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## How Come Every Time I Get Stabbed in the Back My Fingerprints Are on the Knife?: And Other Meditations on Management

Jerry B. Harvey

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**Jerry B. Harvey : How Come Every Time I Get Stabbed in the Back My Fingerprints Are on the Knife?: And Other Meditations on Management** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How Come Every Time I Get Stabbed in the Back My Fingerprints Are on the Knife?: And Other Meditations on Management:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Best Book on Organization Ailments - Will Change the Way you Lead and View Organizations By J. Richard Ray Dr Jerry Harvey was one of the greatest thinking in social psychology

and organization developing in the past 50 years. His Abilene Paradox identified the organizational issues that result from a lack of "management of agreement." How Come Every Time I Get Stabbed in the Back should be required reading in every MBA and graduate OD or OB program. It should be required for entry into corporate leadership from first-line leaders to board executives. I questioned why he would name a book with such a title, but after I read it and began giving it to my coaching clients and friends, I knew how genius it was. This book is divided into several segments that address complex organizational and leadership issues in a humorous, but beautifully theoretic manner that engages the reader. It is a book I look for on every consultant or coaches bookshelf and when it is not there, I question their skill set. He also retells the Abilene Paradox - on YouTube search Jerry Harvey, video, paradox. It will be the best 10 minutes in your group dynamic journey. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Often, our worst moments are of our own doing, in business and life! By Aktyu AllBuyer I've read and re-read this book several times ... I've watched it unfold a few hundred times over the course of my career. I enjoyed Jerry Harvey's guest lectures immensely for his ability to splay open some tough issues of leadership and management with clarity and humor. His books are useful and compelling. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting read. By Customer Interesting read, difficult to follow at times due to rouge in cheek writing style. I especially enjoyed Ch.6 through 11.

The role we each play in our own downfalls create the profound--and profoundly entertaining--basis for this series of linked "meditations" as the author of The Abilene Paradox takes another irreverent look at the nature of life on the job. In this work, Harvey explores the ethical, moral, and spiritual dilemmas we all face in the modern world of work. But he does it in a most unconventional way. His is an approach that mixes equal parts humor, philosophy, and insight to make us laugh, think, and examine organizational behavior in a brand new light. The twelve essays themselves carry such spirited titles as "What If I Really Believe this Stuff," "On Tooting Your Own Horn," and "Ode to Waco." Altogether, it's an enthralling collection of wise and witty parables that illustrate the redemptive value of the truth in a voice that is ultimately understanding of human shortcomings.

From Booklist Harvey, an academic and researcher engaged in exploring ethical, moral, and spiritual issues of organizations, presents his theories on organizational behavior and effective management. Coming from a family of storytellers, he uses stories to cover a wide variety of topics, including a description of anaclitic depression, which is depression experienced by many in organizations that are incompetently led. He also offers thoughts on group behavior and the need to find scapegoats; the dynamics of standing for something rather than not getting involved; the role of prayer in organizational behavior; and the common human need to belong. His unusual approach to organizational issues captures a reader's attention and gives Harvey a platform to express his beliefs, which are worthy of consideration. As he promises, this is a far more effective presentation than offering a list of prescriptions for personal and organizational success. Mary Whaley "Jerry Harvey has the uncanny ability of observing the ordinary yet seeing the extraordinary. His insights are both provocative and useful, no common combination. Reading this book, you will learn to see the world through another lens." (W. Warner Burke) "Here are real organizational worlds both terrifying and hilarious, where people say and do things that they don't do anywhere else, and feel things that they don't feel anywhere else, and fortunately Jerry Harvey is there, too, to record it, reflect on it, and help us learn from it. Bless him!" (Peter Vaill, professor and holder of the Distinguished Chair in Management Education, University of St. Thomas, Minnesota) "A decade ago, Jerry Harvey's Abilene Paradox indelibly entered the lexicon as a metaphor for unproductive group behavior. Now, he's identified an equally damaging--and paradoxical--pattern of individual self-destruction. And, once again, he offers the same invaluable prescription: Tell the truth to everyone--especially yourself. Ah, if only this time we will listen." (James O'Toole, author, Leadership A to Z) From the Inside Flap The role each of us plays in our own downfall creates the profound--and profoundly entertaining--basis for this series of linked "meditations" as the author of The Abilene Paradox takes another irreverent look at the nature of life on the job. With his title essay and the other cutting-edge queries found here, Jerry Harvey takes aim at many of our long-cherished assumptions about management, organizations, and human nature. In this work, Harvey draws on his extensive background in management science and organizational psychology to explore the ethical, moral, and spiritual dilemmas we all face in the modern world of work. But he does it in a most unconventional way. His is an approach that mixes equal parts humor, philosophy, and insight to make us laugh, think, and examine organizational behavior in a brand new light. Readers will come upon such diverse topics as elephants, passing gas in church, heart surgery, the importance of Not\*Teaching, and back-stabbing as a social process. They'll also discover why high-performance organizations must always employ plenty of incompetent people, why Judas was not a traitor, and why no-nonsense managers are both tragic and useless figures. The twelve essays themselves carry such spirited titles as "What If I Really Believe This Stuff," "On Tooting Your Own Horn," and "Ode to Waco." On every page, Harvey offers hosts of office dwellers a fresh take on the problems they confront every day. And his refusal to prescribe solutions will be a relief to readers who know that the advice contained in most business books doesn't work anyway. Instead, Harvey delivers a collection of wise and witty parables that brilliantly illustrate the redemptive value of the

truth, in a voice that is ultimately understanding of human shortcomings.