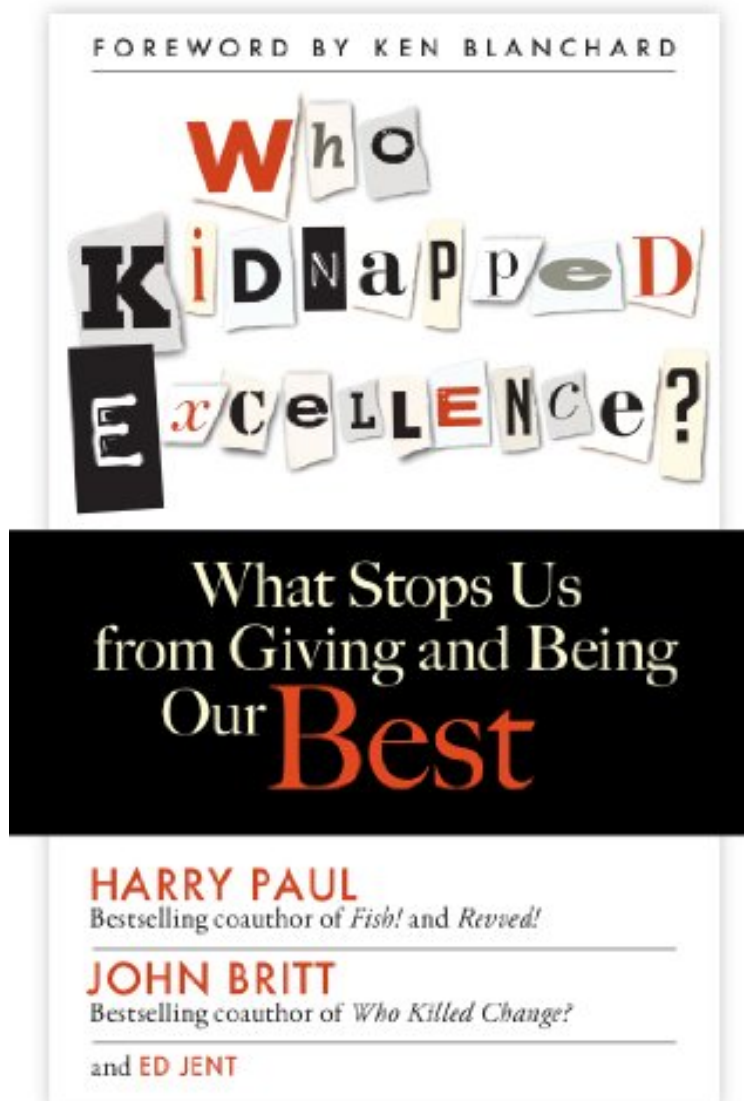


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Who Kidnapped Excellence?: What Stops Us from Giving and Being Our Best

Harry Paul, John Britt, Ed Jent
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Harry Paul, John Britt, Ed Jent : Who Kidnapped Excellence?: What Stops Us from Giving and Being Our Best before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Who Kidnapped Excellence?: What Stops Us from Giving and Being Our Best:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Storytime for ExecutivesBy Mark S. BurgessWe connect to each

