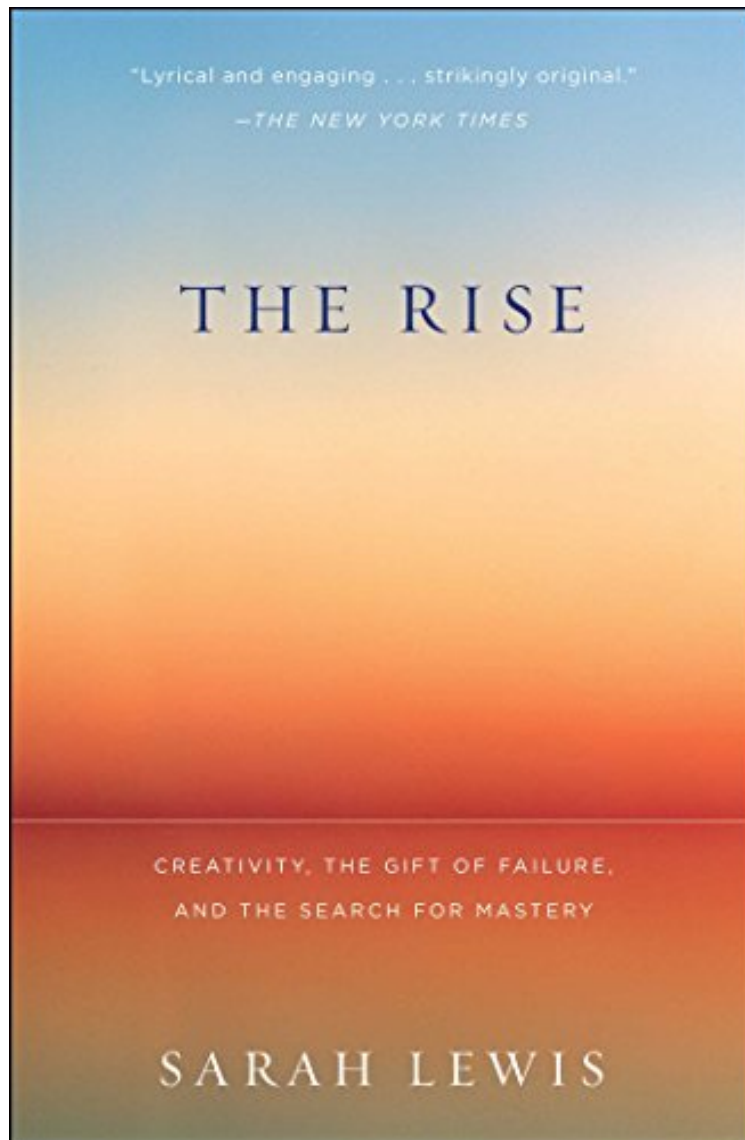


(Mobile ebook) The Rise: Creativity, the Gift of Failure, and the Search for Mastery

The Rise: Creativity, the Gift of Failure, and the Search for Mastery

Sarah Lewis

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Sarah Lewis : The Rise: Creativity, the Gift of Failure, and the Search for Mastery before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rise: Creativity, the Gift of Failure, and the Search for Mastery:

71 of 78 people found the following review helpful. Not bad, but bland
By Margarethe Bracey
I read many great reviews of this book and having read hundreds of self-help and inspirational books as well as a number on mastery, innovation and creativity, I was expecting something really good. I was disapointed. She tells some good stories but tends to ramble on and not stay on point. The literary style of her writing might work well in a novel but I found it

distracting in this type of book where one generally wants to get to the point and move on to the next in a more or less robust manner. I found myself reading and re-reading long tangled sentences that didn't seem to quite nail down what she wanted to say but danced around it. Literary and artistic -- yes. Direct and succinct -- no. Nothing in the content is new or original, nor does she bring any of her own experience into the book which might have saved it from the blandness -- maybe because she doesn't have any. She's gone to school a lot is the only thing I can tell from her biography. She clearly did a lot of research and all that data might have overwhelmed the clear line of thought one has to hold to write a really good book, as well as the heart required to connect with the reader. She writes like a very bright school girl and not like someone who has had any real experience with the subject she chose. Not bad, but a book on overcoming failure, gaining mastery, and living a truly creative life needs an author who has lived it, at least to some extent, and not just gathered pretty stories to thread together. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Exceptional adventure into redefining creativity By Bernard . Pucker A very thought provoking series of essays causing us to rethink our understanding of and appreciation for failure and the potential to learn and grow anew after failures. Certainly "true grit" serves us well as we renew and revive our pursuits, professions and passions. All can create new opportunities for our world. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good to be happy while working By Jack Decoteau Very enjoyable, much the way I work, with a happy thought and looking for fun and good things to happen while I work, always looking for the odd juxtaposition and something that makes me laugh or at least smile. Excellent reading. Thanks for asking

