

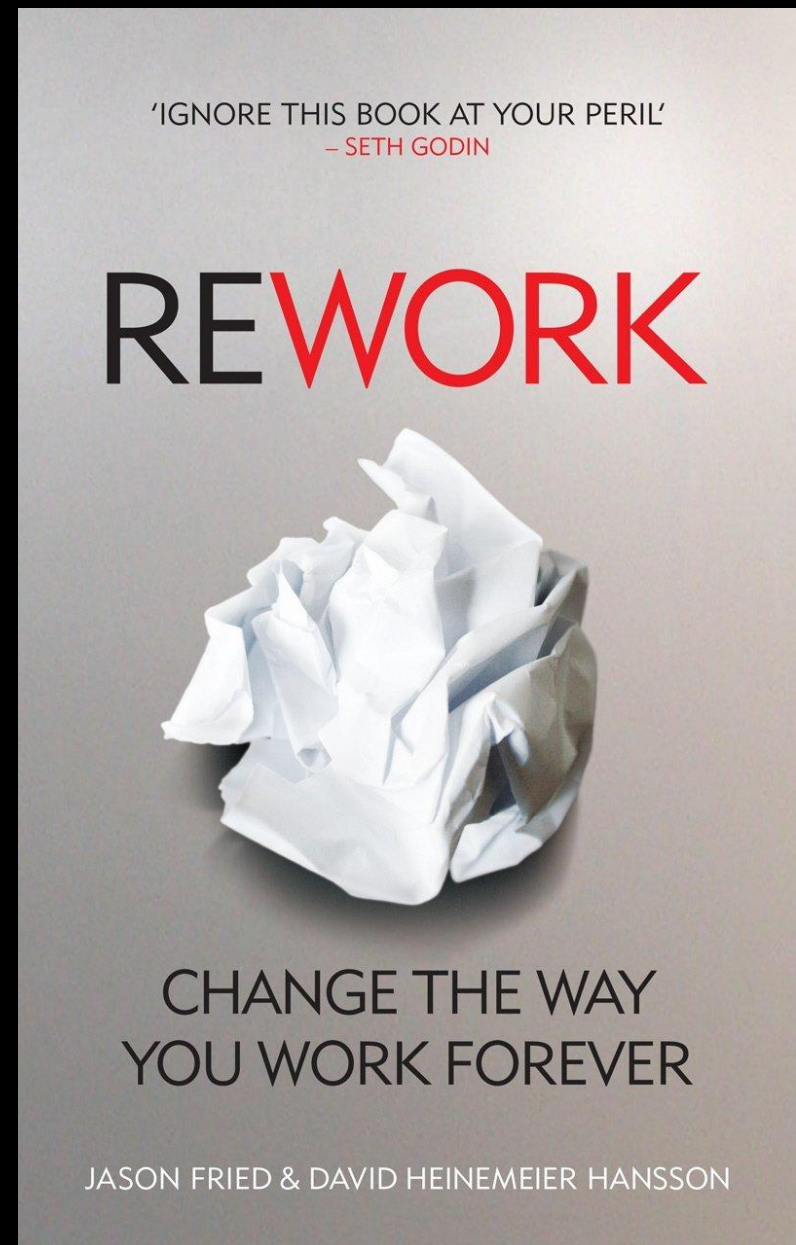
**20 books that
helped me, more
than years of school
or college ever will.**

A thread...

It was 2009 when my friend,
Vivek Pahwa gifted me
REWORK by Jason Fried and
DHH.

The book changed me.
Threw open a different way
of looking at the world.
Came to define "resist the
obvious" for me as a life
lesson.

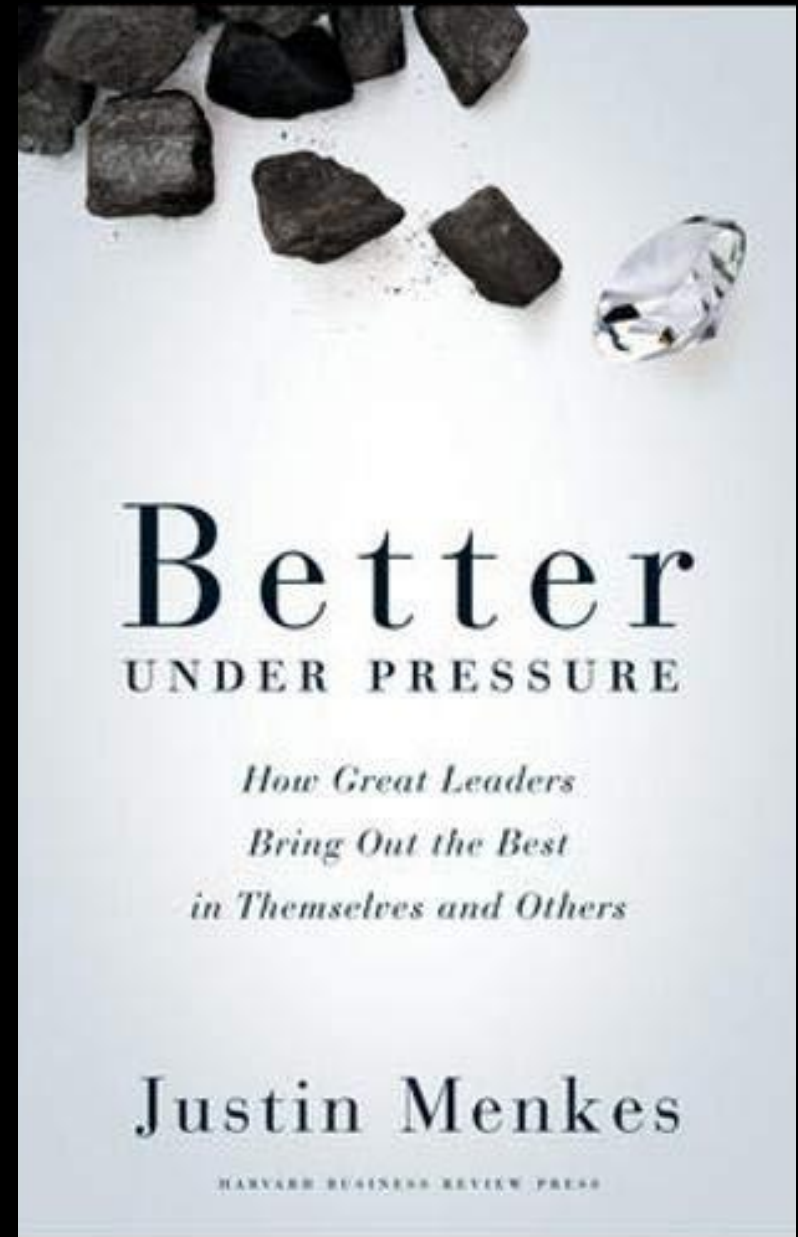
It remains my most gifted
book till date.



