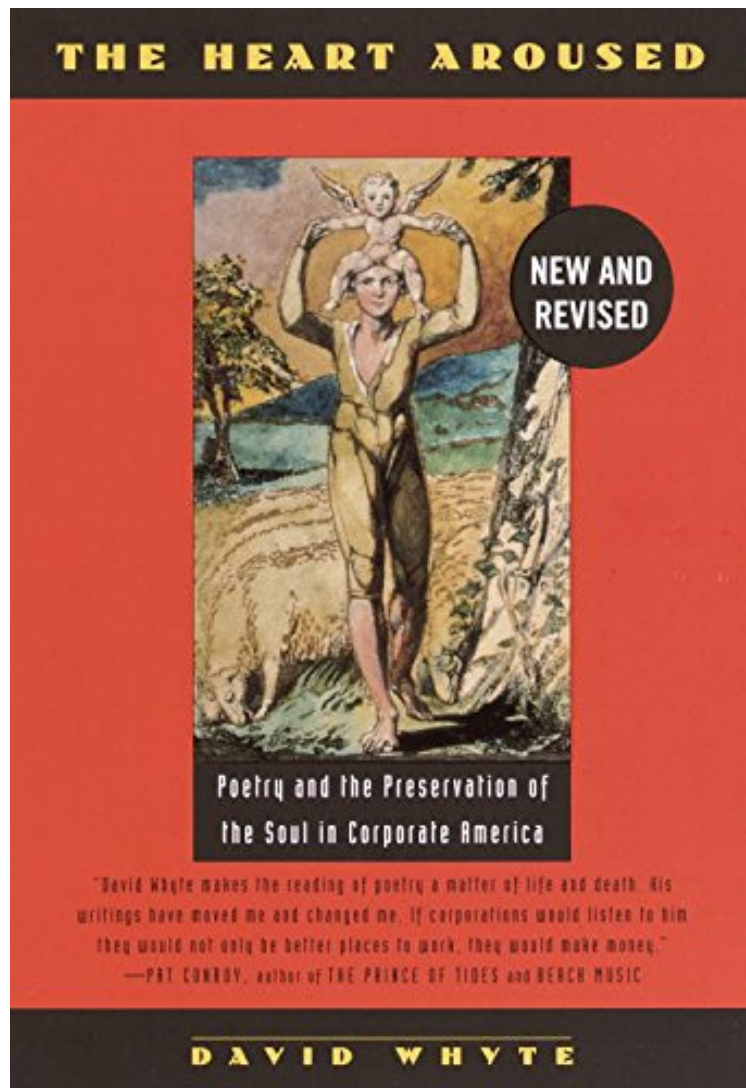


(Download pdf ebook) The Heart Aroused: Poetry and the Preservation of the Soul in Corporate America

# The Heart Aroused: Poetry and the Preservation of the Soul in Corporate America

David Whyte

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**David Whyte : The Heart Aroused: Poetry and the Preservation of the Soul in Corporate America** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Heart Aroused: Poetry and the Preservation of the Soul in Corporate America:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A very enjoyable escapeBy smackdown2This is a nice book. I don't know much about the author's poetic abilities but his writing is sublime. I don't know how much of his book I should take to heart though. From what I've seen if you slow down long enough to stop and smell the roses you're going to wind up with footprints up your back. Even so, Thank You Mr. Whyte for a thought provoking read.0 of 0 people

found the following review helpful. Transformative, essential to any creative person whether corporate or not. By Dr. Bob It's as if Whyte looked into my midlife midlevel manager inner world and wrote my story one million times better than I could. The incredible language and clear articulation of difficult ideas and feelings through the use of poetry indeed left me with no defenses. Amazing. Will need to read multiple times to digest. 18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Lessons on Life and Work By George P. Shadrui David Whyte is a fine writer and this book is a noteworthy contribution to the literature on how to bring creativity and soul not only into the corporate world, but into each of our lives. He works hard at underscoring the symbolic importance of his literary references to Beowulf, Coleridge and Eliot, among others, and writes for readers who might not otherwise be poetically inclined. A Heart Aroused argues very simply that each of us owe it to ourselves to bring courage and passion into our work and into our lives. If we cannot embrace the job with passion, perhaps we are in the wrong job. He discusses the fear and voicelessness that so often dominate tough corporate environments, and the troubling compromises that each of us make as we struggle to balance many pressures and demands. When these compromises become too severe, he argues, we begin to slip into a comatose mode of life and lose our edge and our passion for quality and good service. But this is not an easy issue -- some will be tempted to counter that practical concerns are not easily set aside when family and career are at stake. Many a corporate person battens down the hatches and seeks to weather the storms below deck rather than experience the exhilaration of being fully engaged in overcoming crises and challenges, when failure can lead to such devastating results. Quite frankly, there are times and situations when we are not welcomed by those in power to engage these challenges. The goal of all good managers and CEOs, Whyte is saying, is to turn their companies into soul friendly environments, for only then will their employees and their products reach their full potential. To not heed the soul, Whyte argues, is even more dangerous than risking the ire of power, because then, rather than being killed despite our best efforts, we kill ourselves and become passive victims rather than actors in the drama. A beginning to an important discussion, but not as concrete as it could be on managing such abstract ideas in our every day world. What he is saying, in an eloquent way, is that we must each be true to our souls, to ourselves, if we are ever to experience true joy in our work and our lives. Not a new idea, but one thoughtfully put forward here.