From celebrated art historian, curator, and teacher Sarah Lewis, a fascinating examination of how our most iconic creative endeavors—from innovation to the arts—are not achievements but conversions, corrections after failed attempts. The gift of failure is a riddle: it will always be both the void and the start of infinite possibility. The Rise—part investigation into a psychological mystery, part an argument about creativity and art, and part a soulful celebration of the determination and courage of the human spirit—makes the case that many of the world's greatest achievements have come from understanding the central importance of failure. Written over the course of four years, this exquisite biography of an idea is about the improbable foundations of a creative human endeavor. Each chapter focuses on the inestimable value of often ignored ideas—the power of surrender, how play is essential for innovation, the “near win” can help propel you on the road to mastery, the importance of grit and creative practice. The Rise shares narratives about figures past and present that range from choreographers, writers, painters, inventors, and entrepreneurs; Frederick Douglass, Samuel F.B. Morse, Diane Arbus, and J.K. Rowling, for example, feature alongside choreographer Paul Taylor, Nobel Prize-winning physicists Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov, and Arctic explorer Ben Saunders. With valuable lessons for pedagogy and parenting, for innovation and discovery, and for self-direction and creativity, The Rise “gives the old chestnut ‘If at first you don’t succeed, hellip; a jolt of adrenaline” (Elle).

From Booklist In this scholarly yet accessible text, art curator and cultural critic Lewis seeks to redefine the place of failure in the creative process. Beginning with the metaphor of the archer's arrow that cannot travel in a direct line but must rise and fall before it hits its target, Lewis deftly weaves together theories on failure from hundreds of sources. Moving smoothly from Wynton Marsalis's thoughts on jazz improvisation to Al Gore's reflection on presidential loss, Lewis's chapters profile those who have achieved mastery in their field by following the indirect path, often moving backwards, losing out, experimenting, and playing the amateur. These tales of grit and endurance include Samuel Morse's failed painting career prior to inventing the telegraph, Ben Saunders's solo ski to the North Pole, choreographer Paul Taylor's disastrous early performances, and physicist Andre Geim's playful discovery that earned him the 2010 Nobel Prize. Lewis focuses on the broadest definition of creativity, finding cross-disciplinary inspiration in entrepreneurship, mathematics, sports, and religion. Throughout, she illuminates the ways in which failure offers the irreplaceable advantage of propelling us forward. --Lindsay Bosch "Creativity is not a process, as so many books would like us to believe. It is a human condition waiting to be unearthed, as Sarah Lewis so beautifully shows us through her sharing of connected stories and personal insights in *The Rise*. " (Ivy Ross, CMO of Art.com) "Sarah Lewis is one the most talented writers and curators of her generation. *The Rise* should not just be read by every artist, but by every person hoping to unearth his or her own capacity for discovery and creativity. She provides an important and positive voice for the arts in a turbulent time." (Agnes Gund, President Emerita, The Museum of Modern Art) "I was raised to be terrified of making mistakes, as though there was a smooth way forward without them. There is no other way forward; either you stumble through error, failure, risk and uncertainty on the available paths or you're stuck. Sarah Lewis's *The Rise* makes a beautiful case both for the necessity of risk and failure and experimentation and for how the road to success is paved with such things, and along the way she tells us about arctic exploration, a future Supreme Court lawyer's captivation with Louis Armstrong's music, something surprising about Hollywood, Frederick Douglass's emphasis on beauty, and a host of other captivating stories to prove her points. "My life is full of mistakes. They're like pebbles that make a good road," said the great ceramicist Beatrice Wood; this is a map of such roads and a collection of the most beautiful

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Recommended for anyone who wants to comprehend the value of innovation and discovery, as well as undergraduate and graduate students, scholars, and researchers of psychology, sociology, and the visual and performing arts." (Library Journal) "Without a whiff of self-help preachiness, *The Rise* will make you reconsider your own foibles and flops, if only by showing how minor they are compared with the epic setbacks she details. From Martin Luther King Jr.'s struggle to overcome a distracting verbal tic to the phenomenon of elite women archers who go from regularly nailing the bullseye to suddenly not even making the target, the book gives the old chestnut "If at first you don't succeed... a jolt of adrenaline." 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