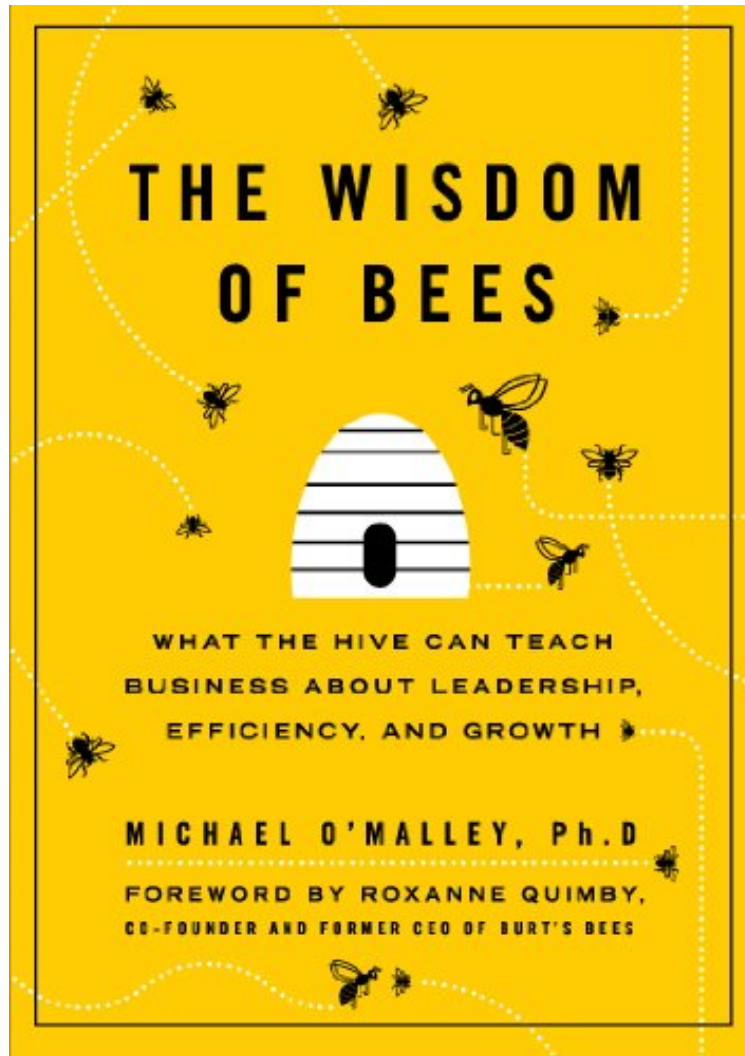


(Get free) The Wisdom of Bees: What the Hive Can Teach Business about Leadership, Efficiency, and Growth

The Wisdom of Bees: What the Hive Can Teach Business about Leadership, Efficiency, and Growth

Michael O'Malley Ph.D.

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Michael O'Malley Ph.D. : The Wisdom of Bees: What the Hive Can Teach Business about Leadership, Efficiency, and Growth before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Wisdom of Bees: What the Hive Can Teach Business about Leadership, Efficiency, and Growth:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy Nancy M. BaggottGood Book, I liked Extreme Ownership better.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Management can bee easyBy CustomerIt is an interesting comparison to the social work of bees and business organizations. The author has some fun with the text and yet still demonstrates a good correlation between the two. Good reading, particularly if you have an interest in

bees.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It's interesting; however, it could have been more ...By Adam RadziszewskiIt's interesting; however, it could have been more concise (repeats a lot) and I somehow feel the author is trying to force the parallel between corporations and the hive a but too much. If it were 50% shorter, I would have given it 4 starts.A unique idea though...

