nine lies about work pdf

nine lies about work pdf serves as a powerful lens through which to examine the often-misunderstood realities of the modern workplace. This article delves deep into the pervasive myths that shape our expectations and perceptions of professional life, offering a critical analysis that debunks common misconceptions. We will explore how these untruths, often perpetuated through media and societal narratives, can lead to disillusionment and hinder personal and professional growth. By dissecting each of the nine prevalent lies, readers will gain a clearer understanding of what truly drives success and fulfillment in their careers, moving beyond the idealized versions often presented. Prepare to challenge your assumptions and gain actionable insights into navigating the complexities of work.

- Introduction to the Nine Lies About Work
- Debunking the Myth of the Dream Job
- The Truth About Work-Life Balance
- Challenging the "Follow Your Passion" Mandate
- Unpacking the Lie of Constant Motivation
- The Reality of Career Progression
- Examining the Myth of a Single True Calling
- The Truth About Failure and Resilience
- Debunking the "Always Busy" Badge of Honor
- The Myth of Meritocracy in the Workplace
- Understanding the Role of Luck and Opportunity
- Conclusion: Embracing Realistic Work Expectations

Deconstructing the Nine Lies About Work: A Comprehensive Overview

The concept of "nine lies about work pdf" often surfaces in discussions about career disillusionment and unrealistic professional expectations. This article aims to dissect these commonly held untruths, providing a grounded perspective on what it truly means to engage in meaningful and sustainable work. We will move beyond the glossy portrayals

often seen in popular culture and explore the intricate realities that shape our daily professional lives. Understanding these prevalent myths is the first step towards fostering healthier work environments and more authentic career paths. By critically examining each lie, individuals can better equip themselves to navigate challenges, set realistic goals, and ultimately find greater satisfaction in their endeavors.

Unpacking the Nine Lies About Work: Identifying the Myths

The pervasive notion of "nine lies about work pdf" highlights a widespread societal disconnect between aspirational ideals and the tangible experiences of employment. These lies, often subtle yet powerful, shape our understanding of career paths, success, and personal fulfillment. This section begins the journey of deconstructing these deeply ingrained myths, setting the stage for a more realistic and empowering approach to professional life. By identifying these prevalent misconceptions, we can start to dismantle the unrealistic expectations that often lead to burnout and dissatisfaction.

The Myth of the "Dream Job" and Its Elusive Nature

One of the most persistent lies about work is the idea of a singular, perfect "dream job." This often implies a role that is effortlessly enjoyable, perfectly aligned with one's every desire, and free from any challenges or mundane tasks. The reality is that most fulfilling careers are built through hard work, adaptation, and a willingness to embrace imperfection. The pursuit of an idealized "dream job" can be paralyzing, leading individuals to reject perfectly good opportunities in favor of an unattainable fantasy. Instead, focusing on building skills, finding meaning in current roles, and seeking continuous growth often proves far more rewarding than chasing a mythical perfect fit. This lie neglects the inherent complexities and evolutionary nature of professional journeys.

The Elusive Quest for Work-Life Balance

Another widely propagated lie revolves around the concept of achieving a perfect, static "work-life balance." This myth suggests a neat separation between professional responsibilities and personal life, where one can seamlessly switch between the two without overlap or compromise. In reality, work and life are often intertwined, and achieving balance is a dynamic, ongoing process of negotiation and prioritization. It requires understanding that boundaries are fluid and that periods of intense focus on one area may necessitate adjustments in another. The pressure to maintain an unattainable ideal of balance can lead to guilt and stress. A more realistic approach involves striving for integration and prioritizing what matters most at different stages of life and career.

Challenging the "Follow Your Passion" Mandate

The popular advice to "follow your passion" is frequently cited as a cornerstone of career success. However, this can be a misleading simplification. While passion can be a powerful motivator, it is often cultivated through engagement and mastery rather than being a pre-existing blueprint. Many individuals discover their passions through exploring different avenues, developing skills, and finding meaning in their work. Relying solely on an undefined "passion" can lead to indecision and a failure to commit to the necessary hard work and learning that underpins any successful career. The lie here is that passion is always a clear, pre-determined path, rather than something that can be developed and nurtured.

