion Women: Making Finance Work for Women*

Mary Ellen Iskenderian
MIT Press, April 2022

Fiction & poetry

Homayoun Hatami

Senior partner and managing partner, global client capabilities, McKinsey

“Here’s what I’m reading this summer.”

— *Babel, or the Necessity of Violence: An Arcane History of the Oxford Translators’ Revolution*

R. F. Kuang

HarperCollins Publishers, August 2022

Anup Kaphle

Editor in chief, *Rest of World*

“V. V. Ganeshanathan’s novel masterfully weaves journalistic reporting and narrative writing to recount the dreams, hopes, and losses of ordinary Sri Lankans during the country’s civil war. Growing up in Nepal during the peak Maoist insurgency years, I was particularly drawn to the cultural elements in this story, which keeps coming back to family and friendships—and food—throughout.”

— *Brotherless Night*

V. V. Ganeshanathan

Penguin Random House, January 2023

Lucy Yu

Owner, Yu and Me Books

“A riveting and incisive exploration of America’s prison system. A must-read for anyone seeking profound insight into the intersection of race, capitalism, and freedom.”

— *Chain-Gang All-Stars*

Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah

Penguin Random House, May 2023

Shefali Razdan Duggal

US ambassador to the Netherlands

“As an immigrant to the United States, I am always fascinated by immigrant stories. I am looking forward to reading this new novel about a Chinese immigrant who comes to the US with big dreams and optimism, has some bumps along the way, and, in the end, positively finds his way.”

— *The Chinese Groove*

Kathryn Ma

Counterpoint, January 2023

Bob Sternfels

Global managing partner, McKinsey

“An older book left to me by my maternal grandfather. I just found it while moving some stuff. He loved the old West and would recite these to me on car rides as a kid. In particular, the Yukon-focused poems, ‘The Shooting of Dan McGrew’ and ‘The Cremation of Sam McGee,’ are favorites.”

— *Collected Poems of Robert Service*

Robert Service

Putnam’s Sons, 1940

David Kramer

President, United Talent Agency

“My wife turned me onto this book, which subsequently won the Pulitzer Prize. I am excited to read it during our summer vacation. I only know it to be a modern-day David Copperfield set in one of our country’s poorest, most misunderstood, and maligned regions.”

— *Demon Copperhead*

Barbara Kingsolver

HarperCollins Publishers, October 2022

Jenny Abramson

Founder and managing partner, Rethink Impact

“This hilarious novel about a woman’s struggle to be seen as equal in an age of inequality feels like both a reminder of how far we’ve come and, with less than 2 percent of venture capital dollars going to female-led companies today, how far we still need to go with our work at Rethink Impact.”

— *Lessons in Chemistry*

Bonnie Garmus

Penguin Random House, April 2022

Tracy Francis

Senior partner and chief marketing officer, McKinsey

“I read and loved *Hamnet* during the pandemic. This is O’Farrell’s latest and is the perfect mix of history, art, and humanity for a holiday read.”

— *The Marriage Portrait*

Maggie O’Farrell

Penguin Random House, September 2022

Steve Grove

CEO and publisher, Star Tribune Media Company

"A powerful short story about doing the right thing."

— *Small Things Like These*

Claire Keegan

Grove Atlantic, November 2021

Sisi Wei

Editor in chief, The Markup

"I've read almost every single book, translation, and short story by Ken Liu. All his work is incredibly thought provoking and engrossing, and the touching moments sneak up on you in the best way. *Speaking Bones* is Liu's fourth book in a truly epic series that mixes Chinese history with science and fantasy."

— *Speaking Bones* (book four of the *Dandelion Dynasty*)

Ken Liu

Simon & Schuster, June 2022

Alisa Miller

Cofounder and CEO, Pluralitytics

"A novel about partnership, relationships, success, identity, technology, and struggles across time. A tale that resonates in these tumultuous times."