"It seemed to me that the bees were working on the very same kinds of problems we are trying to solve. How can large, diverse groups work together harmoniously and productively? Perhaps we could take what the bees do so well and apply it to our institutions." When Michael O'Malley first took up beekeeping, he thought it would be a nice hobby to share with his ten-year-old son. But as he started to observe these industrious insects, he noticed that they do a lot more than just make honey. Bees not only work together to achieve a common goal but, in the process, create a highly coordinated, efficient, and remarkably productive organization. The hive behaved like a miniature but incredibly successful business. O'Malley also realized that bees can actually teach managers a lot about how to run their organizations. He identified twenty-five powerful insights, such as: * Distribute authority: the queen bee delegates relentlessly, and worker bees make daily decisions based on local cues and requirements. * Keep it simple: bees exchange only relevant information, operate under clear standards, and use straightforward measures and feedback to guide their actions. * Protect the future: when a lucrative vein of nectar is discovered, the entire colony doesn't rush off to mine it, no matter how enriching the short-term benefits. Blending practical advice with interesting facts about the hive, *The Wisdom of Bees* is a useful and entertaining guide for any manager looking to get the most out of his or her organization.

From Publishers WeeklySocial psychologist (and avid beekeeper) O'Malley draws management guidance from the hive in this charming rundown of best business practices. It turns out bees work on the same kinds of problems we are trying to solve in our organizations, including the best strategies for managing short-term vs. long-term gains, stability vs. flexibility, individuality vs. community, and similarity vs. change. O'Malley applies lessons learned from those clever bees to strategies to help organizations survive and grow while wasting as little energy and resources as possible, to expand exploration during low-growth periods, to maintain durability over the long run, to keep energy levels up, to provide ongoing feedback, to avoid overengineering, to discover and use an individual's specialized talents, and to be objective and data driven. The advice itself is your standard management-lesson fare, but presented in a concise, conversational format with great personality, practicality, and verve. (May) Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From BooklistAlmost every analogy under the sun has been used to promote and explain old and new rules of business, from animals to famous historical personages. Yale University editor, social psychologist, and beekeeper Orsquo;Malley parlays all of his competencies into an examination of bee behavior and its application to the world of commerce. Much research informs his 25 lessons of bee-dom. One lessonndash;ndash;ldquo;promote community, sanction self-interestrdquo;ndash;ndash;compares the unity of the hive, where all members, in some way, serve the queen bee is a good rule for the c-suite to remember. Every lesson follows a similar pattern: first, discuss a particular concept of the aviary, then compare it to the for-profit universe, then extract the ldquo;shoulds.rdquo; Do leaders really need two dozen more principles? Instead, take to heart his four conclusions about the ways honey bees balance: short- versus long-term gains; stability versus flexibility; individuality versus community; similarity versus change. --Barbara Jacobs "After you read this book, I assure you that you will never think about your organization in quite the same way." -Roxanne Quimby, cofounder and former CEO, Burt's Bees (from the foreword) "O'Malley brings to life timeless principles of organizational success in a mind-opening, insightful, and compelling way by examining the life of bees. That may sound like a stretch, but it won't after you read this plainspoken, well-written book." -John Pepper, former CEO and chairman, Procter Gamble "What in the world can we learn from a honeybee colony that would provide any useful knowledge for how to run-or, better yet, change for the better-a human organization? Read this remarkable book and you will see." -W. Warner Burke, chair, Department of Organization and Leadership, Columbia University "Unlike many business books, this guide, inspired by Michael O'Malley's observations of his backyard beehive, is filled with substance and uncommon sense. I have benefitted from O'Malley's guidance for years, and, with this book, everyone else now can, too." -Mark Jacobsen, president and CEO, Promontory Interfinancial Network, LLC "Not only a fascinating look into the world of bees, but also an excellent operating guide for good management. Who wouldn't want a company as organized and productive as a beehive? This book explains how." -Phil Johnson, CEO, PJA Advertising + Marketing "Humanity is fortunate that Michael O'Malley became a beekeeper. He beautifully presents twenty-five lessons that we humans can, and really should, learn from the bees about working together for group success." -Thomas D. Seeley, professor of biology, Cornell University