Unpacking the Lie of Constant Motivation

The idea that one must be constantly motivated to succeed at work is another pervasive myth. While enthusiasm and drive are important, expecting perpetual motivation is unrealistic and unsustainable. Everyone experiences periods of low energy, doubt, and a lack of intrinsic drive. The lie lies in the assumption that motivation is a constant, internal flame that never flickers. True professional resilience comes from developing discipline, establishing routines, and understanding that progress can be made even when motivation is low. Focusing on habits and commitments rather than fleeting feelings of inspiration is key to sustained effort and achievement.

The Reality of Linear Career Progression

Many harbor the misconception that career progression is a linear, upward trajectory, akin to climbing a ladder. This lie overlooks the often winding, unpredictable nature of professional development. Detours, setbacks, and lateral moves are common and can be invaluable for gaining diverse experiences and skills. The pressure to constantly move "up" can lead to missed opportunities for growth in other areas. Understanding that careers are more akin to a branching tree or a complex network than a straight line allows for greater adaptability and a more holistic approach to personal and professional growth. Embracing these non-linear paths can lead to richer and more satisfying career journeys.

Examining the Myth of a Single True Calling

Closely related to the "dream job" myth is the belief that each person has one singular, predetermined "calling" or life's work. This notion can create immense pressure and anxiety, as individuals fear they might miss their one true purpose. The reality is that most people have multiple interests, talents, and potential callings throughout their lives. These can evolve and change over time. The lie is in the idea that there is a fixed destiny to be discovered rather than multiple avenues for meaningful contribution. Focusing on developing a range of skills and exploring diverse interests often leads to more fulfilling

The Truth About Failure and Resilience in the Workplace

A common lie about work is the perception that failure is a definitive endpoint or a mark of inadequacy. In truth, failure is an inevitable and often essential component of learning and growth. The narratives we often consume tend to highlight success stories while downplaying the numerous stumbles and setbacks that paved the way. The real lie is the avoidance of acknowledging failure as a learning opportunity. Cultivating resilience involves reframing setbacks not as catastrophes, but as valuable lessons that inform future actions. The ability to bounce back, adapt, and learn from mistakes is a far more critical determinant of long-term success than the absence of failure itself.

Debunking the "Always Busy" Badge of Honor

There's a pervasive lie that equates being constantly "busy" with being productive and valuable. This leads to a culture where individuals feel compelled to appear overwhelmed to demonstrate their commitment or importance. The reality is that busyness does not always equate to effectiveness. True productivity often stems from focused, strategic work, not just filling every moment with tasks. The lie here is that a packed schedule is inherently a sign of success. This can lead to burnout, decreased efficiency, and a lack of genuine accomplishment. Prioritizing meaningful work over mere activity is a crucial distinction often obscured by this myth.

The Myth of Meritocracy in the Workplace

The idea that the workplace is a pure meritocracy, where hard work and talent are the sole determinants of success, is a significant lie for many. While merit plays a role, external factors such as privilege, networking, luck, and systemic biases also heavily influence career trajectories. Believing in a perfect meritocracy can lead to self-blame when success is not achieved, ignoring the broader systemic issues at play. Recognizing that opportunities are not always distributed equally is vital for a realistic understanding of the professional landscape. While striving for excellence remains important, acknowledging the influence of other factors fosters a more nuanced and equitable perspective.

Understanding the Role of Luck and Opportunity

While hard work and talent are undeniably important, the role of luck and opportune moments is often downplayed or ignored. The lie is that success is solely the product of

individual effort, neglecting the serendipitous encounters, fortunate timing, and external circumstances that can significantly impact career outcomes. While we cannot control luck, we can position ourselves to be more receptive to opportunities through preparedness, networking, and a willingness to take calculated risks. Understanding that chance plays a part allows for a more humble and realistic appreciation of success and a less critical view of oneself or others when things don't go as planned. It emphasizes the importance of being ready when opportunity knocks.

Embracing Realistic Work Expectations

By dismantling the "nine lies about work pdf" and the pervasive myths they represent, individuals can begin to cultivate more realistic and sustainable approaches to their professional lives. The journey through these deconstructed lies reveals that fulfillment is often found not in chasing unattainable ideals, but in embracing the complexities, challenges, and continuous learning inherent in any career. Moving beyond the pressure of perfection and embracing adaptability, resilience, and a grounded understanding of the workplace can lead to greater satisfaction and long-term success. This shift in perspective allows for a more authentic engagement with work, fostering well-being and a more meaningful professional experience.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the 'nine lies about work' and why is this concept trending?