2016: I had just laid off 80 of
my colleagues for no
mistake of theirs
And this book came to my
rescue

BETTER UNDER PRESSURE

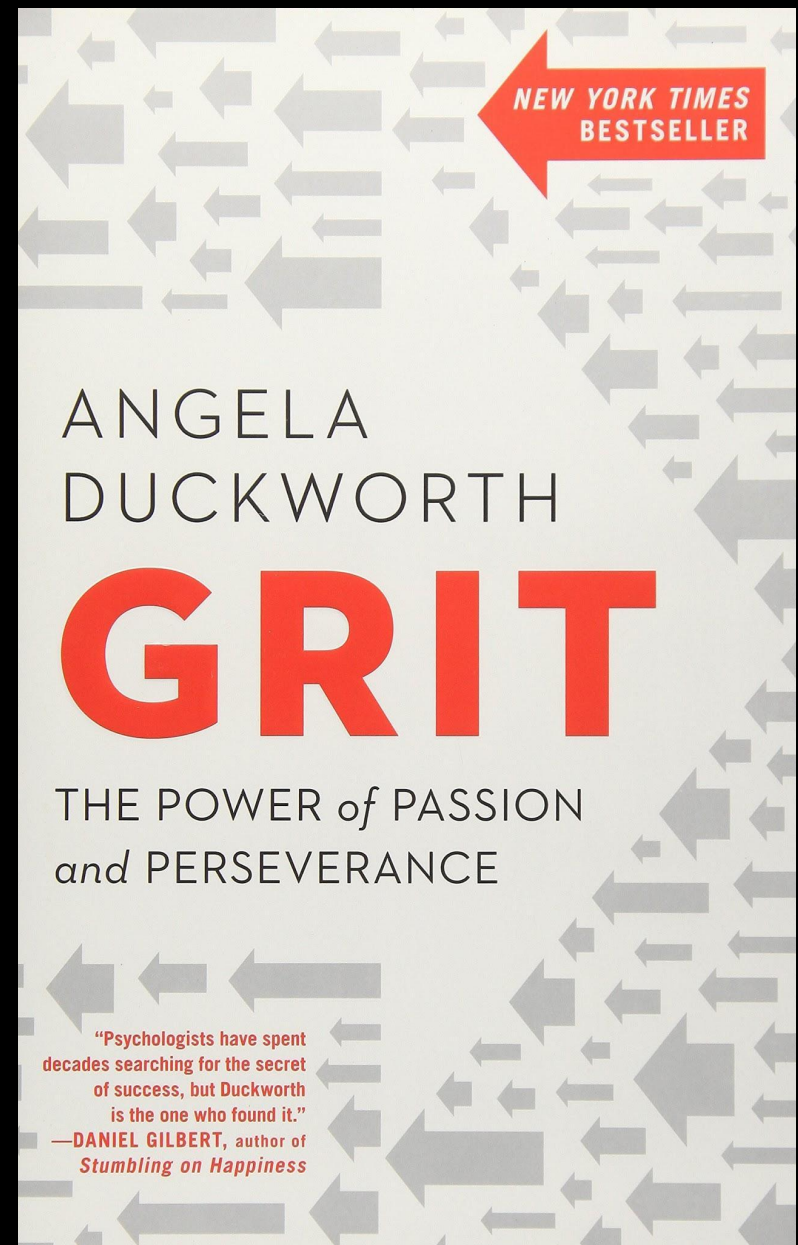
*"CEOs must master three
essential attributes, realistic
optimism, subservience to
purpose, and finding order
in chaos."*



When I first read
GRIT: THE POWER OF
PASSION AND
PERSEVERANCE by
Angela Duckworth

I felt like I would want my
life to be such a story.

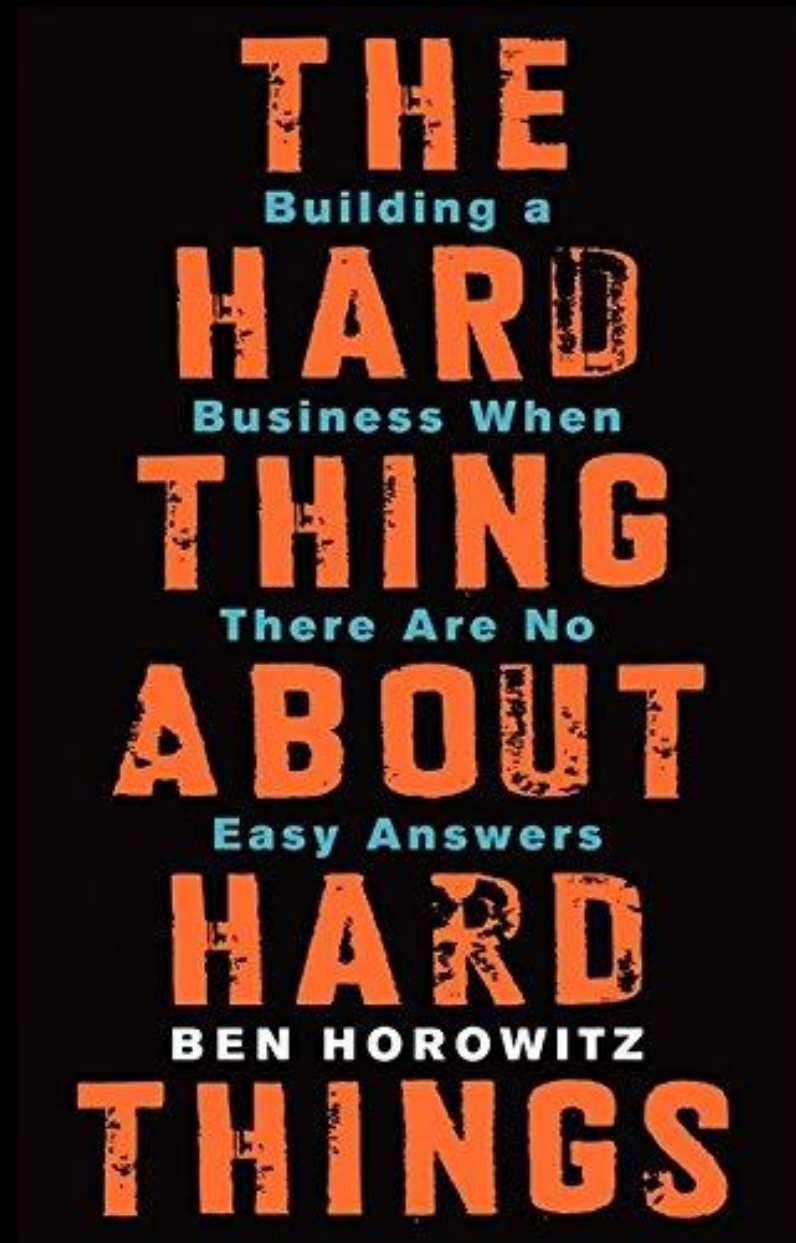
*"Passion for your work is a
little bit of discovery,
followed by a lot of
development, and then a
lifetime of deepening."*



Entrepreneurship was made cool by the media

And then came
THE HARD THINGS ABOUT
HARD THINGS by
Ben Horowitz.

