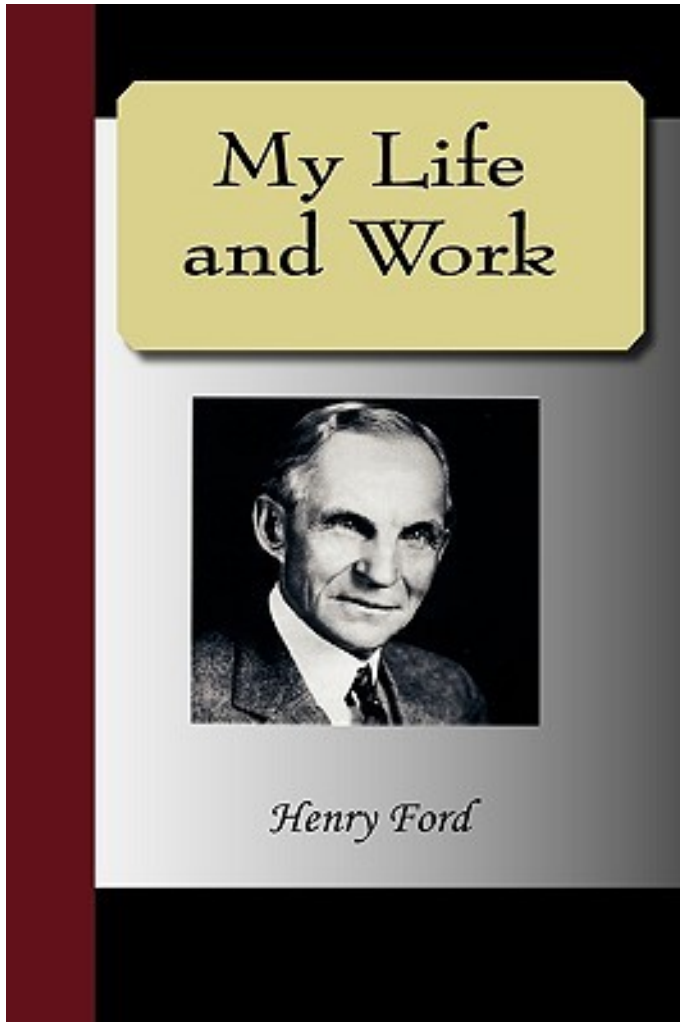

Henry Ford

My Life and Work - An Autobiography of Henry Ford



Title: My Life and Work - An Autobiography of Henry Ford

Author: Henry Ford

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Description

Henry Ford spent most of his life making headlines, good, bad, but never indifferent. Celebrated as both a technological genius and a folk hero, Ford was the creative force behind an industry of unprecedented size and wealth that in only a few decades permanently changed the economic and social character of the United States. When young Ford left his father's farm in 1879 for Detroit, only two out of eight Americans lived in cities; when he died at age 83, the proportion was five out of eight. Once Ford realized the tremendous part he and his Model T automobile had played in bringing about this change, he wanted nothing more than to reverse it, or at least to recapture the rural values of his boyhood. Henry Ford, then, is an apt symbol of the transition from an agricultural to an industrial America.

Insightful reviews

Chris Brimmer: I believe everything said about the man was true, crank, genius, delusional, visionary. The man was the Elon Musk of his time and thought that his success in manufacturing made him an authority on life in an industrial society in general. Respectful and at the same time paternalistic to his workers, I think he thought the solution to labor and capital relations was to weed out bad employers and bad employees so that the constructive folks could get on with it but without explaining how this could be so. The book says very little about Henry Ford's life but very much about the rambling nature of his mind and it felt like a series of TED Talks. I think the man had ten ideas before breakfast and one was good but he had a problem figuring out which one. As a look into the mind of an American archetype you could hardly do better.

Maciej: Bardzo dobra ksi??ka je?li chodzi o zarz?dzanie przedsiebiorstwem. Mam wra?enie, ?e w tej materii zrobili?my od czas??w Forda du?y krok wstecz....

Kannan Ekanath: This is one of the best books I have ever read. Henry Ford has an undying passion, urge to simplify things and is obsessed with quality, minimalism and ethics, the kind of qualities you look for in a role model. In this super-cool business management book Ford explains how he made commercial motor cars at large scale possible, the humongous challenges he faced and a variety of morons he had to deal with.

Ford's take on ideas are amusing. It is the hallmark of an intelligent man when he says "*given a good idea to start with, it is better to concentrate on perfecting it than to hunt around for a new idea. One idea at a time is about as much as any one can handle*"

I truly and clearly believe that all men are not equal although there are economic/social policies that advocate the opposite. That we have seen these policies failing in various countries is a different debate however there is a passage which states "*There can be no greater absurdity and no greater disservice to humanity in general than to insist that all men are equal. Most certainly all men are not equal, and any democratic conception which strives to make men equal is only an effort to block progress. Men cannot be of equal service. The men of larger ability are less numerous than the men of smaller ability; it is possible for a mass of the smaller men to pull*

the larger ones down—but in so doing they pull themselves down. It is the larger men who give the leadership to the community and enable the smaller men to live with less effort."