The 'nine lies about work' are common, often well-intentioned, but ultimately harmful misconceptions about how work functions. These include ideas like 'passion is destiny,' 'work-life balance is achievable,' or 'the best work comes from happy employees.' The concept is trending because it resonates with many individuals experiencing disillusionment or burnout in their professional lives, offering a more realistic and actionable perspective.

Where can I find the 'nine lies about work' pdf, and is it a free resource?

The 'nine lies about work' is a concept popularized by Marcus Buckingham and Ashley Goodall. While a specific, publicly distributed 'pdf' might not exist as an official free download, summaries, articles, and discussions of the nine lies are widely available online. The underlying principles are often explored in their books and corporate training materials, which are typically paid resources. Searching for 'nine lies about work summary' or 'Marcus Buckingham nine lies' will likely yield relevant articles and discussions.

What's a key takeaway from the 'nine lies about work' that challenges conventional wisdom?

A significant takeaway is the debunking of 'passion is destiny.' Instead of waiting for a perfect, passion-driven role, the research suggests focusing on what makes you feel competent and effective. The real driver of engagement and fulfillment often stems from excelling at tasks and feeling a sense of mastery, rather than a preordained passion.

How does the 'nine lies about work' concept relate to employee engagement and productivity?

The 'nine lies about work' challenges traditional approaches to engagement and productivity that are often based on flawed assumptions. By moving away from these lies, organizations can implement more effective strategies. For example, instead of solely focusing on happiness, emphasizing strengths, clarity of role, and meaningful relationships at work can lead to higher engagement and productivity.

Are there any common criticisms or alternative perspectives to the 'nine lies about work'?

While the 'nine lies about work' has gained traction, some criticisms suggest that it can be overly simplistic or that certain lies, like the importance of work-life balance, are still valid goals even if achieving perfect balance is difficult. Others might argue that while passion isn't destiny, it can still be a significant motivator for some individuals and shouldn't be entirely dismissed.

Additional Resources

Here are 9 book titles, each related to the themes often explored in discussions about "nine lies about work," presented as a numbered list with short descriptions:

1. The Illusion of Performance Metrics

This book deconstructs the ways in which traditional performance metrics can be misleading and even detrimental to genuine productivity and employee well-being. It explores how focusing solely on quantifiable outputs can obscure important qualitative contributions and foster a culture of "playing the game" rather than achieving meaningful results. Readers will discover how to identify and move beyond superficial measures to cultivate a more authentic and effective approach to work.

2. Purpose-Driven Productivity: Beyond the Buzzwords

This title delves into the often-hyped concept of purpose in the workplace, separating genuine meaning from corporate jargon. It offers practical strategies for individuals and organizations to discover and integrate authentic purpose into daily tasks, leading to increased engagement and a sense of accomplishment. The book challenges the notion that purpose is a luxury and argues for its essential role in sustainable productivity.

3. The Myth of the Constant Hustle

This work critically examines the prevailing narrative that relentless work and constant

"hustling" are the keys to success. It presents evidence and anecdotes that highlight the burnout, diminished creativity, and negative health consequences associated with this mindset. Instead, the book advocates for a more sustainable and balanced approach, emphasizing the value of strategic rest, focused effort, and long-term vision.

4. The Power of Intentional Collaboration

This book argues that genuine teamwork and collaboration are often far more complex and less automatic than commonly assumed. It dissects the pitfalls of superficial team structures and offers actionable advice for building truly synergistic relationships. Readers will learn how to foster environments where diverse perspectives are valued, communication is clear, and collective goals are achieved through deliberate design and practice.

5. Feedback That Fuels Growth, Not Fear

This title tackles the often-difficult subject of feedback in the workplace, challenging the idea that it is universally beneficial or that the current methods are effective. It explores how poorly delivered feedback can demotivate, damage relationships, and stifle development. The book provides a framework for creating a feedback culture that is constructive, honest, and focused on genuine improvement and learning.

