

Make Your Job Great

*How to Step Up, Own Your Space & Get Your
Boss off Your Back*

By Joanne Eckton

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DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to my husband, Paris, who has always believed in me and supported me, and to my best friend, Kathy, who pushed me for years to write this and would not take no for an answer. Thank you both for your constant love and encouragement.

Introduction

Our workforce today is full of people who are drifting, going through the motions of showing up for work each day, doing what they are told, reacting to whatever demands others make of them during the day, and going home with no real feeling of satisfaction.

It is said that 95% of people go home from work unsatisfied. You don't have to be one of them.

If you are unhappy at work, you have two choices: you can either change your situation or change your reaction to that situation. Unfortunately, most people do neither and live out their days without enthusiasm. Worse, they spend their time complaining. With the principles in this book, you can make positive changes that will improve your situation and help you be happier at work.

Consider these scenarios:

.... young employees not equipped to enter the workforce, with no work ethic and a shocking lack of initiative

.... a rising star at work that fizzles out over time

.... employees who complain about the incompetence of their bosses

.... a teenager in her first minimum wage job who recognizes that other teenagers there are slow or just plain lazy

.... a highly paid, qualified professional that only does what the boss tells him to do

.... staff that won't work with specific individuals because they know they won't hold up their end

With the strategies in this book, you will have the tools to rise above these problems and become a superstar.

All of these are symptoms of a larger problem: expecting someone else to make everything better. The truly successful, those who are enthusiastic about what

they do, understand that the only way to get what you want out of life is to step up and make it happen yourself.

When you were at the stage in your life where you were finishing high school, people started asking you questions about what you wanted to do with the rest of your life. What did you want to be? If you were planning to go to college, what major were you going to choose?

Chances are you had no real idea. You just took your best guess.

There are a few who are passionate about something and know exactly what they want. This book is not written for them.

The rest of us tend to take the path of least resistance. Most likely, you picked a field you were familiar with, similar to what one of your parents did, or you took the first job that you could get. In my case, I did both. I always wanted to be “in computers.” When I was a kid, my dad would take me into his office on Saturdays and I’d spend the day fascinated with the computers while my dad did whatever it was he was there to do. When it was time for me to get my first full-time *serious* job, though, I took the first one that came along. It had nothing to do with computers. I spent six months in a field that I had no interest in, other than receiving a paycheck. Luckily for me, right at the time that firm went bankrupt I got a call from a job application I’d submitted months earlier. This time the job was in my chosen field, and from that point forward I made well thought out and intentional job changes that helped me to advance in my career.

Over the years, I’ve worked with hundreds of people who let circumstances dictate what they did for a living. These are the people you hear about, that spend more time planning a vacation than they do on planning their careers. They live up to the expectations of others, and do not invest the time to figure out what drives them. Eventually, they wake up and find themselves miserable at work and don’t know what to do about it.

This book is not about how to find your dream job. It’s about how to transform yourself at work so that you are proud of what you do, excited to go to work on Monday morning, and feel good at the end of the day, every day.

It's time to look at the person you are when you show up at work and revitalize, embolden and empower that person to take charge of your professional life.

Let's get started.

Excellence is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, and intelligent execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives - choice, not chance, determines your destiny."

— Aristotle
