

Reader Reviews of *Language and the Pursuit of Happiness*

- I am a CEO of two corporations and have been in the business world for over 40 years. I am married and have four grown children. During those 40 years I have always strived to improve my knowledge and leadership abilities by reading books or listening to audio books. I have had *Language and the Pursuit of Happiness* for over three years and am currently just finishing going through it for the third time with the last time being over 18 months ago. Chalmers Brothers hit this one out of the park. This is a book that should be on every leader, manager, spouse, parent, etc. read list. It will open your mind to a whole new world of communication and understanding. Every time I go through the book I find additional nuggets that improve who I am. It is definitely a book that is worth multiple reads. Most Excellent!
- This book should be a MUST read for everyone. It has transformed my life and life of many around me, in a very positive way. As a Result of applying what I have learned from this book, today I am having more effective conversations, and am experiencing more joy, greater peace of mind, better relationships, and better Results--both in my personal and professional life.
- This book captures an incredibly powerful truth about the power that our words have over our lives and the lives of those we influence. This truth is both simple and challenging, and gets to the heart of leadership. Filled with thought-provoking reflection questions, *Language and the Pursuit of Happiness* is a must read for every leader and anyone in the leadership development field. It has transformed the lives of many a reader!
- *Language and the Pursuit of Happiness* is an awesome book that will enhance your well-being and the well-being of those around you. The book highlights the impact of your thoughts and words on you and on others and how to be more effective in the use of language. We live in a world of relationships and Chalmers Brothers provides valuable insights and powerful tools to assist anyone in enhancing those relationships using the principles and tools in the book. You will surely learn something new that you can put into practice immediately. The information included in the book is so valuable

and important, it should be taught in our schools to children. Reading this book will clearly serve you and have a positive impact on many aspects of your life.

- An empowering, liberating, jargon free book. At last someone who can speak to other human beings without using jargon. Everyone can benefit from reading this book, from the highly trained to the completely untrained (or some might say uncontaminated). OK to the trained eye it's not exactly new in it's content, BUT refreshing in the extreme to find someone who has translated the extraordinary into ordinary everyday language that is so accessible. Inspirational.
- An excellent book that introduces the reader to the profound world of ontological design. If you're not "happy" or if you'd appreciate increased effectiveness and "satisfaction" with your life, this is the book to put you on the path. I use the book in my sales and management training in the companies where I'm also the CFO. I've given copies of the book to friends and family members who were stuck in the "if only my (insert word) were more, better, different, I'd be happy" world of dissatisfaction. It works wonders. I can't say enough positive accolades about this incredible book.
- This is an excellent resource for those contemplating a personal transformational journey. The author has a great way of explaining simple concepts in a profound and new way, that pushes the reader from 'knowing' to 'learning embodiment'. This book has been smartly designed for personal use as well as for use in group settings such as book club or group coaching session. Each chapter is followed by a quick summary and some guided exercises to really experience key learnings. If you are a coach starting out and looking for a transformational approach to personal change for yourself or your client, this is the book for you. I often recommend this book to my clients and chapter 7 of this book is very popular with many of my clients.
- This book was recommended to me as part of a management training course, but I found it of much wider interest. The framework introduced as part of the training course was an 'Observer - Action - Results' structure, where 'observer' means the interpretative or

narrative framework within which one might be making management decisions. However, the real core of the book is about the role of language more generally in framing how one lives: first of all, in terms of the frameworks of interpretation within which one lives transparently, and how making these explicit can help break you out of negative ways of assessing oneself or one's situation. Secondly, however, Brothers develops a view of language in terms of its primary role being to enable commitments to be undertaken

- Covers an incredible breadth of territory and does so in a tone that is accessible. Particularly like how each chapter has the reader use a particular situation from their life to apply the concepts covered. The author also provides resources and sources, so one can study the subjects. Truly a topic that offers people an opportunity to own their power and create remarkable lives.
- A fantastic summary of several schools of philosophy of language management, personal growth and inner wisdom. The author is very easy to follow despite the complexity of the topics treated. This is not a book, is a dialogue with a master.
- Found the book life transforming. I am taking lessons learnt and applying them to my everyday life as a Husband, Father and Manager.
- Language and Pursuit of Happiness, is an excellent book. It is also designed as a Work book to help the reader ponder and apply the concepts. It is a simple book to read, easy to understand. The Chapters are progressive. They build on each other, which I found helpful in the journey of self discovery and the transformation process. I qualify this as the best self-help book for Self Discovery and developing an attitude to Life and a language will create Happiness. I highly recommend this book. I would buy it over again.
- This book helps you make that crucial move out of your comfort zone and into a new reality. In addition to the insightful discussion on how language shapes our lives, it provides step by step instructions on how to distinguish yourself from the crowd.