— *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow*

Gabrielle Zevin

Penguin Random House, July 2022

Chelsea Stoner

General partner, Battery Ventures

"This historical novel—focused on Wall Street in the 1920s and then the Depression—has been on my list for a while, and I can't wait to dig into it. It features a 'novel within a novel' and, I've read, some disorienting literary tricks that keep the reader guessing."

Rodney Zimmel

Senior partner, McKinsey

"A fictional story about a 1920s Wall Street tycoon and his wife told through three different lenses. Diaz is one of the most original writers around,

and this compelling story will really make you think about the word *trust*."

— *Trust*

Hernan Diaz

Penguin Random House, May 2022

Lucy Yu

Owner, Yu and Me Books

"*Yellowface* is a gripping novel that takes you on a journey through twisted identities, dark humor, and unexpected consequences. With its timely exploration of diversity, cultural appropriation, and the perils of social media, this book will leave you questioning everything."

— *Yellowface*

R. F. Kuang

HarperCollins Publishers, May 2023

History**Anup Kaphle**

Editor in chief, *Rest of World*

"As a newsroom leader running global coverage, I'm faced with some of the same challenges many of our colleagues in the industry face right now: How do you really cover China? It's one of the most important beats in international journalism, and it is most likely one of the toughest ones as well. I'm looking forward to reading this book and learning from the experiences of multiple generations of correspondents who have reported from China."

— *Assignment China: An Oral History of American Journalists in the People's Republic*

Mike Chinoy

Columbia University Press, March 2023

Rebecca Blumenstein

President, NBC News Editorial

"This book by my husband, Alan Paul, is a cultural history of the 1970s, with the Allman Brothers at the core. The Grateful Dead, Lynyrd Skynyrd, and Geraldo all appear, but I was taken by Gregg Allman's relationship with Cher and how the group helped elect Jimmy Carter."

— *Brothers and Sisters: The Allman Brothers Band and the Inside Story of the Album That Defined the '70s*

Alan Paul

Macmillan, July 2023

Jelani Cobb

Dean and Henry R. Luce Professor of Journalism, Columbia Journalism School

“Luckerson does an incredible job of sifting through the ashes of history to present a textured image of a vital community. What really distinguishes this work is his commitment to chronicling not only what happened in the midst of a racial catastrophe but also the quiet, alloyed resolve of the people who survived that moment and built the community that exists to this day.”

— *Built from the Fire: The Epic Story of Tulsa's Greenwood District, America's Black Wall Street*

Victor Luckerson

Penguin Random House, May 2023

Rebecca Blumenstein

President, NBC News Editorial

“Jonathan Freedland's book is an inspiring example of the power of truth amid a sea of lies. The stunning story of Rudolf Vrba's escape from Auschwitz to tell the world the scale of the murders deserves wide recognition. Tough reading at times, but it filled me with hope and awe.”

— *The Escape Artist: The Man Who Broke Out of Auschwitz to Warn the World*

Jonathan Freedland

HarperCollins Publishers, October 2022

Daryna Shevchenko

CEO, *Kyiv Independent*

“While many people discovered the existence of Ukraine last year, it has been there for a long time. Reading Serhii Plokhy's book about the history of Ukraine is perhaps the most efficient way to uncover its past and be equipped with the necessary knowledge to understand Russia's ongoing war against Ukraine and its historical significance for the future of global security.”

— *The Gates of Europe: A History of Ukraine* (revised)

Serhii Plokhy

Hachette Book Group, May 2021

Rodney Zemmel

Senior partner, McKinsey

“Yes, this is actually a history of book indexes—from the days of parchment scrolls to today. But it is also a witty and compelling tale of human knowledge and the principles of information science. The book itself has two indexes, one written by a professional indexer and one by a computer—no prizes for guessing which one is best, for now.”

— *Index, A History of the: A Bookish Adventure from Medieval Manuscripts to the Digital Age*

Dennis Duncan

W. W. Norton & Company, February 2022

Shefali Razdan Duggal

US ambassador to the Netherlands

“I encourage folks to read this book for a deep dive into the early history of our nation and to learn about how much American culture and American values owe to the Dutch founders of New Netherland.”