6. Navigating the "Always On" Culture

This book confronts the pervasive expectation of constant availability and the blurring lines between work and personal life. It examines the psychological toll of being perpetually connected and explores strategies for establishing healthy boundaries. Readers will find guidance on reclaiming personal time, managing digital distractions, and cultivating a more sustainable and fulfilling work-life integration.

7. The Deceptive Promise of Promotions

This work questions the singular focus on upward mobility as the primary indicator of career success. It delves into how the pressure to climb the corporate ladder can lead to dissatisfaction and missed opportunities for growth in other valuable directions. The book encourages a broader definition of career success, valuing expertise, impact, and personal fulfillment over simple title changes.

8. Unlocking True Autonomy at Work

This title explores the often-misunderstood concept of autonomy, differentiating between perceived freedom and genuine control over one's work. It investigates how many workplaces offer a superficial sense of autonomy that fails to empower employees. The book provides insights into how to cultivate environments where individuals have meaningful input, decision-making power, and the ability to shape their work.

9. The Reimagined Workplace: Beyond the Lie of Predictability

This book challenges the assumption that workplaces must operate with rigid structures and predictable outcomes. It advocates for embracing flexibility, adaptability, and emergent processes to foster innovation and resilience. Readers will discover how to move away from outdated models and build organizations that thrive in an ever-changing landscape by questioning ingrained assumptions about how work should be done.

Nine Lies About Work Pdf

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Nine Lies About Work: Debunking the Myths Holding You Back

Are you tired of feeling burnt out, undervalued, and stuck in a career rut? Do you suspect that the "work hard, play later" mantra is a cleverly disguised lie? You're not alone. Millions struggle with the disconnect between the idealized version of work and the often-disappointing reality. This ebook exposes the nine pervasive myths that sabotage your professional life, offering practical strategies to reclaim your time, energy, and career satisfaction. Stop believing the hype and start building a fulfilling career based on truth and authenticity.

Meet Nine Lies About Work: A Guide to Building a Fulfilling Career by [Your Name Here]

Introduction: Unmasking the Culture of Work Lies

Chapter 1: The Myth of the "Perfect" Job

Chapter 2: The Lie of "Hard Work Always Pays Off"

Chapter 3: The Illusion of "Work-Life Balance"

Chapter 4: The False Promise of "Passion-Driven Careers"

Chapter 5: The Deception of "Individual Achievement"

Chapter 6: The Myth of the "Mentor"

Chapter 7: The Lie of "Meritocracy"

Chapter 8: The Illusion of "Unlimited Potential"

Chapter 9: The False Belief in "The Ladder"

Conclusion: Building Your Authentic Career

Nine Lies About Work: A Deep Dive

This in-depth exploration delves into the nine pervasive myths surrounding work culture, providing concrete examples and actionable strategies to help you navigate your career with greater clarity and fulfillment.

Introduction: Unmasking the Culture of Work Lies

The modern workplace is often riddled with unspoken assumptions and ingrained beliefs that rarely align with reality. These "lies" – carefully constructed narratives propagated through societal norms, media portrayals, and even well-intentioned advice – can lead to disillusionment, burnout, and a sense of being perpetually "behind." This ebook challenges these myths, helping you build a more authentic and fulfilling career based on self-awareness and strategic action. We'll examine the pervasive nature of these lies and set the stage for dismantling them one by one.

Chapter 1: The Myth of the "Perfect" Job

The concept of a "perfect" job – one that perfectly aligns with your skills, passions, and values – is a highly seductive but ultimately unrealistic expectation. The reality is that most jobs involve compromises and require adaptation. This chapter explores the dangers of chasing this elusive ideal, focusing instead on identifying jobs that are good enough – those that provide a satisfying balance of compensation, challenges, and personal growth. We will discuss techniques for realistic job searching, focusing on identifying your core needs and matching them to available opportunities, rather than chasing an unattainable fantasy.

Keywords: perfect job myth, job satisfaction, realistic job search, career expectations, work-life fit

Chapter 2: The Lie of "Hard Work Always Pays Off"

While hard work is undoubtedly valuable, it's not a guaranteed path to success. This chapter exposes the fallacy of believing that sheer effort alone will lead to promotions, raises, or recognition. We'll explore the importance of strategic work, networking, and self-promotion in achieving professional goals. The chapter will delve into the importance of understanding workplace politics, identifying high-impact tasks, and building strong relationships with colleagues and supervisors.

