# HOW DID IMPROVE MY BRAIN?

A story of workaholic and search of life without pain



# **STRUCTURE**

- My story
  - Issues I collected
  - Ways I tried to solve those
  - Strategies that worked and did not
- Yoga
  - History
  - Practices



# **MY STORY**



- Issue: Perfectionist
- Inability to forgive myself

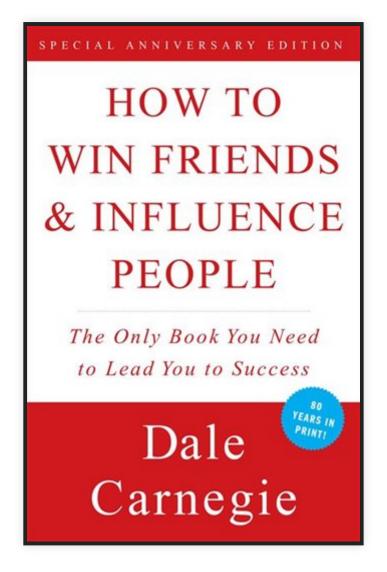


- Issue: Imposer
- Willing to control others & the world

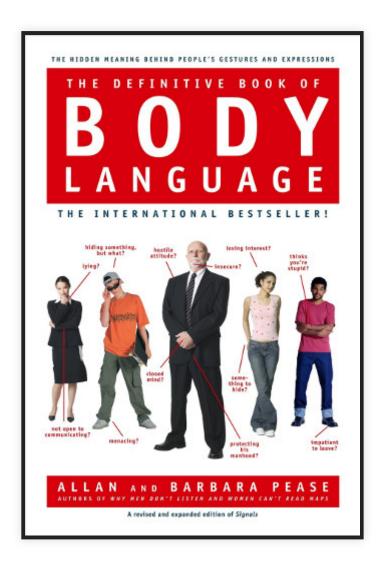


• Solution: Popular psychology











- Perfectionist no effect
- Imposer became more subtle at this



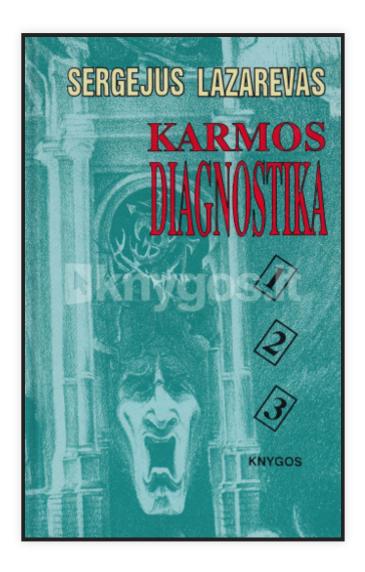
- Issue: Slight version of mental breakdown
- Tense muscles
- Dizziness
- Loss of integrity/values with inability to remember past week



- Solution: Joining youth movement
- Starting to understand myself as a personality
- Grasping some meaning of life in being with others



#### Solution: Arcane book about karma





# **POLAR EMOTIONS**

- Hatred -> love
- Anger -> ease
- Pride -> humility
- Dissatisfaction -> happiness
- Control -> acceptance
- Disgust -> fondness
- Fear -> calmness
- Agitation -> tranquility
- Separation -> oneness



### 19-22 years old

- Issue: Inability to form long term relationship
- Not longer than 4 months
- Felt bound/chained
- Had to brake away



### Egoist?

- how do I break it down?
- what book can I read to get self help?
- start sessions with psychologist?



### 22-24 years old

- Issue: Workaholic
- Happy to deliver perfectionist
- Proud to work 12 hours a day
- No personal life
- No interest in having one waste of time



- Solution: dancing
  - tango
  - salsa



# **GOT MARRIED!**

- Solved: Form long term relationship
- Improving on acceptance, reducing urge to control



### 25-29 years old

• Issue: Chronic headache

A sign of stress or emotional distress, or it can result from a medical disorder, such as migraine or high blood pressure, anxiety, or depression



- Solution: movement and meditation
  - irregular yoga practice
  - mindfulness meditation
  - kinezitheraphy pilates/asanas mix