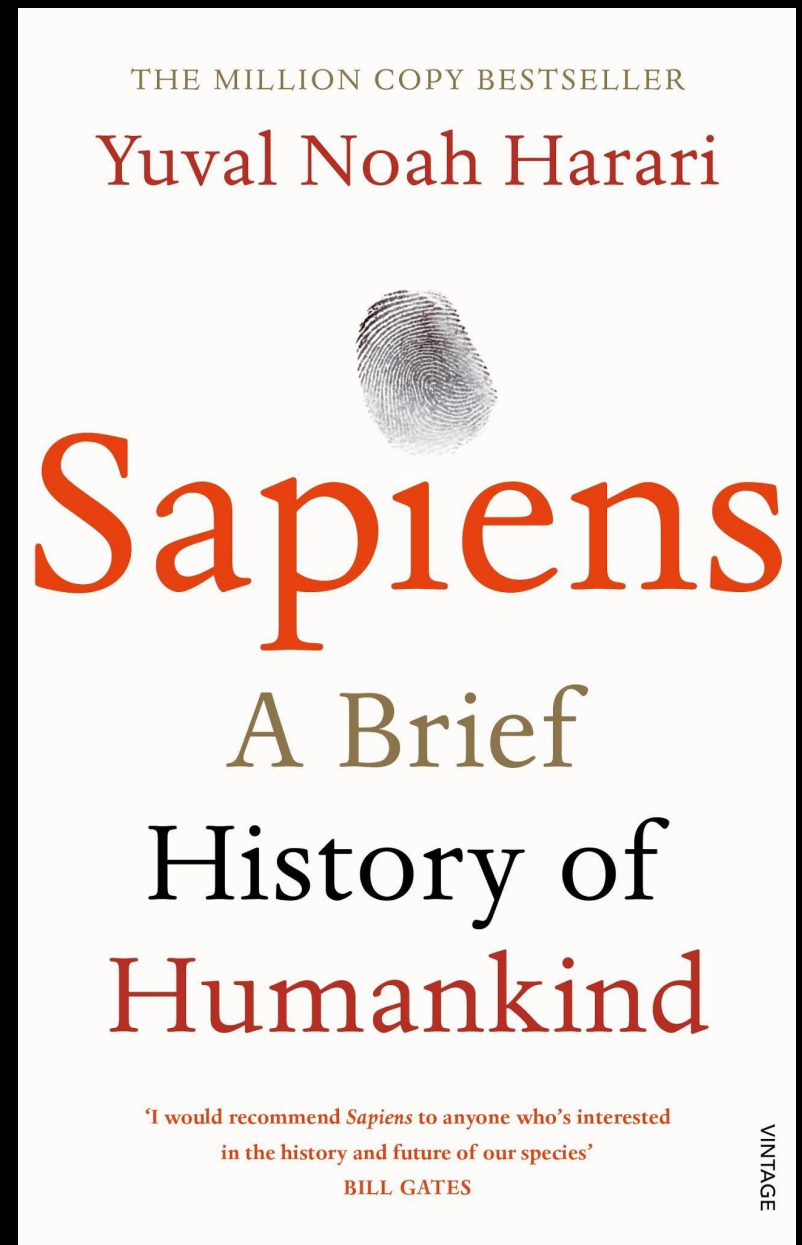
“Life is struggle.” I believe that within that quote lies the most important lesson in entrepreneurship: Embrace the struggle.”



As someone who loves to ask questions, this book opened my mind to a whole new set of them

SAPIENS by
Yuval Noah Harari

“Money is the most universal and most efficient system of mutual trust ever devised.”



I love autobiographies

TOOLS OF THE TITANS
by Tim Ferris

gave me multiple
autobiographies in one.

*“If you let your learning lead
to knowledge, you become a
fool. If you let your learning
lead to action, you become
wealthy.”*



TOOLS OF TITANS

THE TACTICS, ROUTINES AND HABITS
OF BILLIONAIRES, ICONS
AND WORLD-CLASS PERFORMERS

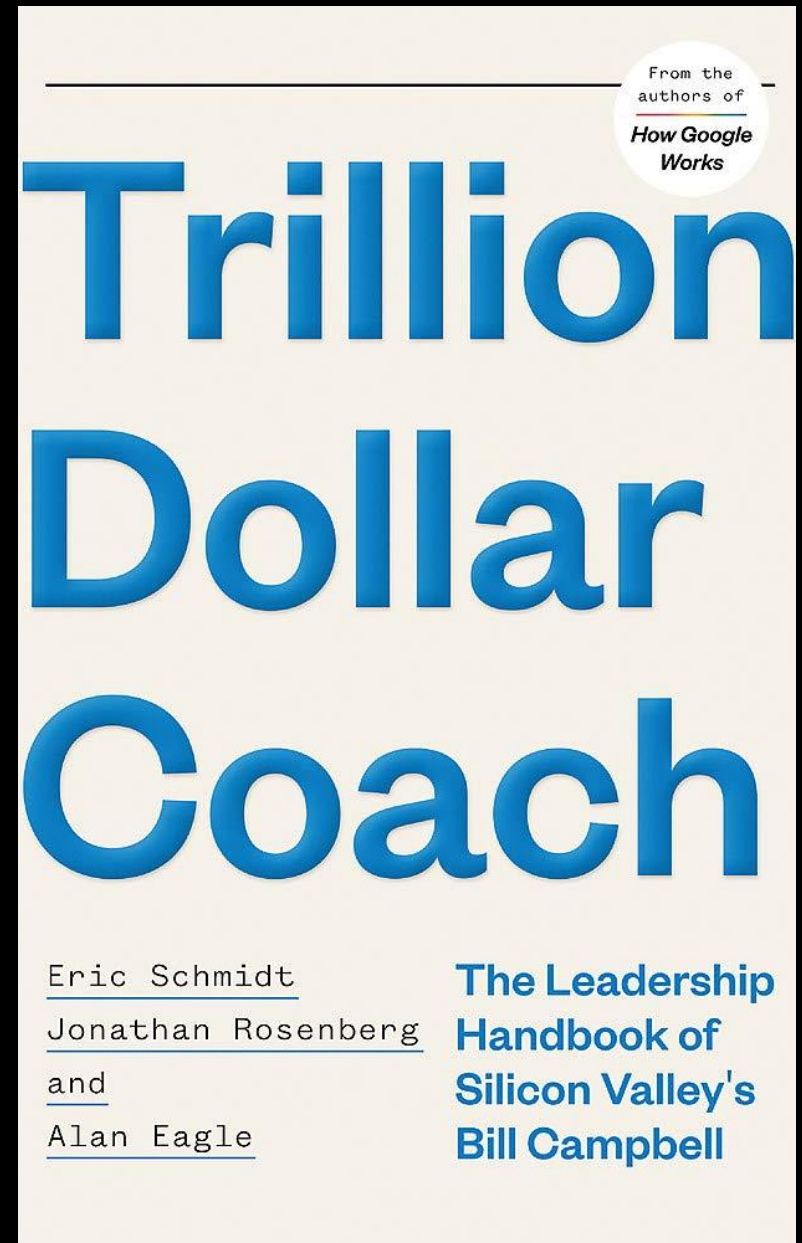
FROM #1 NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLING AUTHOR

