

### Volume 32

As you head out to live your own Pure Michigan commercial this summer, here are a selection of books I highly recommend if you are looking to add some learning to your relaxation time.

#### **GENRE 1: Non-business / Require some uninterrupted time / Inspiring on several levels, leadership is one:**

1. **Boys in the Boat** by Daniel James Brown: My new read this year – I loved the book. I also read it in the Kindle format and enjoyed how it showed me the most highlighted sections by all other readers, which helped me stop and ponder some powerful quotes. For some additional learning, there are some videos from the Berlin Olympics on YouTube that are referenced in the book.
2. **Flags of our Fathers** by James Bradley: One of the most powerful leadership exercises I do is the *Write your own obituary* exercise. This book is an example of how someone went back and pieced together the life of a father he loved, and in the process discovered an amazing story. It will make you think.
3. **Season of Life** by Jeffrey Marx: Why do you lead? What is the reason people come to work every morning at your company and how do you and your managers view your role in their happiness and success? These questions are not directly answered in this book, but they are there if you look.

#### **GENRE 2: Individual Excellence / Can be read through frequent interruptions / Thought provoking:**

1. **The Tao of Leadership** by John Heider: Every leadership library should have something from an Eastern Philosophy perspective because there is a greater focus on presence and listening. This is full of nuggets and I guarantee you will mark at least a handful of the 81 bits of wisdom.
2. **The Dip** by Seth Godin: Seth Godin is a powerful contemporary voice for mastery, passion, and authentic leadership. I like this one because leaders have to be resilient in a healthy way, and this book explores that in a thought provoking and practical voice.
3. **People-Centered Performance** by Scott Patchin: I wrote this not to overwhelm you with words, but to give you a lens to be a different leader at work, and anywhere else in your life where you desire more influence.

#### **GENRE 3: Want to think about my business and team / Will have time to think:**

1. **Get A Grip** by Gino Wickman: It is for the leader who is frustrated with the performance of their team and organization. This is a fable about a company that is trying to reset itself to more effectively manage growth. It provides a great lens to examine your own leadership style and the health of your team.
2. **Leadership and Self-Deception** by The Arbinger Institute: If you read my book and that OBN leader hits a little close to home for you, this book is a good next step. Written as a fable, it is the best book I have found to get past the "But I am a good person" response and to some actionable steps to be a more effective leader (and friend / spouse / parent / etc.).

Have a great summer, and remember that **Learning + Action = Growth**. If you struggle with the Action piece after any of these reads give me a call or send me an email – I love that part.

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For further reviews of each book and for some additional selections, here is a link to a special page I have set up so you can learn more about these books and/or order one.

<http://www.thetrugroup.com/summer-2015-reading-list/>

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