other through stories - we tell about ourselves and our lives not by objective essay, but with gritty details, in digestible chunks of metaphor about how particular events unfolded for us. Tapping into that stream, Harry Paul and John Britt use the same channel to bring to life the abstract. Talk is everywhere about "excellence" but it's a disembodied, impersonal matter of course thing. But what if "Excellence" was someone you knew who went missing? The absence and the adventure to recover Excellence takes on a whole new immediacy. Paul and Britt don't just tell you a ghost story to scare you and leave it at that, they provide tools and ways of thinking that build on what you tapped through the story. For anyone responsible for how companies and employees interact - and, hey, isn't that everyone in a company? - this is a good book to help you touch something important. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Discover the difference between excellence and average! By Paul Buyer Who Kidnapped Excellence? is a quality book about how to achieve excellence in work and life. It is wonderfully written and uses a creative parable to show us how easy it is to lower our standards and slip into mediocrity, sometimes without even being aware of it - which is scary when you think about it! The authors introduce us to the five "team members" excellence requires including passion, competency, flexibility, communication, and ownership. Another team is also competing in our lives - Average's team - which includes N. Different, N. Ept, N. Flexibility, Miss Communication, and Poser. This battle between excellence and average is a constant throughout the book, and makes you think about what kind of culture and life you want to achieve. To be honest, I couldn't wait for this book to come out. Why? Because there simply aren't that many books written about excellence - how to work toward it, what it requires, and how to sustain it over time. While there are hundreds of books on leadership, management, and success, the topic of excellence remains somewhat elusive. Too many people are not working toward excellence, and in the authors' words, excellence has been kidnapped. The book also has some wonderful case studies and stories of companies who "get it," and these examples provide outstanding application to the parable in the book. Any book written about excellence, I feel, should be excellent, and this one is! It will make you laugh and smile as you get to know the "characters" that - when working together - will lead to excellence. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fun and innovative way to address excellence By Andrew Lederer As I went through this book I found myself agreeing and seeing such potential. The book hits the nail on the head especially for those that are open to a fun read that takes a unique journey that takes personal reflection. The one thing I wish it had dealt with more - how employees who are giving excellence daily can excel in an environment where leadership isn't walking the talk. No work place is perfect yet many organizations know what should be done but do not provide the vision and channels for employees to be impacted. Overall a great book and one where I am looking for the next step - how to thrive in a culture where average is pushed down on employees from leadership.

Most companies talk about excellence, but what does excellence really mean? What specific attitudes and practices lead to excellence? Drawing on years of study and decades of experience, authors Harry Paul, John Britt, and Ed Jent have zeroed in on five core qualities of excellence. In this entertaining and enlightening book, they tell how to give and be your best in each of these five critical dimensions and foster excellence in your organization and in your life. The book begins with a crime being committed: Excellence (personified) has been kidnapped, and Leadership assembles Excellence's team (Passion, Flexibility, Communication, Competency, and Ownership) and challenges them to work together to get their Excellence back. And who is the culprit? Has Average kidnapped Excellence and replaced Excellence's team with his own: N. Different, N. Ept, N. Flexible, Miss Communication, and Poser? A mysterious ransom note sparks the struggle between Average and Excellence. Integrated into this tale of organizational excellence is the story of Dave, a delivery man. The kidnapping causes Dave to contemplate his own life and relationships in a way that makes the paths of personal and organizational excellence cross and intertwine. Who Kidnapped Excellence? is a parable that helps organizations and individuals achieve their best in every aspect of their lives.

As a believer in the philosophy outlined in Harry Paul's book Fish!, I feel Who Kidnapped Excellence? has the same potential to have a profound impact with its straightforward, plainspoken message that will resonate with everyone from the frontline to the executive office, at work and in one's personal life. I had a few aha moments myself that made me see my own personal situation in a new light and provided a framework to lead my current team from good to great. — John D. Smith, regional president and general manager in the hospitality and entertainment industry; The privilege of a lifetime is to be the best of who you are and to exercise that privilege every day. Who Kidnapped Excellence? will show you how! — Rick Peterson, Director of Pitching Development for the Baltimore Orioles and Pitching Coach for the Oakland Athletics during the Moneyball era; What stops you from giving and getting your best? Read Who Kidnapped Excellence? and find out. The key principles and practical applications in this book are life changing. — Donald D. Snyder, former Dean, William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; An exciting management thriller that can be of immense value to change agents in the workplace. Thank you, Harry, John, and Ed, for authoring this wonderful book on being and delivering the best. — N. S. Rajan, Member, Group Executive Council,

and Group Chief Human Resources Officer, Tata Sons" "To be excellent in our professional and personal lives is a choice. The authors make their points about achieving excellence using a fun "whodunit" crime story that most of us will relate to. I highly recommend this book to all those seeking to develop or sustain excellence in their lives." "J. Talbot (Tal) Land, former Healthcare Consulting Partner, Ernst Young" "A fun and easy read that simply addresses the critical need for company cultures to never take their eyes off Excellence" "as it can quickly disappear before you know it!" "Jon Headlee, President, Ten Adams, a health-care marketing and culture firm