- Solution: regular yoga practice
  - leva's support
  - asanas
  - meditation



- Solution: 6 months vacation
  - 3 months in India
  - 3 months in Vietnam



• Solution: disciplined yoga practice



# 31 YEARS OLD



#### **SOLVED ISSUES**

- Perfectionist
- Imposer
- Form long term relationship
- Chronic headache



## **UNSOLVED ISSUES**

Workaholic



# **DISCLAIMER**





# YOGA

A disciplined method and techniques for attaining a goal of controlling

- the body
- the mind



# **HISTORY**



# **SHAMANS**

- seeker
- one who knows
- knowledge vs wisdom
- transfer wisdom



# PRE VEDIC INDIA

- asanas
- meditation



# **VEDIC PERIOD (1700–500 BCE)**

- structured spiritual knowledge
- ascetic practices



# PRECLASSICAL ERA (500–200 BCE)

- Buddhist texts
- Upanishads
- Steady control of the senses
- Interiorization or ascent of consciousness



# CLASSICAL ERA (200 BCE – 500 CE)

- Indic traditions of Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism taking form
- Coherent systems of yoga began to emerge
- Yoga is the inhibition of the modifications of the mind



# MIDDLE AGES (500-1500 CE)

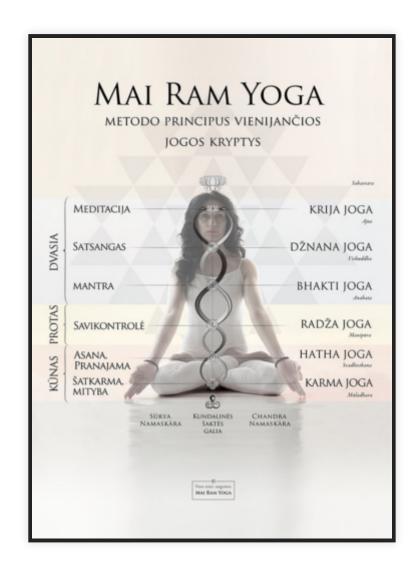
Development of many satellite traditions of yoga.

- Bhakti Yoga concept of a personal God
- Hindu Tantra range of esoteric traditions, meditation on the body as a microcosm of the cosmos
- Vajrayana and Tibetan Buddhism
- Zen Buddhism
- Hatha Yoga modern asanas



# **TRADITIONS**

- Buddhist yoga
- Jain yoga
- Yoga in Advaita Vedanta
- Tantric yoga
- Hatha yoga
- Laya Yoga and Kundalini yoga
- Classical yoga
  - no believing in some external power that will help you
  - no discrimination on age, sex, religion, caste





- no single line, all intertwined
- all flavors religious / spiritual / tantric
- saying "I practice yoga" is like saying "I practice lifestyle"
- umbrella term
- no preconceptions



## NO BOOK CAN TRANSFORM YOU

- information
- knowledge is reflection of the information
- practice is internalization of the knowledge
- wisdom is mind set developed through practice



# PRACTICES I DO



## **ASANA**

#### Postures





## **PRANAYAMA**

### Breath exercises





#### **YAMA**

#### **Abstentions**

- non-harming other living beings
- non-falsehood
- fidelity to one's partner
- non-possessiveness



#### NIYAMA

#### Observances

- clearness of mind
- acceptance
- self-reflection
- contemplation of God/Supreme Being/True Self



### **MEDITATION**

Intense contemplation of the nature of the object of meditation

- Mantra sounds
- Yantra images



## **SATSANG**

Listening to guru teaching



## MASTERING SOME SPORT

- no silver bullet
- no intellectual way attain the result
- practice that takes many years
- methods that work for all



## **MASTERING YOGA**

- no silver bullet
- no intellectual way attain the result
- practice that takes many years
- methods that work for all



## **SPLINTER**





## KARATE KID TEACHER





# **SENSEI**

- master
- teacher



- leads
- inspires
- directs
- challenges
- stabilizes



# **INSTRUCTOR**





## **OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS**





## **SPIRITUAL CHAMPIONS**





# **QUESTIONS?**



# **BONUSES**



# **TUNE A GUITAR**





# **TUNE YOUR MIND**



### **POLAR EMOTIONS**

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## A guitar that **sounds**

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A **sound** person