In the middle of the road of my life I awoke in a dark wood where the true way was wholly lost-DANTE Like Dante, many of today's corporate workers find themselves lost in the day-to-day duties of their jobs. Our lives seem shaken by the events of September 11 and the seemingly endless examples of corporate scandal, it's become more difficult than ever to find meaning in the workplace. Has your work lost its meaning? Are you afraid of pursuing your dreams for fear of failing or--worse--getting fired? Do you yearn to find creativity, and even joy, in your job? In *The Heart Aroused*, David Whyte brings his unique perspective as poet and consultant to the workplace, showing readers how fulfilling work can be when they face their fears and follow their dreams. Going beneath the surface concerns about products and profits, organization and order, Whyte addresses the needs of the heart and soul, and the fears and desires that many workers keep hidden. Through the poetry of both classic and modern masters, Whyte helps readers find both professional and personal fulfillment. In *Beowulf*, Whyte uncovers the key to confronting office conflicts. Like the poem's courageous hero, readers will travel to the belly of the beast of a problem and emerge triumphantly with a solution. The poems of Pablo Neruda help on find inner silence even in the busiest, most confining office space. With T.S. Eliot as a guide, Whyte teaches readers to appreciate the need to open themselves up to possible failure--and as a result, probable success. At a time when corporations are calling on employees for more creativity, dedication, and adaptability, and workers are trying desperately to balance home and work, this revised edition of *The Heart Aroused* is the essential guide to reinvigorating the soul. From the Trade Paperback edition.

.com The call for increased creativity in the workplace brings with it a concomitant challenge: how will the world of cool professionalism stand up to the inevitable heat and volatility that accompanies people's emotional and spiritual lives? It is problematic to assume, poet David Whyte explains, that you can ask people to create and also to behave. *The Heart Aroused* explores these and related issues in an inspiring, grounded, thought-provoking way, and is the best nonverse book by a poet since Robert Bly's *Iron John*. Interwoven with carefully selected poems to illustrate Whyte's points, *The Heart Aroused* is necessary reading for any professional who secretly harbors a poet's soul. From Booklist A corporate analyst who quotes Dante, Yeats, and Blake? Whyte, a maverick business consultant, wends his way through office and board room finding occasions for poetic reflection. The reader who attends to his message may indeed discover that success in business is spiritual, not merely financial, and that time spent in meditating will count for more in the end than time spent tabulating profits and losses. This intuitive rather than rational line of reasoning will mystify--perhaps infuriate--executives hardened to everything except career advancement. But readers willing to lay aside workaday preconceptions will learn ways to look for the hidden patterns of labor and creativity that can give new meaning to corporate employment. While some of Whyte's insights translate almost immediately into more effective office communication and management, many require the slow pondering that leads to fundamental reorientation of vision. Bryce Christensen "The Heart Aroused is truly extraordinary. It brings a poet's ever-deepening imagination to the world of business and work. It steadies us, gives us grounding, and offers profound images for locating our work

deep in the soul. The very style of the book presents a new dimension of language and reflection, with a contemplative tempo, that could help us radically and fruitfully reimagine the workplace."-Thomas Moore, author of *Care of the Soul and Soul Mates*"David Whyte's images resonate to the core. As a poet who has taken his work into the corporate world, he pioneers a vision that is at once practical and illuminating."-Marion Woodman, Jungian analyst and author of *Leaving My Father's House*"With this insightful book, David Whyte offers people in corporate life an opportunity to reach into the forgotten and ignored creative lifehellip; and literally water their souls with it. The result is ahellip; book that can truly heal."-Clarissa Pinkola Estearcute;s, Ph.D., author of *Women Who Run with the Wolves*From the Trade Paperback edition.