- I can't say enough about the excellence of clarity this book brought. It should be the required handbook for any effectiveness course... it provides the bridge of understanding that I think all training courses need!
- After reading this book for my masters, I am incorporating it into the undergraduate leadership class that I teach. Very informative and written so that the material is relatable.
- Finally a book that teaches us all why and how to live in language. Every thing, everything, we do, have and are (our being) happens through and in language. If the concepts in this book were to be taught in elementary school and continued throughout life, the world would be a better place.
- Until I read Language and the Pursuit of Happiness, I had only a passing knowledge of the importance of language and linguistic acts in life, work and relationships. Since my introduction to this way of looking at an activity that seems so simple, I recognize how significant the linguistic acts are to collaboration, building trust, and preserving and strengthening relationships with friends, family and colleagues.
- Chalmers Brothers compiled a thought-provoking and very useful guide to understanding and improving language skills. I have purchased multiple copies of the book for individuals whom I coach and for my own presentations on building trust in organizations; recipients have expressed deep appreciation for the content.
- I strongly recommend this book for leaders who want to enhance their professional effectiveness; I equally recommend it to individuals who simply want to understand and improve their own interactions.
- Chalmers Brothers does an amazing job of making us pause and consider the internal conversations that guide our decisions, our actions and our lives -- yet exist just below our consciousness. It will make you stop and think about what truly makes for authentic happiness in your work and beyond, and the role of language in your life. It's also an excellent book for leaders across industries and

organizations who want to communicate with more clarity and purpose, and energize those around them. You'll think differently after reading this book!

- This book was part of my Coach Training curriculum and I've referred to it numerous times since I completed my formal training.
- The insights in this book have been tremendously valuable for my own personal growth and development and it has also served as a coaching tool for my work with clients.
- The content is presented in a way that I found conversational, quick and light to read; and the learning from the content is absolutely provoking, strong and impactful.
- Learning and applying distinctions in language, as Chalmers describes, has the potential to increase your effectiveness as a person in all of your relationships. I highly recommend this book to leaders, managers, entrepreneurs, service representatives, students....(basically anyone who has relationships with other people) who seek improvements in the quality of their interactions and yearn for positive Results in life!!
- I use this book as one of the texts for the graduate level professional life and business coach training I do. So many rich concepts and so easy to implement. Viewing language as a generative process will change how you work. I also give my business relationship coaching clients assignments from this book. It is excellent for shifting perspectives and offering new approaches to communication that are powerful and effective.
- Caution... This book could dramatically change your professional and personal life! If you have not yet heard of "Ontological Design," the study of being or the power of language, moods and body, then this book is the one to read and study. This book requires careful study and reflection. This is not fluff, or some shallow thinking that will make you feel good temporarily. It is a really well-grounded view of what it means to be a human being. It's based on science and biology. It's an entirely new interpretation for how to live and

design our lives. I have been studying this domain of knowledge for the past two years, and I continue to be amazed at the power of the message in this book and to accepting these claims.

- This is not some passing fad, but a new interpretation. My claim is that it can feel like your world is turned upside down when you engage with this material. I imagine when you read this book you will "feel" like the way folks must have felt when they learned for the first time that the world is NOT actually flat, but it is round. The implications for your life will be real and they will be profound. So, this is why I caution you. It will dramatically change your thinking and challenge some of the core beliefs that seem like common sense, but are unchallenged. Enjoy the journey of transformation and happiness.
- When I have the time I want to write a more detailed review, but for now I want to commend "Language and the Pursuit of Happiness" not only for its content but also for its style. It's content is transformational and insightful, and the material is warmly presented. ... I especially like this one because it treats its subject in depth, uses good anecdotal illustrations and exercises, because it is humbly and politely presented, and because it works. Some of the other books in the genre come across as too triumphalistic, absolutist, authoritarian, and/or narcissistic... In no way is this book self-promoting, nor does it present itself as the only gospel which will save the multitudes. And again, in style the book exudes the charm of its southern gentleman author. Warm. respectful, gently accented, spoken over the top of a mint julep. This book is both personally and corporately pitched, and combines the transformational insights of Goss with the pastoral tone of Budd. I read all the time, and buy books constantly. This is one of the most helpful I have read in the past ten years.