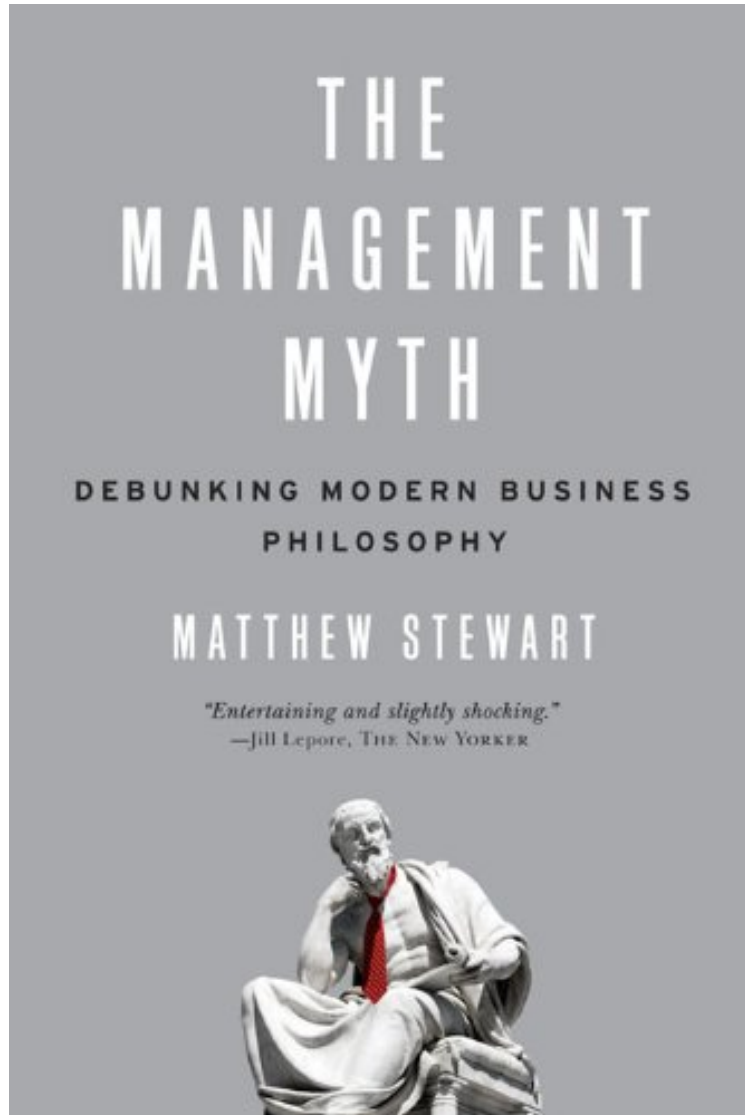


[Download] The Management Myth: Debunking Modern Business Philosophy

# The Management Myth: Debunking Modern Business Philosophy

Matthew Stewart

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**Matthew Stewart : The Management Myth: Debunking Modern Business Philosophy** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Management Myth: Debunking Modern Business Philosophy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great analysis of the "science" of management. By Fab Through the story of his personal experience in consulting business, in few hundred pages Matthew gives us complete overview of what is called "science" of management, he shows us its fallacy, its rhetoric and he demonstrates how most of the concepts, framework that are taught in business school, all the literature of professors (with and without PHD) like Taylor, Mayo, Drucker, Porter based on assumptions, anecdotes which derive from past facts with not proven efficacy.

