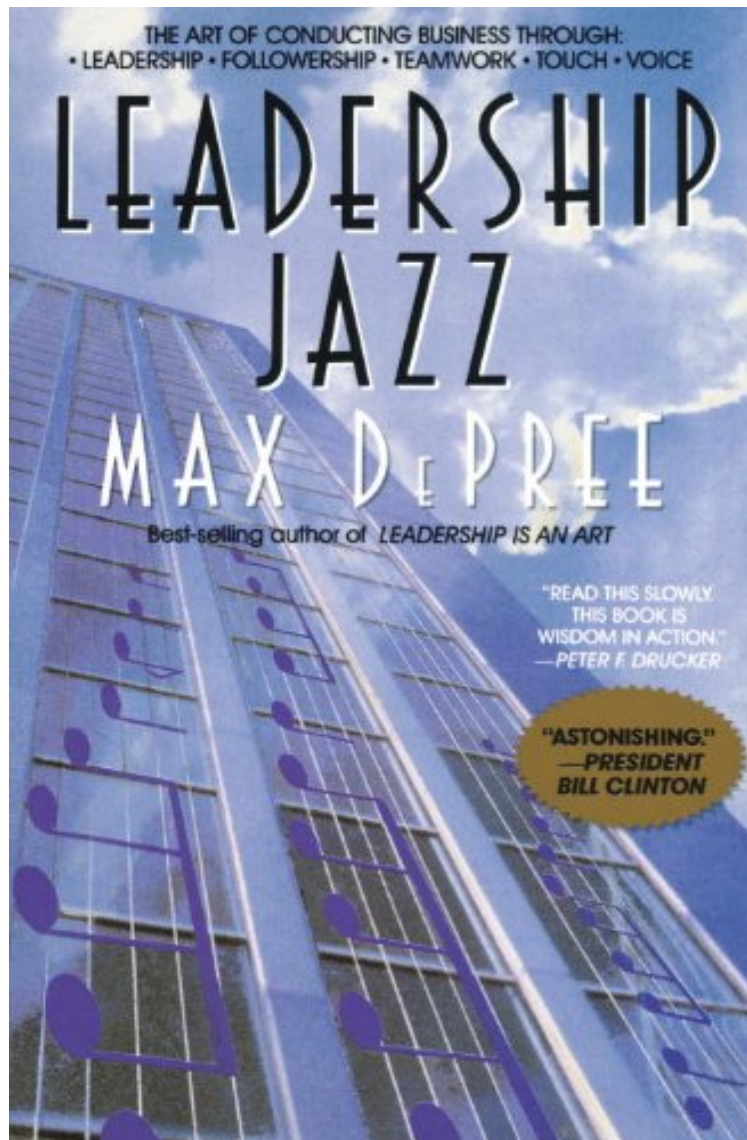


[Free pdf] Leadership Jazz: The Essential Elements of a Great Leader

Leadership Jazz: The Essential Elements of a Great Leader

Max Depree

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Max Depree : Leadership Jazz: The Essential Elements of a Great Leader before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Leadership Jazz: The Essential Elements of a Great Leader:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. The Undeveloped Metaphor By Loren G. Carlson Jazz is the right metaphor for business today. I have long thought that the popular metaphor for business leadership of an orchestra conductor is wrong in the rapidly changing conditions of today. To say that a CEO's job is like an orchestra conductor's -- to keep every one at the same place on the same page -- assumes there is a score that all of the musicians have to follow. There isn't. Jazz demands improvisation. It gives individual musicians the freedom to create and to

respond to each others creations. Max De Pree recognizes this and states this metaphor accurately at the beginning of his book. "We have much to learn from jazz-band leaders, for jazz, like leadership, combines the unpredictability of the future with the gifts of individuals." (page 9) But, De Pree doesn't develop this metaphor further. The title of the book, "Leadership Jazz", implies more than the book delivers in development of the metaphor. The book does deliver very good advice on leadership. It is an excellent description of the power of "servant leadership" which is the real metaphor of the book, and, judging from the many stories De Pree relates from his years as the CEO and Chairman of Herman Miller, Inc., it is the metaphor for his life. Leaders do need to read this book. I just wish De Pree had developed the richness of the jazz metaphor.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Awesome read! By Customer
Great easy read with applications. Loved the writing style and vulnerability of the author
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Leadership and the art of leading a band! By Customer
The biggest complaint a person can give is if they will listen to the CD again and I will definitely do that. I listened to the CD when I was driving so I garnered some good insights but I think I also missed some. Throughout the book DePree loosely uses the analogy of a band director to leadership which was intriguing. I wish he would have furthered developed the analogy but then again maybe I missed it when I was changing lanes!

Leadership in the workplace, says Max DePree, is like playing jazz; it's more an art than a science. Today's successful managers are attuned to the needs and ideas of their followers and even step aside at times to be followers themselves. As a result, they spark vitality and productivity from their work force. They cultivate communication and spontaneity, diversity and creativity, and the unique potential of every person in the organization to contribute to the success of the team. In Leadership Jazz you'll learn - How to hold people accountable but still give them space to make mistakes. - How to balance the needs of your employees with those of the company. - How to inspire change and innovation and maintain a sense of stability. - How to practice the art of delegation. - How to work constructively with creative people. - How to assess candidates for senior positions. - And much more! From the Trade Paperback edition.

From Library Journal William Blake said "Great things are done, when men and mountains meet," and this certainly holds true for De Pree's latest "mountain-top" musings on leadership. Following his earlier principle-based treatise (Leadership Is an Art, Doubleday, 1989; selected as one of the "Business Books of 1989," LJ 3/15/90) he now razor-cuts right to the heart and soul of this most critical issue of our time. De Pree likens business leadership to the beautiful art of leading a jazz ensemble. He proves well the adage: leadership may be difficult to define, and especially to exemplify, but you'll know it when you see it. Mere task-oriented managers may be so frustrated by his limitless, penetrating insight that they just might prefer trying to nail jello to a tree. This is recommended for all business collections. --Dale Farris, Groves, Tex . Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From the Publisher

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