TIM FERRISS

I have come to believe that
everyone in life requires a
coach

THE TRILLION DOLLAR
COACH
taught me how.
An absolute must for
leaders

*“Not what happened and
who’s to blame, but what
are we going to do about
it?”*

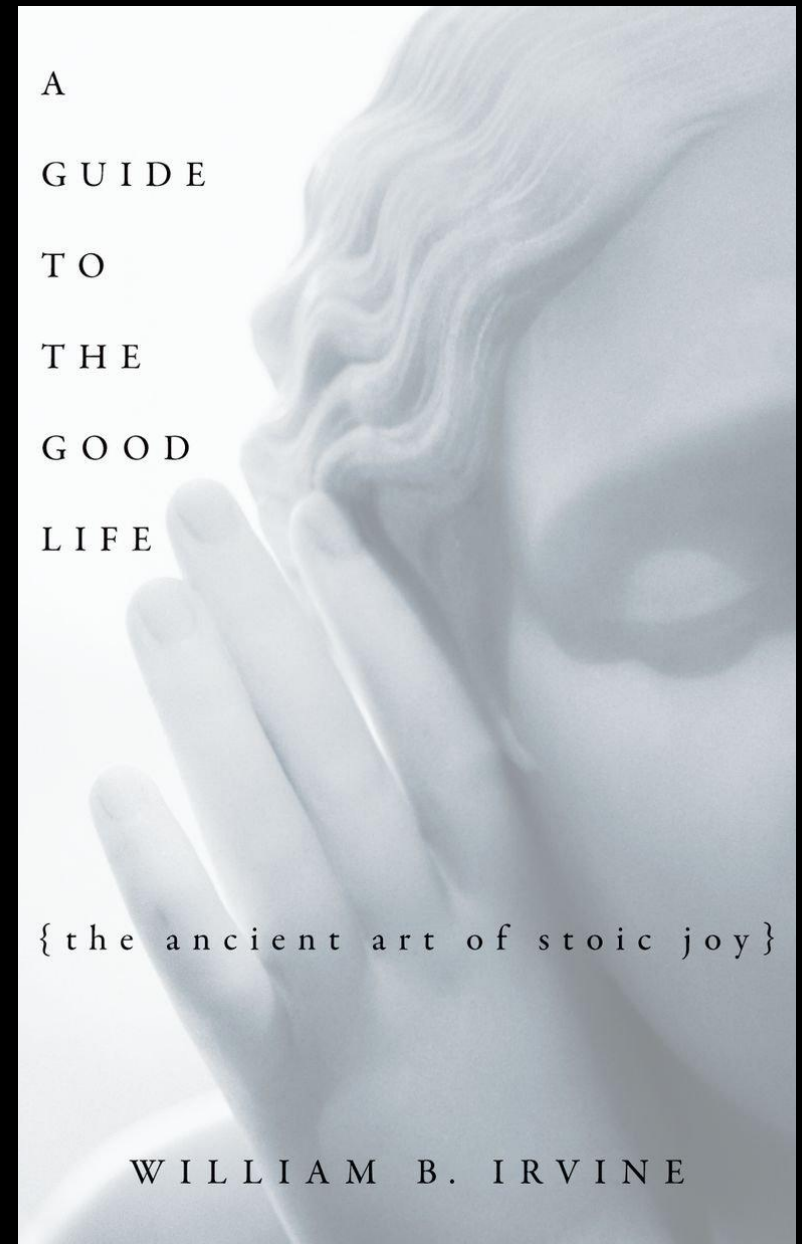


Getting to know about
Stoicism has helped me
immensely in life

A GUIDE TO THE GOOD LIFE:
THE ANCIENT ART OF STOIC
JOY

is a great book to
understand stoicism

*“the easiest way for us to
gain happiness is to learn
how to want the things we
already have.”*