— *The Island at the Center of the World: The Epic Story of Dutch Manhattan and the Forgotten Colony That Shaped America*

Russell Shorto

Penguin Random House, April 2005

Kat Downs Mulder

Senior vice president and general manager, Yahoo News

“This telling of the decline of General Electric under CEO Jeff Immelt details how he and his predecessor, Jack Welch, shaped GE over the course of decades, illuminating each leader's style and dissecting how their decisions altered the trajectory of the company. Lots of lessons for leaders in this one.”

— *Lights Out: Pride, Delusion, and the Fall of General Electric*

Thomas Gryta and Ted Mann
HarperCollins Publishers, May 2021

Pierre Gentin

Senior partner and chief legal officer, McKinsey

"*Aish Kodesh* is a collection of weekly sermons delivered in the Warsaw ghetto during World War II by Rabbi Kalonymus Kalmish Shapira, before the Jews of the ghetto (including Rabbi Shapira) were murdered. A classic of 20th-century Hasidic philosophy, *Aish Kodesh* is striking because Rabbi Shapira never directly references the dire factual circumstances facing his community; instead, the book focuses on experiencing God's immanence in a period of tremendous suffering. Henry Abramson has written an extraordinary book that links what was happening factually each week in the Warsaw ghetto with the theme of Rabbi Shapira's sermon for that week. A powerful and moving work."

— *Torah from the Years of Wrath 1939-1943: The Historical Context of the Aish Kodesh*
Henry Abramson
CreateSpace, April 2023

Nicholas Thompson

CEO, *Atlantic*

"This book is about FDR's top deputies. It's got a surprising, counterintuitive take on Roosevelt, and I hope to pick up some secrets on building successful teams while I'm at it."

— *Unlikely Heroes: Franklin Roosevelt, His Four Lieutenants, and the World They Made*
Derek Leebaert
Macmillan, February 2023

Mark Suzman

CEO and board member, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

"Neither South Africa nor the world at large has truly reckoned with the violence and oppression of apartheid, and Steinberg looks deeply into the Mandelas' marriage to tell this story in an intimate, personal way that resonates even decades later. As a South African, it's powerful to see the struggles of a new nation play out across the Mandelas' lives and also to come to terms with how human our heroes truly are."

— *Winnie & Nelson: Portrait of a Marriage*
Jonny Steinberg
Jonathan Ball Publishers, May 2023

Bob Sternfels

Global managing partner, McKinsey

"My sister just gave this book to me, and I will read it this summer. I am interested in seeing history via the lens of family."

— *The World: A Family History of Humanity*
Simon Sebag Montefiore
Penguin Random House, May 2023

Innovation

Ginni Rometty

Former chair and CEO, IBM; cochair, OneTen

"This book reinforces why we must focus on stewarding good tech. As Kissinger has said, history shows that when people are fearful of something and they don't understand it, they revolt. AI is at that moment. I'm a believer that AI has a great upside and will change every job for the better, but it matters how we implement it."

Joydeep Sengupta

Senior partner, McKinsey (Singapore)

"Here's what I'm reading this summer."

— *The Age of AI: And Our Human Future*
Daniel Huttenlocher, Henry A. Kissinger, and Eric Schmidt
Hachette Book Group, November 2021

Reid Hoffman

Cofounder, LinkedIn; partner, Greylock

"Mustafa is the rare entrepreneur who has founded not one but two major AI companies, and I'm so thrilled that he's sharing his deep thinking with us all, rooted in his desire to uplift and improve humanity."

— *The Coming Wave: Technology, Power, and the Twenty-First Century's Greatest Dilemma*
Mustafa Suleyman (with Michael Bhaskar)
Penguin Random House, September 2023

Piyush Gupta

CEO, DBS Bank

“A great explanation of the defining role of energy in shaping the modern world and a reflection on what it will take to really change the energy system to a low-carbon intensive one. Critical for humankind to achieve, but we should not be naive about the challenges.”