All the gurus who try to influence the middle management like Peters, Hamel, Covey just created a business around this fake science and they changed their vision and forecast ( mostly proven wrongs) book after book . No one can see the future and each business has its own nature, life and death like each human being and it cannot be put in a fixed and replicable framework. The conclusion of Matthew is that to be a good manager is simply a good educated and trusted person with ethics.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant Takedown of the Cult of Management and StrategyBy DPOPI just finished this outstanding book. It has been on my list since I read the rave WSJ and New Yorker reviews this past fall. It's a brilliant history of management thought dating back to Taylor and scientific management. It is also a highly critical take down of the management consulting industry that relies on hilarious anecdotes from the author's career in management consulting. For what its worth, I want to mention that this is not what I would call a "subversive" book as it pertains to many companies. While not the book's focus, it is supportive of companies and individuals that eschew the flash and sizzle of Strategy (with a capital S) and Management (with a capital M.)My favorite quote: "What makes for a good manager? If we put all of their heads together, the great management thinkers at the end of the day give us the same, simple, and true answer. A good manager is someone with a facility for analysis and an even greater talent for synthesis; someone who has an eye both for the details and for the one big thing that really matters; someone who is able to reflect on the facts in a disinterested way, who is always dissatisfied with pat answers and the conventional wisdom, and who therefore takes a certain pleasure in knowledge itself; someone with a wide knowledge of the world and an even better knowledge of the way people work; someone who knows how to treat people with respect; someone with honest, integrity, trustworthiness, and the other things that make up character; someone in short, who understands oneself and the world around us well enough to know how to make it better. By this definition of course, a good manager is nothing more or less than a good and well-educated person."This is a thoroughly entertaining and stimulating read. I feel ashamed that I have read the work of some of the management gurus excoriated in this book.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An iconoclastic, enjoyable read.By JTGWDTTThe book is well-written and highly entertaining. It is unlikely to dissuade "middle managers from pizza delivery companies", but as a brilliantly snarky Phillipic, it effectively preaches to a choir that is already skeptical of guru books of any stripe, especially those on the shelf labelled "how to succeed in business". The interleaved narrative of Machiavellian gyrations at yet another NVA (no value added) management consulting firm sinking by the bow through internal malfeasance, was as much fun to read as the alternating chapters given to debunking the "science" in the historical development of "management science" from the mid-19th century to the present. -just the guy who does the thing

"A devastating bombardment of managerial thinking and the profession of management consulting;A serious and valuable polemic." mdash;Wall Street JournalFresh from Oxford with a degree in philosophy and no particular interest in business, Matthew Stewart might not have seemed a likely candidate to become a consultant. But soon he was telling veteran managers how to run their companies.In narrating his own ill-fated (and often hilarious) odyssey at a top-tier firm, Stewart turns the consultant's merciless, penetrating eye on the management industry itself. The Management Myth offers an insightful romp through the entire history of thinking about management, a withering critique of pseudoscience in management theory, and a clear explanation of why the MBA usually amounts to so much BSmdash;leading us through the wilderness of American business thought.

From Publishers WeeklyStewart (The Courtier and the Heretic) reflects on his unconventional path to becoming a successful management consultantmdash;despite a complete lack of business knowledge or experience, let alone an MBA. He offers an insider's perspective on the industry, revealing the astonishingly high routine consultant fees and the absurdity of leading firms depending on consultants fresh out of school to tell them how to run their business. Following in the footsteps of shamans, consultants envelop their work with an aura of sacred mystery and outrageously unjustified levels of self-confidence to add to their perceived expertise. Gleefully revealing the magician's tricks, Stewart takes readers on a whirlwind tour of how this industry came to be a powerhouse. Filled with fascinating insider anecdotes and featuring a who's who in the consulting world, including Peter Drucker, Michael Porter and Bruce Henderson, this wry, absorbing book will enlighten executives about the value consultants actually bring to their clients. (Aug.) A devastating bombardment of managerial thinking and the profession of management consulting. As a former management consultant, Mr. Stewart lived long enough in the belly of the beast to know its nature.From the Back CoverPraise for The Management Myth "At last, a book that knocks the Kings of Consulting off their thrones. The Management Myth is a rare and often very humorous expose on the shenanigans behind the corporate empire that has catapulted us down the current road to economic turmoil."-John Perkins, best-selling author of Confessions of an Economic Hit Man and The Secret History of the American Empire "Filled with fascinating insider anecdotes and featuring a who's who of the consulting world . . . this book will enlighten executives."- Publishers Weekly