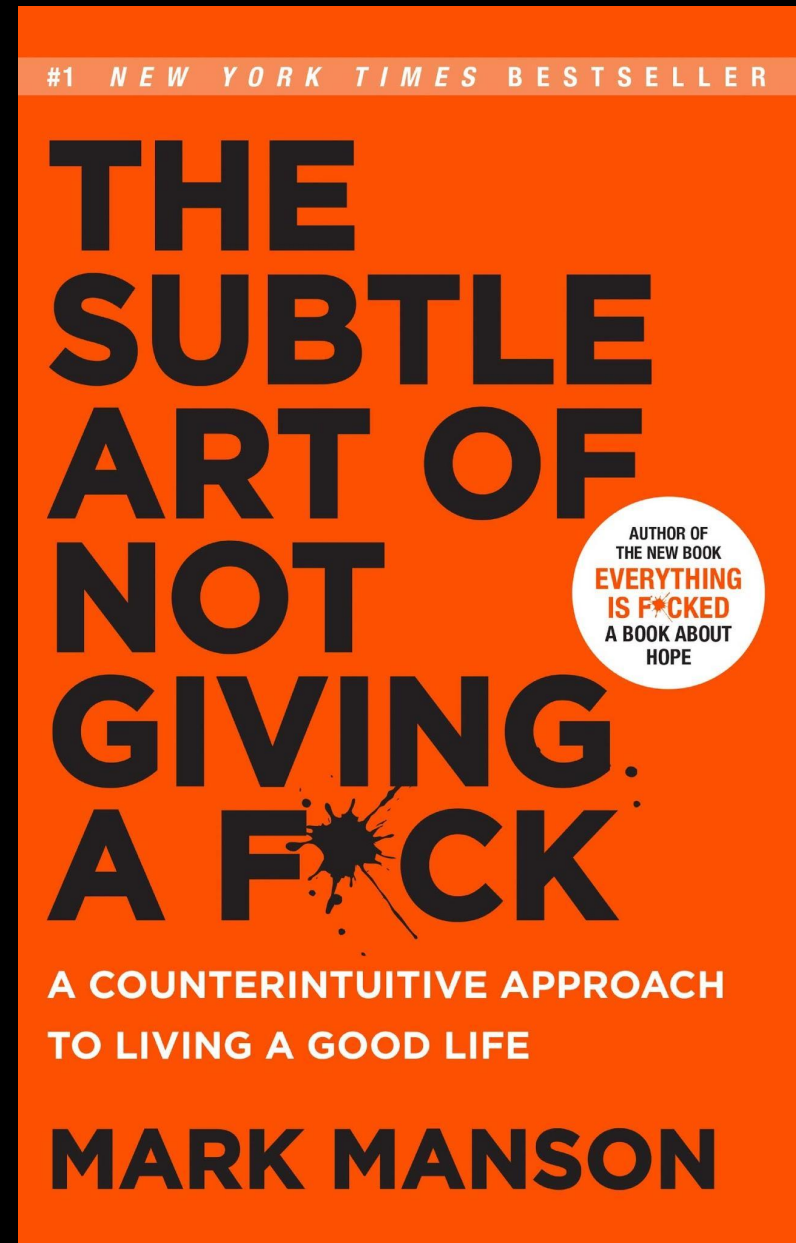


If I ever write a book, I know
it will be on the lines of

THE SUBTLE ART OF NOT
GIVING A F*CK by
Mark Manson

I love its authenticity and
realism

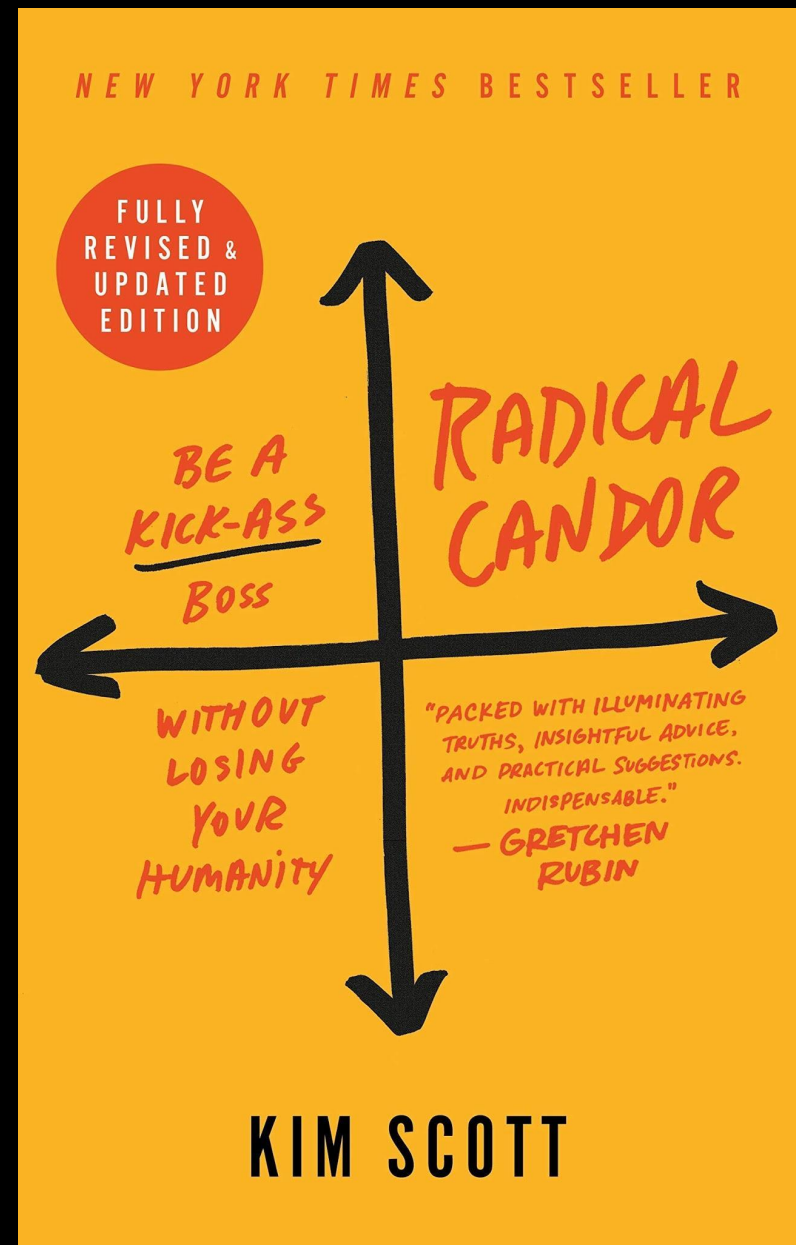
*“Who you are is defined by
what you’re willing to
struggle for.”*



For the longest time I used
to suck at giving feedback.

And then I read
RADICAL CANDOR
by Kim Scott
which changed everything
for me

*“The way you ask for
criticism and react when you
get it goes a long way
toward building trust—or
destroying it.”*



If there is one book I would
love everyone to read every
year of their life, it will be

HOW WILL YOU MEASURE
YOUR LIFE by
Clay Christensen

*"It's easier to hold your
principles 100 percent of the
time than it is to hold them
98 percent of the time."*

HOW WILL
YOU MEASURE
YOUR LIFE?