Sven Smit

Senior partner and chair of insights and ecosystems, McKinsey; chair, McKinsey Global Institute

“I cannot recommend this enough to understand the physical reality of how the world works—so critical to decision making and often neglected.”

— *How the World Really Works: The Science behind How We Got Here and Where We're Going*
Vaclav Smil
Penguin Random House, May 2022

Alisa Miller

Cofounder and CEO, Pluralitytics

“This book came out only a short time before the generative-AI wave but is even more relevant today when we talk about human talent in an age of smart machines.”

— *Human Work in the Age of Smart Machines*
Jamie Merisotis
RosettaBooks, October 2020

Steve Grove

CEO and publisher, Star Tribune Media Company

“A fascinating look at the history of YouTube. From its upstart origins to the inevitable challenges of being engulfed by its new owner, Google, Bergen uses this page-turning history to ask—and provide answers to—the big questions about the internet and democracy.”

— *Like, Comment, Subscribe: Inside YouTube's Chaotic Rise to World Domination*
Mark Bergen
Penguin Random House, September 2022

Mark Suzman

CEO and board member, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

“We're in a moment of incredible technological change, but what we've seen throughout history is that the benefits of technology are often intensely concentrated in the hands of a privileged few. In this salient read, Acemoglu and Johnson tell that story and challenge us to ensure that the benefits of innovation are truly enjoyed by everyone—a challenge we can and must rise to.”

— *Power and Progress: Our Thousand-Year Struggle over Technology and Prosperity*
Daron Acemoglu and Simon Johnson
Hachette Book Group, May 2023

Reid Hoffman

Cofounder, LinkedIn; partner, Greylock

“It's great to see Jen—someone who has been fighting her entire career for a government that works for the people—lay out her vision so clearly and practically so that we can all see the road map to a more efficient and productive government.”

— *Recoding America: Why Government Is Failing in the Digital Age and How We Can Do Better*
Jennifer Pahlka
Macmillan, June 2023

Stephan Scholl

CEO, Alight

“While AI has been part of Alight's ecosystem for years, this book examines how AI will change the way we work, but not necessarily destroy the way we work.”

— *Working with AI: Real Stories of Human-Machine Collaboration*
Thomas H. Davenport and Steven M. Miller
MIT Press, September 2022

Personal development**Diego de Sola**

President and CEO, Grupo de Sola, El Salvador

“As machines broaden their capabilities at blazing speeds, and human ‘usefulness’ appears under

assault, our unique capacity for creativity must take center stage. In a world of dwindling hope, I found Rubin's book powerfully simple, intuitive, and inspiring."

— *The Creative Act: A Way of Being*

Rick Rubin

Penguin Random House, January 2023

Marc Rosen

President and CEO, JCPenney

"When what we do is tied to our greater purpose, our why, it is so much more powerful."

— *The Earned Life: Lose Regret, Choose Fulfillment*

Marshall Goldsmith and Mark Reiter

Penguin Random House, May 2022

Piyush Gupta

CEO, DBS Bank

"This book is about finding purpose and happiness in the second half of your life—and recognizing the inevitability of change and even decline."

— *From Strength to Strength: Finding Success, Happiness, and Deep Purpose in the Second Half of Life*

Arthur C. Brooks

Penguin Random House, February 2022

Politics

Tracy Francis

Senior partner and chief marketing officer, McKinsey

"I am reading this book because I think Rudd is deeply thoughtful on the topic of US–China relations."

— *The Avoidable War: The Dangers of a Catastrophic Conflict between the US and Xi Jinping's China*

Kevin Rudd

Hachette Book Group, March 2022

Alyssa Ayres

Dean, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University

"Richard's clear-eyed appraisals of US foreign-policy priorities are always required reading. Here, having concluded that 'the most urgent and significant threat to American security and stability stems not from abroad but from within,' he charts out the obligations vital to strengthening our democracy."

