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# Getting There: A Book Of Mentors



## Synopsis

The path to success is rarely easy or direct, and good mentors are hard to find. In *Getting There*, 30 leaders in diverse fields share their secrets to navigating the rocky road to the top. In an honest, direct, and engaging way, these role models describe the obstacles they faced, the setbacks they endured, and the vital lessons they learned. They dispense not only essential and practical career advice, but also priceless wisdom applicable to life in general. *Getting There* is for everyone - from students contemplating their futures to the vast majority of us facing challenges or seeking to reach our potential.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The leaders Segal has selected are at the very top of their fields, but what impressed me most was the quality of the advice they offer and the consistent theme that great mentors have been so critical in their evolution. Lots of insight -- one of the very best books of this type I have come across (and I read a lot of these). I particularly like the length of each piece -- far more substantial than the vignettes one typically comes across in this sort of ensemble work and yet not so long as to feel cumbersome. I also like that the writing is all first person in the voice of each leader and that the genesis of the wisdom they offer is highly personal to them. It's great to have a highly successful person tell you what works, but so much better when they explain how they figured that out and how others guided them along the way. The book is very relatable in this way -- Warren Buffet telling you what he has accomplished and what he does well is something that distances you from him, but

telling you about his failures and his limitations and how he has built a successful career around and in spite of them (and more importantly how many others helped him along the way) is something that makes you realize all you may actually have in common. A truly great read and an inspiring book (from one who is rarely inspired). Very highly recommend!

Each day you wake up feeling uninspired, listen to or read something that will inspire you. It will make you 10x more productive. This is one of those books that I guarantee will recharge your batteries. "Getting There: A Book of Mentors" is a compilation of stories written by 30 leaders in diverse fields such as Warren Buffett, Kathy Ireland, Leslie Moonves, Laird Hamilton, Sara Blakely, John Paul DeJoria, etc. Each leader tells their story of hardship, failure, triumph, and lessons learned. The best part is each story is only 3-5 pages long, so you can spend 15 minutes to read a couple or several hours and read several. Either way, it's pure inspiration.

So impressed with this book. Bought it on a whim when searching for books on mentors. It's the most encouraging, well organized, and impactful book I've read in a long time. Ms. Segal has done an exemplary job in telling these people's stories, and doesn't leave out the more unsuccessful details. In a way, it's good to know that others struggle too. But at the same time it seems that the defining trait of these successful people is that they never really viewed struggle as struggle. They universally viewed it as opportunity. And that seems to be the key take away from this compilation of life stories. There is always opportunity, it's just how bad do you want to go after it?

A book that Diageo Taiwan management team bought for everyone at the end of 2016. And I really like it that I finished it in one week. It's a page-turner - 30 short stories of how successful people get to where they are today - by believing in what they do and keep coming back from hardship, failures, and detours. I first got hooked by the book because I saw one of my favourite CNN journalist - Anderson Cooper - who I used to think comes from very good background (I don't know why. Maybe just because he is successful and looks smart :P) but turns out completely not the case. To sum up, what I take away from the book are: 1. Know your self (strengths & weaknesses); 2. Do what you find meaningful and do it better than others; 3. Keep trying and not just follow the beaten path; 4. Put yourself in the right environment and with the right people (mentor and with those who are better than you are); 5. Have perspective on what real risks are in life (failure v.s. not trying). My top three quotes from the book are: "...outwork everyone around you..But you're only going

to be able to outwork others if you're genuinely passionate about what you are doing.." - Anderson Cooper, journalist "If you observe something that bothers you, make your own action to fix it. There are many things that have been designed in the wrong way. Don't take existing theories for granted. Don't think that other people know more than you or that everything has been done. Your theory may be right and you can become the new expert." - Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Peace Prize recipient "It seemed like a risky thing to do because it looked very likely to fail, but the real risk was not doing it. The objective risk was wasting years of my life stuck in something that appeared attractive but that I really didn't enjoy" A lot of entrepreneurship and innovation seems perilous, but it's not. And a lot of things that seem safe and comfortable are, in fact, profoundly risky." - Jim Koch, brewer and founder of the Boston Beer Company

This book is a great reminder - that if you do what you love, working hard at it never feels like a burden and failure is never a dead end. But it's a really hard lesson to take to heart, and not always one that is easy to put into practice. Hearing it through the unique voices and experiences of Segal's subjects (captured economically and engagingly) is a great inspiration and must-read for anyone thinking about a big change in their career.

Loved it so much I gave these out as Christmas presents and I have one sitting at my coffee table for everyone that comes over to open. A must read for every graduate and entrepreneur. It is interesting - of all the people that are featured in this book they all hold similar characteristics in their stories - hard work, not so glamorous and learning personal strengths. Although different stories and paths were taken by each individual featured, this book makes you realize how alike successful people are and how no matter who you are, and where you're from, you can embody those characteristics too.

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