Keywords: hard work myth, career advancement, networking, workplace politics, strategic work, high-impact tasks

Chapter 3: The Illusion of "Work-Life Balance"

The elusive "work-life balance" is often presented as an achievable state, but the reality is far more nuanced. This chapter challenges the very notion of balance, suggesting instead a focus on integration – seamlessly weaving together professional and personal life. We will explore strategies

for setting boundaries, prioritizing tasks, and cultivating self-care practices that support both aspects of your life. We'll also discuss the importance of recognizing your personal limits and avoiding burnout.

Keywords: work-life balance, work-life integration, boundary setting, self-care, time management, burnout prevention

Chapter 4: The False Promise of "Passion-Driven Careers"

The idea that you should only pursue a career that aligns perfectly with your passions is misleading. While passion is important, it's often developed through the work itself. This chapter will explore the importance of finding meaning and purpose in your work, even if it doesn't perfectly mirror your initial passions. We'll examine how to identify your strengths, interests, and values, and how to find jobs that allow you to grow and develop your skills.

Keywords: passion-driven careers, finding meaning in work, purpose at work, skill development, career growth, identifying strengths

Chapter 5: The Deception of "Individual Achievement"

Many workplaces promote a culture of individual achievement, but success is often a collaborative effort. This chapter highlights the importance of teamwork, collaboration, and building strong professional relationships. We'll explore strategies for effective collaboration, conflict resolution, and leveraging the strengths of others to achieve shared goals. The discussion will include the importance of building a professional network and receiving feedback from colleagues.

Keywords: teamwork, collaboration, professional relationships, networking, conflict resolution, shared success, individual vs. team performance

Chapter 6: The Myth of the "Mentor"

While mentorship can be invaluable, expecting a single individual to guide your entire career is unrealistic. This chapter suggests building a diverse network of supporters and learning from various sources. We'll discuss strategies for identifying potential mentors, building relationships, and seeking guidance from different sources, including books, online resources, and peers.

Keywords: mentorship, professional networking, seeking guidance, career advice, learning from experience, diverse support network

Chapter 7: The Lie of "Meritocracy"

The idea that hard work and talent alone determine success ignores the realities of bias and systemic inequalities within the workplace. This chapter addresses the complexities of navigating workplace politics and biases, and provides strategies for advocating for yourself and creating equitable opportunities. We'll discuss recognizing and combating unconscious biases, and strategies for navigating challenging workplace dynamics.

Keywords: meritocracy, workplace bias, equity, diversity, inclusion, workplace politics, advocacy, career navigation

Chapter 8: The Illusion of "Unlimited Potential"

While it's important to set ambitious goals, the concept of "unlimited potential" can be both misleading and harmful. This chapter encourages realistic goal-setting and self-acceptance. We'll discuss identifying your limitations, accepting your strengths and weaknesses, and setting realistic career goals.

Keywords: unlimited potential, realistic goal setting, career planning, self-acceptance, strengths and weaknesses, limitation management

Chapter 9: The False Belief in "The Ladder"

The traditional career "ladder" is becoming increasingly obsolete in many industries. This chapter explores alternative career paths and models, including lateral moves, entrepreneurial ventures, and portfolio careers. We'll encourage readers to explore different career trajectories and be adaptable to evolving work environments.

Keywords: career ladder, alternative career paths, lateral moves, portfolio careers, career adaptability, career flexibility

Conclusion: Building Your Authentic Career

This concluding chapter summarizes the key takeaways of the ebook and provides a roadmap for creating a fulfilling and authentic career path. It empowers readers to challenge assumptions, embrace change, and build a career that aligns with their values and goals.