— *The Bill of Obligations: The Ten Habits of Good Citizens*

Richard Haass

Penguin Random House, January 2023

Zubaida Bai

President and CEO, Grameen Foundation

"*Chup*, which means *silent* in Hindi, is a book that questions the everyday norms that make women feel invisible, wrapped under the femininity of selflessness. The author highlights the deep-rooted patriarchy that makes even supportive men inadvertently complicit. Everyday culture and norms ensure that most women believe the glass ceiling is too high or they can never shatter it."

— *Chup: Breaking the Silence about India's Women*

Deepa Narayan

Juggernaut Books, January 2018

Antonio Zappulla

CEO, Thomson Reuters Foundation

"This is a must-read for all defenders of democracy. Through investigative reporting, the Nobel laureate's inspiring account documents her fight to hold authority responsible, her refusal to be silenced, and offers solutions toward a free, fair, and informed future for us all."

— *How to Stand Up to a Dictator: The Fight for Our Future*

Maria Ressa

HarperCollins Publishers, November 2022

Hassan El-Houry

Chairman of the Board; Menzies Aviation

"This topic is very relevant to me personally. America's immigration policy helped spur the country's exceptionalism and global leadership. Today, the system needs repair. Europe, the Arab

world, and East Asia are grappling with this topic, and the conclusion will determine their trajectories.”

— *The Immigrant Superpower: How Brains, Brawn, and Bravery Make America Stronger*
Tim Kane
Oxford University Press, January 2022

Alyssa Ayres

Dean, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University

“A profound political theorist and classicist, Professor Allen was my dean when I received my PhD, and I have long admired her intellectual rootedness in theory and practice.”

— *Justice by Means of Democracy*
Danielle Allen
The University of Chicago Press, April 2023

Joydeep Sengupta

Senior partner, McKinsey (Singapore)

“Here’s what I’m reading this summer.”

— *Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Explain Everything about the World (book one in the Politics of Place series)*
Tim Marshall
Simon & Schuster, October 2015

Antonio Zappulla

CEO, Thomson Reuters Foundation

“With timeless relevance, Plato powerfully reminds us that politics is grounded in justice, the common good, and selfless leadership. Leaders must possess the intellectual and moral qualities necessary to make rational decisions for the benefit of all society rather than the few.”

— *Republic*
Plato (translated by Robin Waterfield)
Oxford University Press, May 2008

Diego de Sola

President and CEO, Grupo de Sola, El Salvador

“I am a firm believer that it is in our nature to be good, but evidently, context matters, and Moisés Naím’s analysis of today’s political context sheds

an interesting light on the mounting challenges facing modern-day democracies. And that’s before AI hit the scene!”

— *The Revenge of Power: How Autocrats Are Reinventing Politics for the 21st Century*
Moisés Naím
Macmillan, February 2022

Mina Al-Oraibi

Editor in chief, *National*

“This year marked 20 years since the US war in Iraq. Much has been written about it, but few writers have captured the complexity of events and emotions that went with it. This is the one book to read about the 2003 war and its effects on both ordinary people and the geopolitical order we live in. It is part autobiography, part history book, with detailed coverage, nuance, empathy, and even some humor. The beautifully intricate doodles are an extra bonus.”

— *A Stranger in Your Own City: Travels in the Middle East’s Long War*
Ghaith Abdul-Ahad
Penguin Random House, March 2023

Jelani Cobb

Dean and Henry R. Luce Professor of Journalism, Columbia Journalism School

“The Supreme Court has, in recent years, become a more prominent part of the polarized, sometimes chaotic politics of the United States. Michael Waldman deftly explores how this moment relates to both the history of the high court and the implications of the current conservative supermajority for the foreseeable future.”