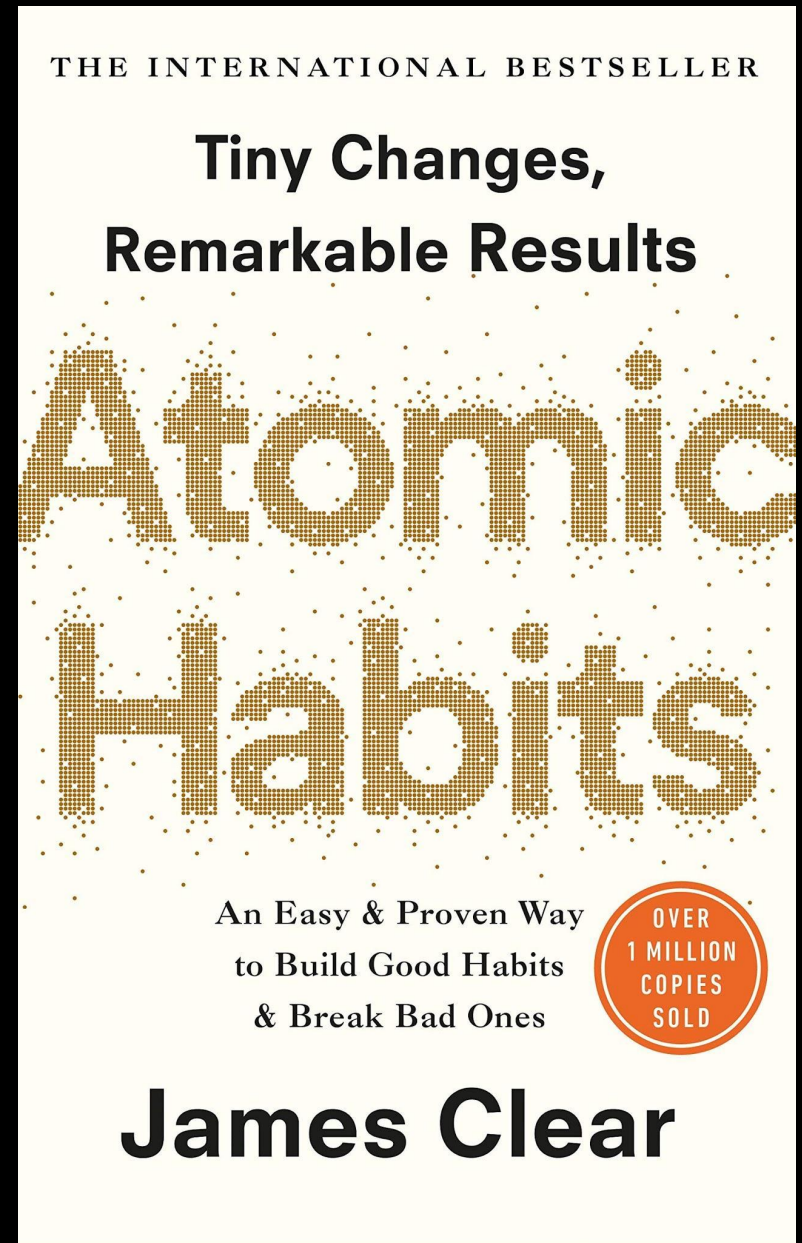
CLAYTON M.
CHRISTENSEN

JAMES ALLWORTH
& KAREN DILLON

IMO, one of the most simple yet powerful books of our times is

ATOMIC HABITS by James Clear

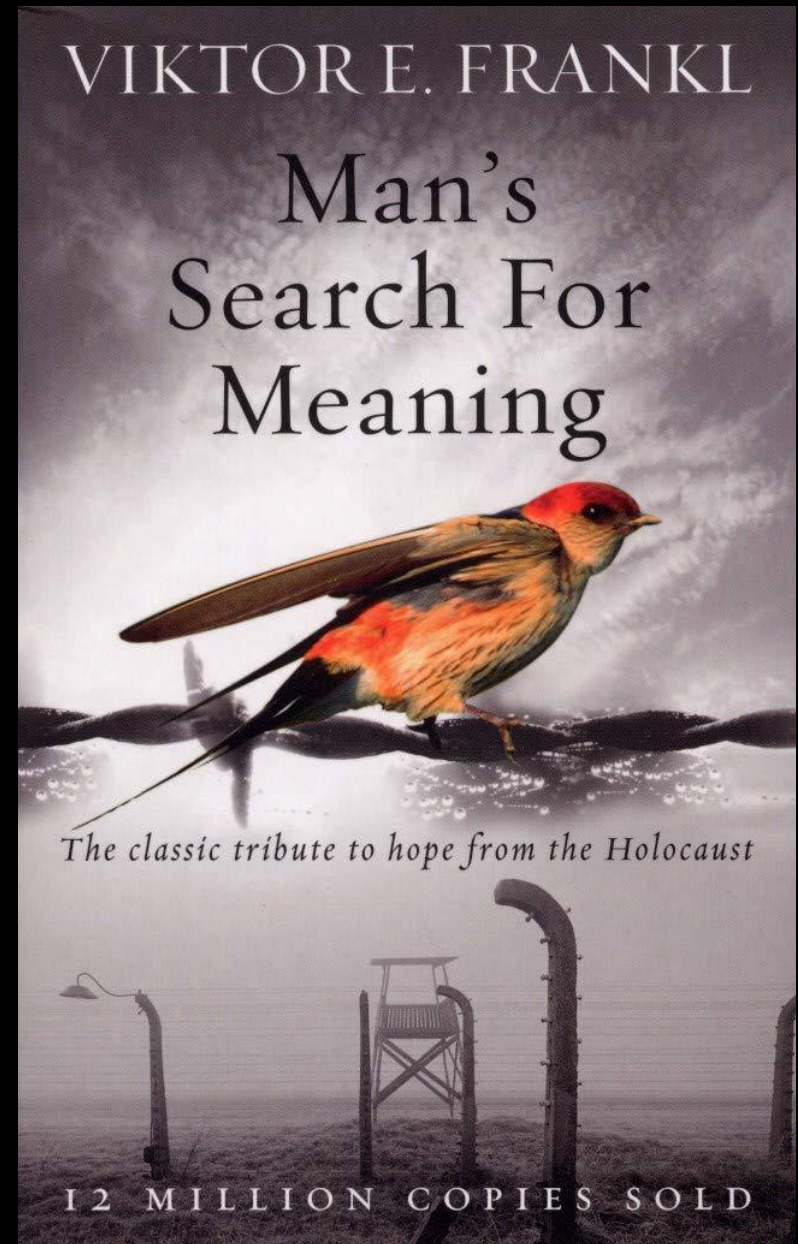
“You should be far more concerned with your current trajectory than with your current results.”



This book shook me to my core and made me realize what is important to me in my life

MAN'S SEARCH FOR MEANING

“When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves.”



What Nassim Nicholas Taleb
did for me in his book

SKIN IN THE GAME

was explain the meaning
and importance of risk, like
nothing else ever had

*“What matters isn’t what a
person has or doesn’t have;
it is what he or she is afraid
of losing.”*

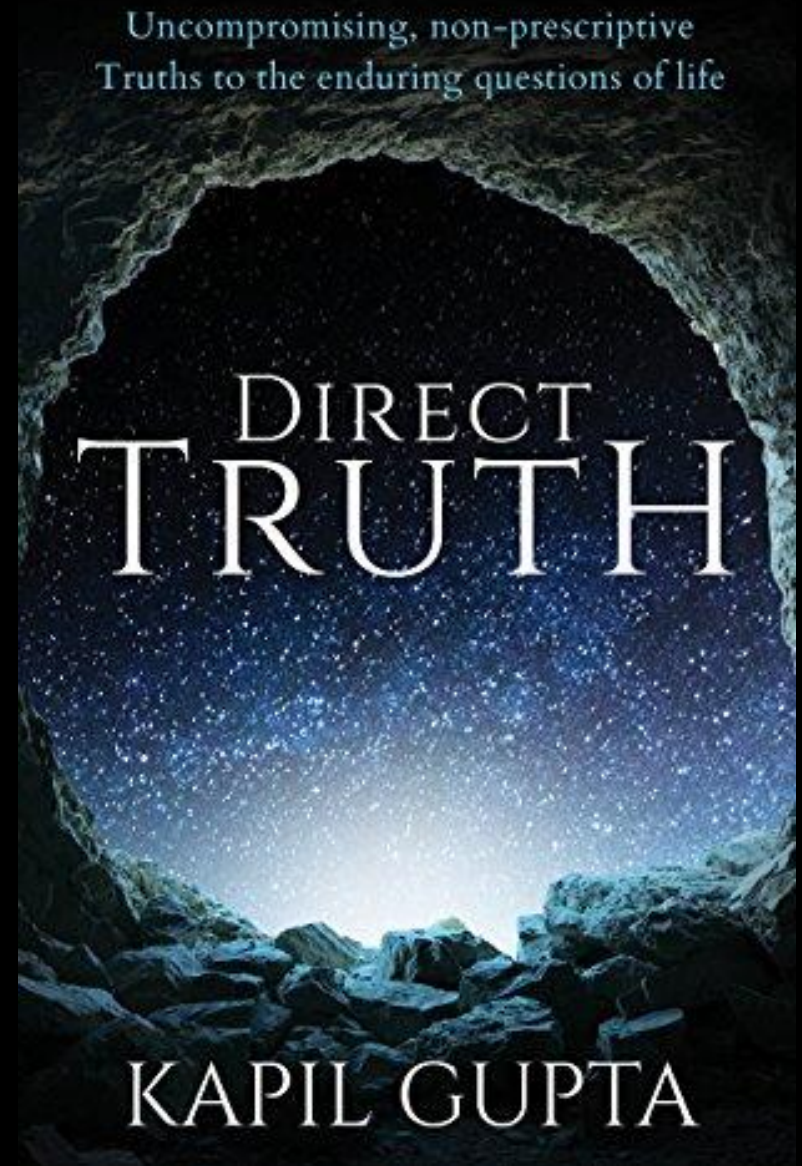


I started following Kapil Gupta and his thoughts moved me. So I picked up his book

THE DIRECT TRUTH

I was shocked at how little I knew what's inside my head.