Keywords: authentic career, career fulfillment, career path planning, career goals, work satisfaction, personal values

Nine Unique FAQs:

- 1. Q: Is this ebook only for those unhappy in their current jobs? A: No, this ebook is for anyone seeking to build a more fulfilling and authentic career, regardless of their current level of satisfaction.
- 2. Q: What if I don't have a mentor? A: The ebook suggests building a diverse network of support and learning from multiple sources, not solely relying on a single mentor.
- 3. Q: How can I deal with workplace bias? A: The ebook provides strategies for recognizing, addressing, and navigating bias in the workplace.
- 4. Q: Is it realistic to achieve "work-life balance"? A: The ebook reframes the concept of "balance" towards "integration," providing practical steps for integrating work and personal life effectively.
- 5. Q: What if my passion doesn't align with a viable career path? A: The ebook offers advice on finding meaning and purpose in work, even if it doesn't perfectly align with initial passions.
- 6. Q: How can I avoid burnout? A: The ebook highlights strategies for boundary-setting, prioritization, and self-care to prevent burnout.
- 7. Q: How can I set realistic career goals? A: The ebook provides a framework for realistic goal-setting, considering both your ambitions and limitations.
- 8. Q: What are some alternative career paths besides climbing the corporate ladder? A: The ebook explores various alternative career paths, including lateral moves, entrepreneurship, and portfolio careers.
- 9. Q: How can I identify my strengths and weaknesses more effectively? A: The ebook provides techniques and strategies for self-assessment and identifying both personal strengths and weaknesses for better career planning.

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- 2. Networking Strategies for Career Advancement: Provides practical tips and techniques for effective networking.
- 3. Building Resilience and Preventing Burnout: Focuses on self-care and stress management techniques.
- 4. Finding Meaning and Purpose in Unexpected Places: Discusses how to find fulfillment in roles that might not initially seem ideal.
- 5. The Power of Collaborative Work: Achieving Success Through Teamwork: Highlights the benefits of teamwork and effective collaboration strategies.

- 6. Mentorship Alternatives: Building Your Own Support System: Explores different ways to seek guidance and support outside of traditional mentoring.
- 7. Navigating Workplace Bias and Inequality: Offers strategies for recognizing and addressing bias in the workplace.
- 8. Redefining Success: Beyond the Corporate Ladder: Explores alternative career paths and models for career growth.
- 9. Setting Realistic Goals and Achieving Career Fulfillment: Provides practical steps for setting achievable goals and maximizing career satisfaction.

nine lies about work pdf: Nine Lies About Work Marcus Buckingham, Ashley Goodall, 2019-04-02 Forget what you know about the world of work You crave feedback. Your organization's culture is the key to its success. Strategic planning is essential. Your competencies should be measured and your weaknesses shored up. Leadership is a thing. These may sound like basic truths of our work lives today. But actually, they're lies. As strengths guru and bestselling author Marcus Buckingham and Cisco Leadership and Team Intelligence head Ashley Goodall show in this provocative, inspiring book, there are some big lies--distortions, faulty assumptions, wrong thinking--that we encounter every time we show up for work. Nine lies, to be exact. They cause dysfunction and frustration, ultimately resulting in workplaces that are a pale shadow of what they could be. But there are those who can get past the lies and discover what's real. These freethinking leaders recognize the power and beauty of our individual uniqueness. They know that emergent patterns are more valuable than received wisdom and that evidence is more powerful than dogma. With engaging stories and incisive analysis, the authors reveal the essential truths that such freethinking leaders will recognize immediately: that it is the strength and cohesiveness of your team, not your company's culture, that matter most; that we should focus less on top-down planning and more on giving our people reliable, real-time intelligence; that rather than trying to align people's goals we should strive to align people's sense of purpose and meaning; that people don't want constant feedback, they want helpful attention. This is the real world of work, as it is and as it should be. Nine Lies About Work reveals the few core truths that will help you show just how good you are to those who truly rely on you.

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research into the lives of people who are actively resisting nine-to-five employment, Frayne asks what motivates these people to disconnect from work, whether or not their resistance is futile, and whether they might have the capacity to inspire an alternative form of development, based on a reduction and social redistribution of work. A crucial dissection of the work-centred nature of modern society and emerging resistance to it, The Refusal of Work is a bold call for a more humane and sustainable vision of social progress.

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from anyone else? How can you choose roles in which you'll excel? Love and Work unlocks answers to these questions and others, so you can: Choose the right role on the team. Describe yourself compellingly in job interviews. Mold your existing role so that it calls upon the very best of you. Position yourself as a leader in such a way that your followers quickly come to trust in you. Make lasting change for your team, your company, your family, or your students. Love, the most powerful of human emotions, the source of all creativity, collaboration, insight, and excellence, has been systematically drained from our lives—our work, teams, and classrooms. It's time we brought love back in. Love and Work shows you how.

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