— *The Supermajority: How the Supreme Court Divided America*
Michael Waldman
Simon & Schuster, June 2023

Psychology

Hassan El-Houry

Chairman of the Board; Menzies Aviation

"I recently read this book and will read it again. As an optimist, I believe in the power of the human race, and this book proves that the world is getting better, healthier, and safer. Key lesson: look beyond the hype and analyze the data. Numbers tell the truth."

— *Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong about the World—and Why Things Are Better Than You Think*

Hans Rosling (with Ola Rosling and Anna Rosling Rönnlund)
Macmillan, April 2018

Stephan Scholl

CEO, Alight

"This book examines teenage mental health through interviews with teenagers and offers practical guidance to parents."

— *Girls on the Brink: Helping Our Daughters Thrive in an Era of Increased Anxiety, Depression, and Social Media*

Donna Jackson Nakazawa
Penguin Random House, September 2022

Sisi Wei

Editor in chief, The Markup

"After anti-Asian hate became more pronounced in 2020, I started looking for Asian mental-health communities online. I wanted to know: How can I better talk about mental health, not only in my work as a journalist but also as a daughter of Chinese immigrants? I started following Dr. Wang's work then, and I can't wait to read her book."

— *Permission to Come Home: Reclaiming Mental Health as Asian Americans*

Jenny T. Wang, PhD
Hachette Book Group, May 2022

Mads Nipper

President and CEO, Ørsted

"As a middle-aged and experienced executive in a world that seems to change at warp speed, staying curious, unlearning, and relearning are essential. Adam's books give great inspiration to do just that."

— *Think Again: The Power of Knowing What You Don't Know*

Adam Grant
Penguin Random House, February 2021

Sven Smit

Senior partner and chair of insights and ecosystems, McKinsey; chair, McKinsey Global Institute

"This is an exploration of the enormous impact of 57 minutes of heat, from being in a sauna, and 11 minutes of cold, from winter swimming, per week on health and well-being, and the joy people have doing it."

— *Winter Swimming: The Nordic Way towards a Healthier and Happier Life*

Dr Susanna Sørberg
Hachette UK, September 2022

Workplace culture

Kat Downs Mulder

Senior vice president and general manager, Yahoo News

"Strategy is essential to success in any key leadership role, and this book digs deep into what makes good strategy—and what does not. Full of case studies and anecdotes, and quick to read, it is a great orientation, or refresher, to successful strategic thinking and planning."

— *Good Strategy, Bad Strategy: The Difference and Why It Matters*

Richard Rumelt
Penguin Random House, July 2011

Henry Timms

President and CEO, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts

"This is an essential contribution in how we can lead nonprofits to thrive—a must-read for our sector and far beyond."

— *How to Save the World in Six (Not So Easy) Steps: Bringing Out the Best in Nonprofits*

David M. Schizer
Post Hill Press, May 2023

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“A critical, timely, and practical book. I’m a big admirer of Octavia and her work, and I found this both eye-opening and educational.”

— *Prep, Push, Pivot: Essential Career Strategies for Underrepresented Women*

Octavia Goredema

John Wiley & Sons, January 2022

Nicholas Thompson

CEO, *Atlantic*

“I’m deep into Claire Hughes Johnson’s *Scaling People*, which is the smartest and most useful book I’ve read on management this year.”

— *Scaling People: Tactics for Management and Company Building*

Claire Hughes Johnson

Stripe, March 2023

Daryna Shevchenko

CEO, *Kyiv Independent*

“I believe that the only thing a manager can actually rely on in times of crisis is their team. Building and growing the *Kyiv Independent* team amid the war [in Ukraine] solidified this belief for me. It’s always a challenge to not only find the best talent but also give them enough space for their own decision making, as well as the necessary tools to grow. This book offers good, hands-on insight into how to identify talent and interview promising, yet sometimes overlooked, potential hires.”

— *Talent: How to Identify Energizers, Creatives, and Winners around the World*

Tyler Cowan and Daniel Gross

Macmillan, May 2022

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