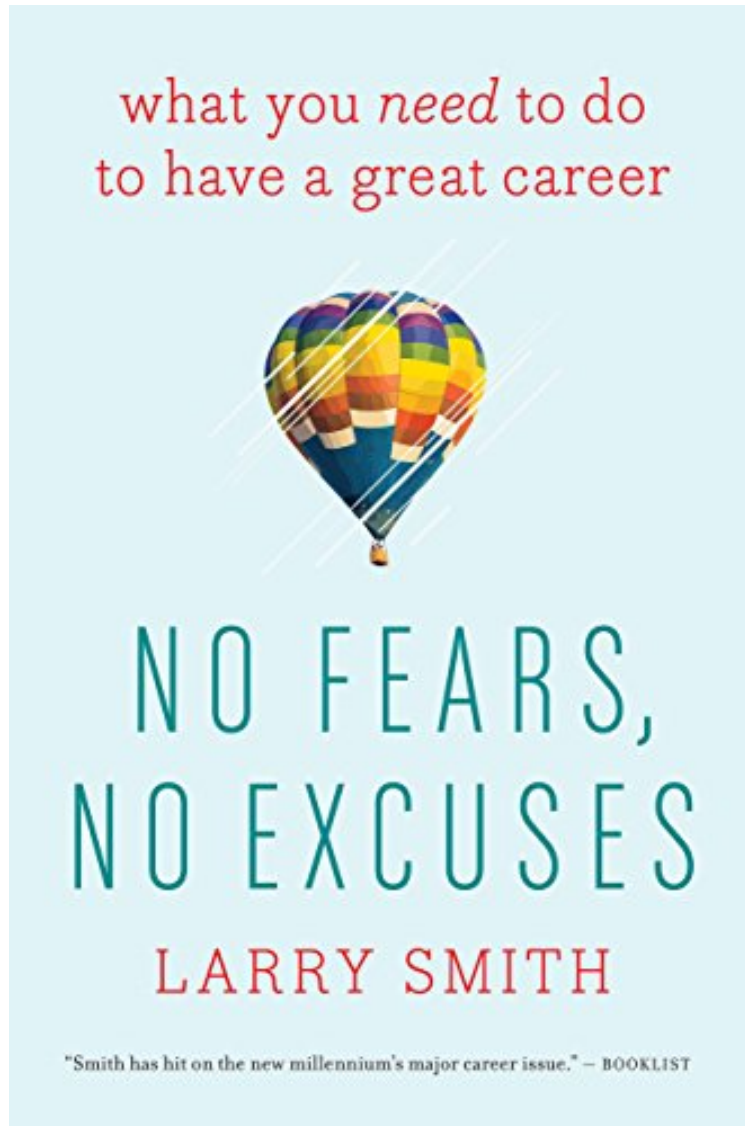


No Fears, No Excuses: What You Need to Do to Have a Great Career

Larry Smith

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following review helpful. Actionable advice based on solid empirical evidence By J. Chang The author articulates his ideas very clearly. His arguments are supported by empirical evidence of those that have succeeded in finding their passion, as well as those who have not. Students and fresh grads, read this before you accept your first job offer! Don't get into an occupation for the wrong reasons. The book has concrete ideas for how to find your passion, and a methodical process that has worked for many people. Parents should absolutely read this, because you are probably giving your kids poor career advice. For example, asking them to settle and take a more secure path, which in the long run is not secure at all as Larry explains in his insightful analysis.

"Larry Smith has hit on the new millennium's major career issue." —Booklist "Have you ever had a conversation with someone about your life that leaves you feeling so elated that you have goosebumps? This is a typical result of how I feel after chatting with Larry." —M. Azam Javed, Tesla "Had it not been for the time I was able to spend with Professor Smith during my university years gaining his advice on career success, I would not be where I am today." —Mike McCauley, Google Over the past three decades, Professor Larry Smith has become something of a "career whisperer" for his students at the University of Waterloo. His stunning TEDx talk on finding your calling has been viewed by more than six million people and counting. This book captures the best of his advice in a one-stop roadmap for your future. Showcasing his particular mix of tough love and bracing clarity, Smith itemizes all the excuses and worries that are holding you back—and deconstructs them brilliantly. After dismantling your hidden mental obstacles, he provides practical, step-by-step guidance on how to go about identifying and then pursuing your true passion. There's no promising it will be easy, but the straight-talking, irrepressible Professor Smith buoys you with the inspiration necessary to stay the course.

"In a book that follows in the footsteps of the classic *Do What You Love, the Money Will Follow* (1989), Canadian professor and economist Smith has hit on the new millennium's major career issue—how to figure things out in these times of complexity, uncertainty, and change. Based on a highly successful TEDx Talk, his counsel spans the generations and is strong and flexible enough to counter objections. The volume covers knowing yourself; doing the requisite homework and planning; and going forward, come hell or high water. Each step-by-step chapter is sprinkled with true stories and dialogue proving his points, which highlight innovation over imitation; the use of logic and emotion to define your work path; and ways to avoid excuses and recognize common fears, such as wasted time, missed opportunities, and financial distress. In all, he underscores that it's a terrible loss at any time, no matter what the circumstance, to not realize talent. Why not spend your life pursuing a dream?" —Booklist "Smith, a consultant and adjunct professor of economics at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, believes that everyone can feel a sense of passion about work. He uses the book as a platform to address the many questions that have arisen from his much-watched TEDx video, "Why You Will Fail to Have a Great Career." His advice, distilled from around 30,000 career statements collected through the years, centers on discovering one's passion. This can be difficult, but Smith offers up a series of steps to help, such as recognizing the distinction between passions and interests and initiating the "great sampling"—a process that includes reading widely, talking with people with varied interests, and thinking rigorously. Smith also shows how to draw up a career plan, prepare for the job market, and "sell yourself by selling your ideas." He concludes with a transformative section on confronting the titular fears and excuses that is challenging and highly valuable. Smith convincingly shows how individuals of any age and in any industry can chart a course to a great career by drawing on prior success stories." —Publishers Weekly