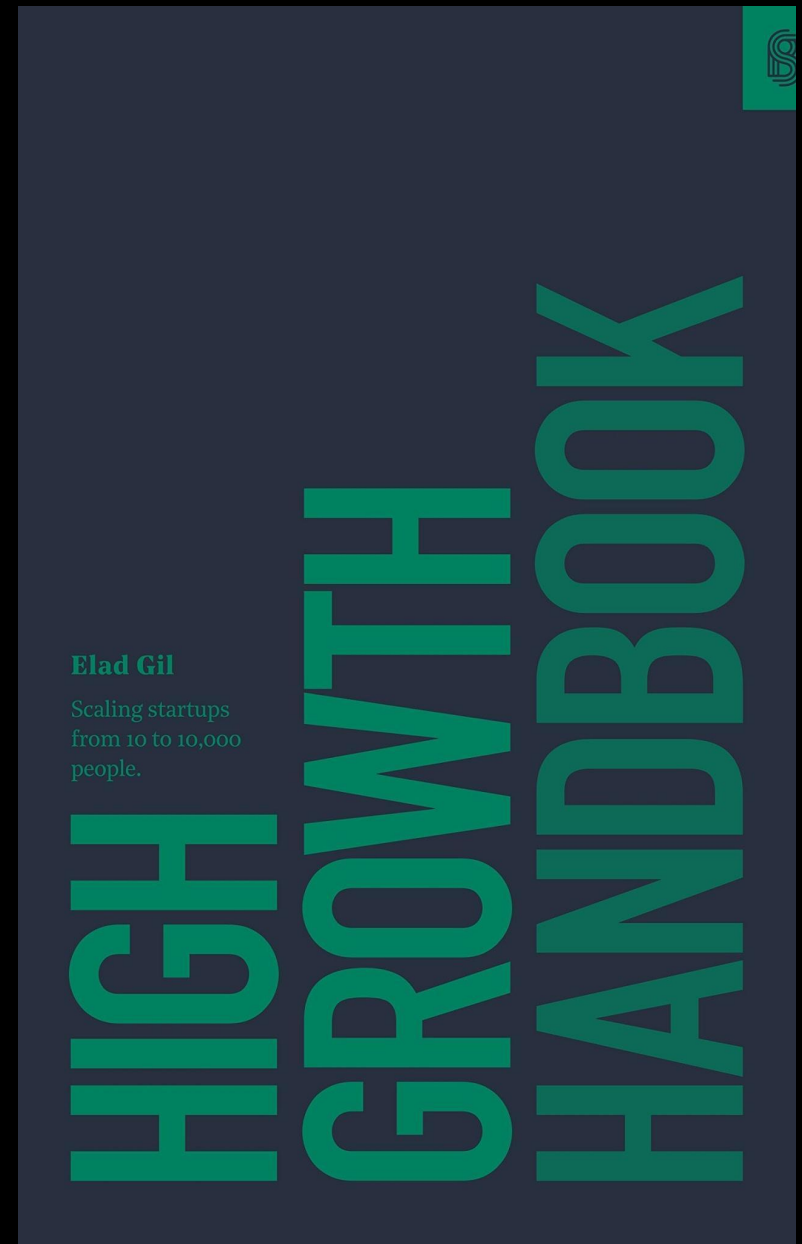
“Why do I get angry when I am insulted? A: Because you entertain the verity of the insult.”



IMO there isn't a better guide to understanding startups, than

THE HIGH GROWTH HANDBOOK by Elad Gil

"In fact, the general model for successful tech companies, contrary to myth, is that they become distribution-centric rather than product-centric."



If there is only 1
autobiography that I would
recommend, it would have
to be

SHOE DOG
by Phil Knight

*“The single easiest way to
find out how you feel about
someone. Say goodbye.”*

‘A refreshingly honest reminder of what the path to business success
really looks like . . . It’s an amazing tale.’ **Bill Gates**

SHOE DOG



PHIL KNIGHT

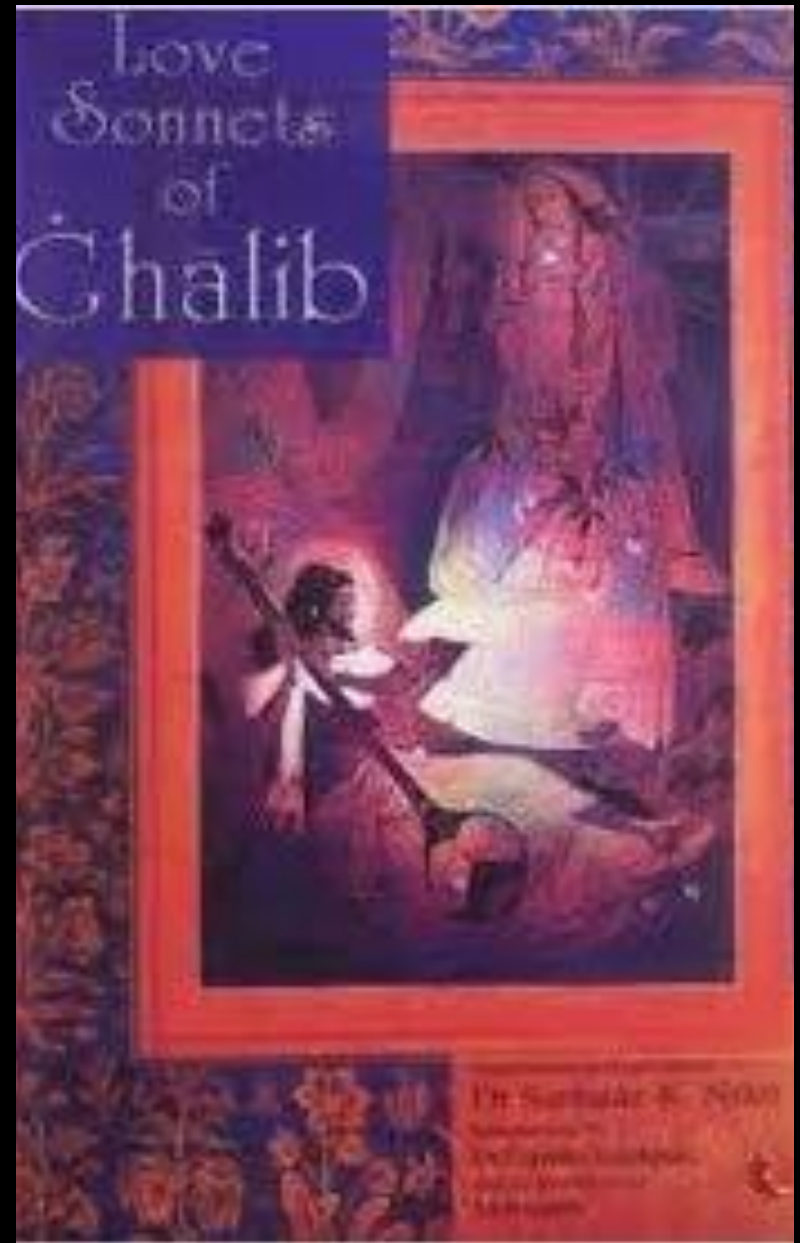
A MEMOIR BY THE CREATOR OF NIKE

‘The best book I read last year. Phil is . . . a gifted storyteller.’
Warren Buffett