When Ford entered the Motor Car market most cars were bespoke, made to order like a tailored suit. Needless to say this meant huge costs to the customers, lack of post-sales service and poor customer engagement and satisfaction levels. Ford had a vision and he attacked the motor car market with ferocious passion, by optimising the manufacturing workflow of a motor car, eliminating waste, mastering production processes to bring the cost down to an absolute bare minimum. So cheap that every single common man of America could afford it. It would not be an exaggeration if we say one of the most important factors in America's rise to super power is the transport links and Ford and his motor cars are important elements of this transition. And so he says *"Making "to order" instead of making in volume is, I suppose, a habit, a tradition, that has descended from the old handicraft days. Ask a hundred people how they want a particular article made. About eighty will not know; they will leave it to you. Fifteen will think that they must say something, while five will really have preferences and reasons. The ninety-five, made up of those who do not know and admit it and the fifteen who do not know but do not admit it, constitute the real market for any product. The five who want something special may or may not be able to pay the price for special work. If they have the price, they can get the work, but they constitute a special and limited market. Of the ninety-five perhaps ten or fifteen will pay a price for quality. Of those remaining, a number will buy solely on price and without regard to quality. Their numbers are thinning with each day."*

Throughout the book Ford tackles many topics including addressing disability at the workplace, pay conditions, handling employee unions, placing product and service ahead of profits and economy. It is amazing how all of these are still applicable in the 21st century and how our voracious devouring capitalists need to learn a lot from him. Having also read Steve Jobs biography I can't help but compare that these two men have similar traits, predisposition towards quality and undying passion in what they were working on.

Oh... this book is free of cost so you now have no excuses :)

Arsen Zahray: whereas the e-book definitely includes a few attention-grabbing ideas, more often than not it might be greater with out many of the references to the "social responsibility" and different crap

Matt McCormick: even if the subtitle of the e-book is "The Autobiography of Henry Ford" this is not rather an autobiography. it is extra of a set of his thoughts, values and ideas for doing business. I completely loved this book. It highlights one businessman's relentless force to force down costs in order that the typical buyer may well benefit from the fruit of his work. Henry Ford appears like he was once similar to Sam Walton in that he attempted consistently to lessen costs and never accept the prestige quo. His concepts approximately doing company have been very beneficial to me and brought on me to mirror on how i believe approximately company and incomes money. lots of the publication is an outstanding guide that enterprise humans may still learn and imagine about. As anyone within the IT field, I learn much

approximately expanding prices. software program is far diverse from production simply because as soon as the product is made, there's little or no direct expense of the particular product. it isn't like a vehicle the place a automobile evidently has the minimal expense of regardless of the fabrics price that went into it. So this booklet particularly helped me to contemplate pricing and the way i would like to act in business. It can also be very motivational as Ford began from humble roots. He had a task and labored on his vehicle in his spare time. He took the chance to enterprise out on his personal absolutely convinced in his skill to make it work. "I constantly am sure of results. They continually come when you work flat out enough." On the opposite hand, whereas reading, you need to do not forget that this can be just one aspect of view. Naturally, no longer all people agreed with Henry Ford's equipment and his enterprise beliefs and stubbornness to alter did reason Ford demanding situations later in his lifestyles while different businesses have been gaining marketplace share. He used to be additionally anti-semitic. Whether you compromise or disagree with him, this ebook should still provide a person attracted to enterprise much to imagine about.

Steven Mccarthy: This ebook is all approximately Henry Ford. Telling the reader approximately his existence as a young children the entire solution to his winning profession in Ford's Motor Company. it truly is jam-packed with details and evidence approximately him and his business. Like while he used to be 15 he took aside and repaired a hand watch. additionally this booklet has information regarding while he created his self-propelling engine and his first car the Quarcycle. I rather beloved this booklet approximately it used to be jam-packed with information regarding Henry Ford and his life. i feel that Henry Ford did do a superb activity scripting this book. This ebook was once fabulous and was once a web page turner. i've got consistently had an curiosity in automobiles for the reason that i used to be more youthful and nonetheless do. during this publication I did research whatever beneficial simply because even if Henry Ford's father sought after him to turn into a farmer he did not lose wish in his curiosity in mechanics. i feel lots of people who may possibly ask yourself what Henry Ford's lifestyles was once like may still learn this. I supply this e-book a four out of five since it is an effective e-book an packed with proof and information. I supply it a four simply because I beloved it and whilst i used to be interpreting it, it made me region out of truth and simply maintain reading. I additionally loved this ebook simply because Henry Ford is a fascinating individual and invented whatever that the majority humans use today.

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