Nothing calms me down
than reading Ghalib
Thank you Pankaj Bansal
for gifting me

LOVE SONNETS OF GHALIB

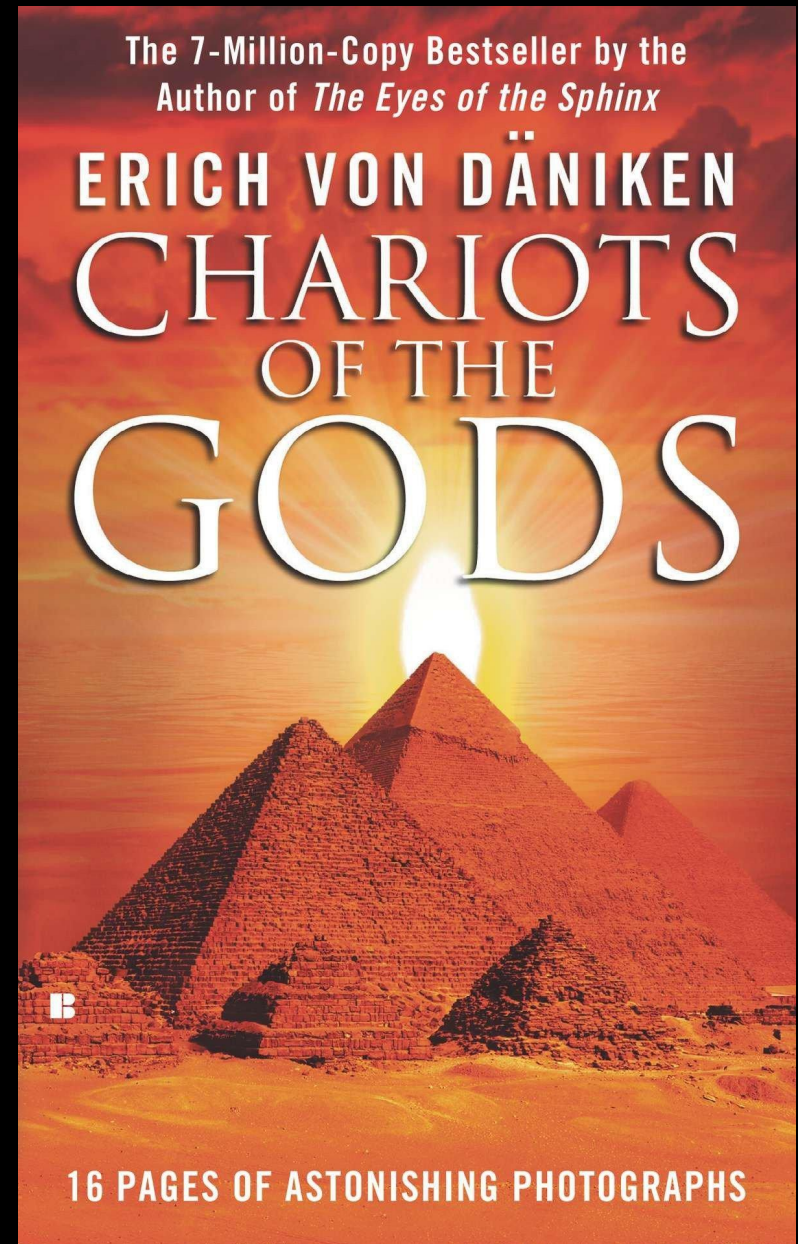
It shocks me to read how
much did Ghalib understand
human emotions.



Back as a kid obsessed with X-Files (and in love with Scully), the book

CHARIOTS OF THE GODS
added fuel to my
imagination
I remain a student of aliens
:)

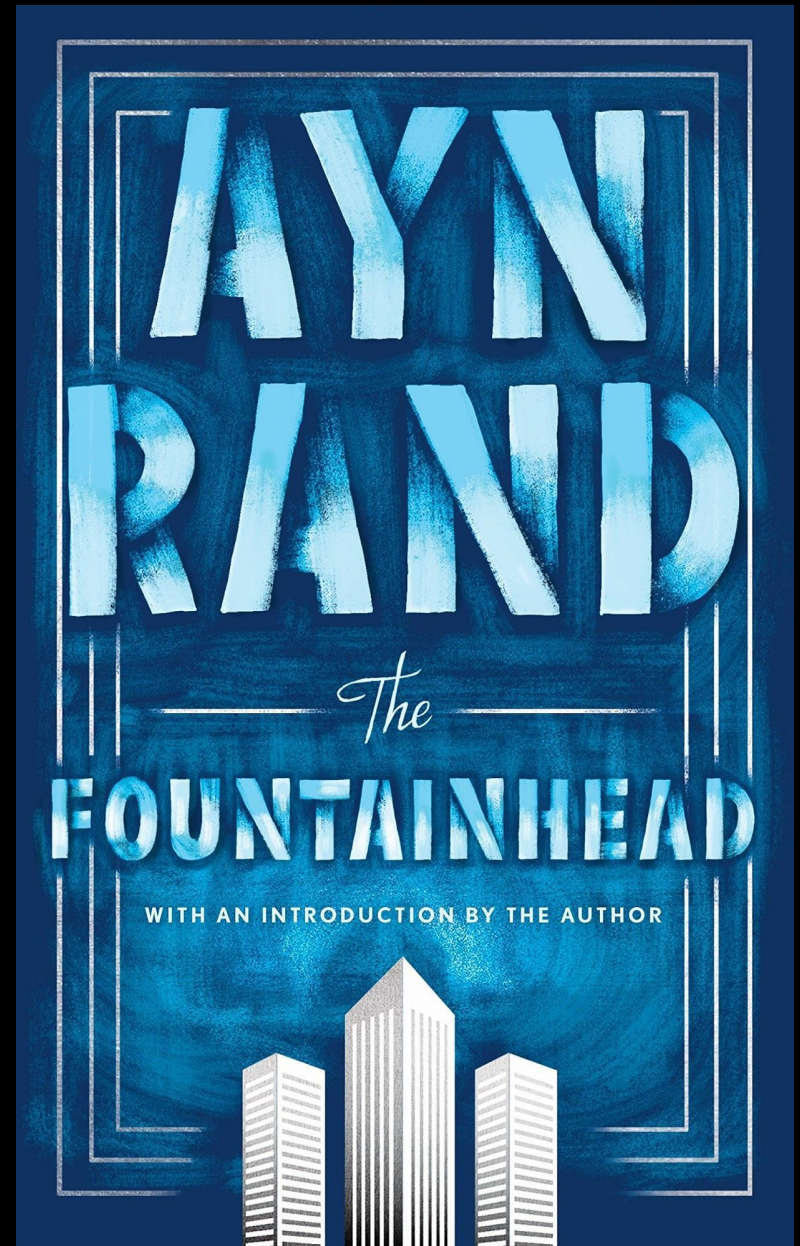
“The positive thing about the skeptic is that he considers everything possible!”



The only fiction I have ever
read
(and will perhaps ever read)
was the only fiction I would
ever need to read

THE FOUNTAINHEAD
This is a priceless book.

*"To say 'I love you' one
must know first how to say
the 'I'."*



Links to all these books are available here:
ankurwarikoo.com/top-books

If you liked my recommendations, then I encourage you to sign up for my weekly newsletter where I share my current reads, beyond a lot of other things I do not share elsewhere.

ankurwarikoo.com/newsletter

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