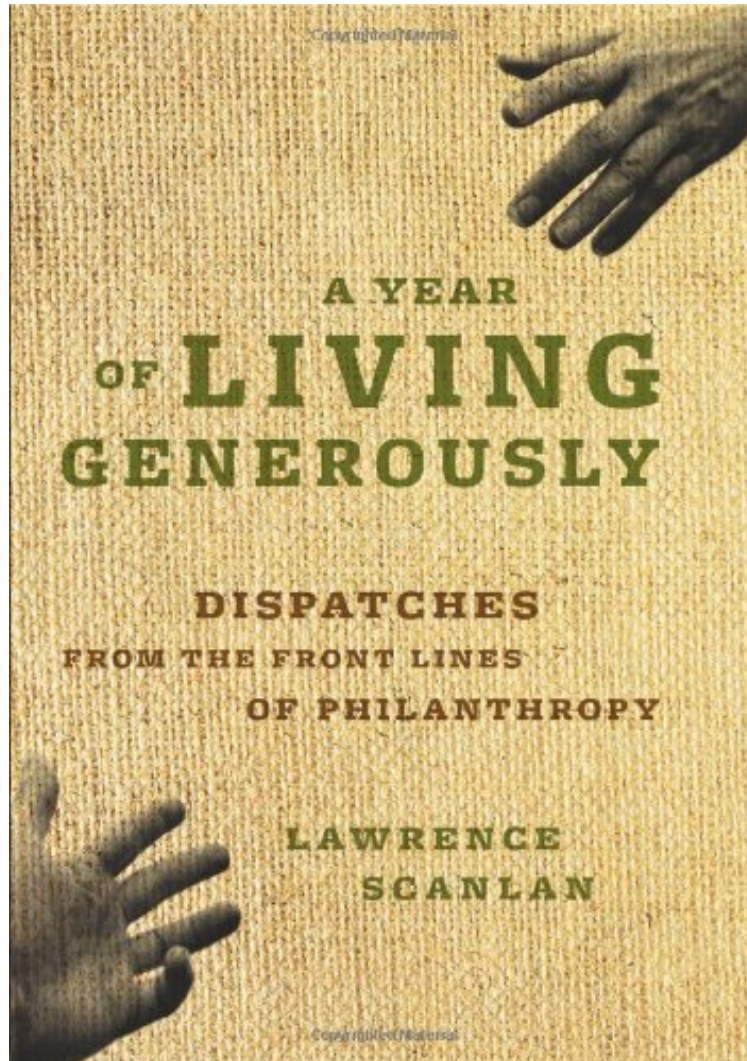


(Ebook pdf) Year of Living Generously

Year of Living Generously

Lawrence Scanlan

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Lawrence Scanlan : Year of Living Generously before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Year of Living Generously:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Touching, Enlightening and Inspiring BookBy GeraldineI applaud Lawrence Scanlan for his year of volunteerism that took him to several parts of the world, in addition to his home province of Ontario, Canada, volunteering at numerous charitable organizations.As someone who regularly volunteered many years ago, albeit on a much smaller scale, I could already relate to how much there is to be gained by giving of our time and talents, to those in need. This book has once again sparked that desire in me, to get out there and give back on a regular basis in the New Year. For that, I am truly grateful. We can all make time to extend a hand to those in need, if it matters to us. And it should.A well-written book filled with hope,heartbreak and at times, humor.

I found the numerous personal accounts of people Scanlan met along the way particularly interesting and enlightening, including some of the people he helped and also fellow volunteers and staff. I was moved to tears many times reading this book and I know that many of the stories shared will stay with me for a long time to come. Highly recommended. Geraldine Helen Hartman, author of 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Examining the Complicated Nexus Between Individual Doing-Good versus Wider Devolution of Responsibility By JSC Siow In recounting his month-long experiences on attachment at 12 different social sector non-profits within Canada and various other countries, the author provided an intimate examination of the nexus between those served and the agencies purporting to serve them. The non-profits included a hospice, a prisoner rehab agency, the Habitat for Humanity, a homeless shelter, a waterways environment watchdog agency and a First Nations aboriginal educational institution in Canada amongst others. Scanlan's direct encounters and interviews with agency staff, volunteers and those served not only presented humane and compassionate profiles of those who are often dismissed or written-off from public consciousness; their views and testimonials from the ground as-it-were were also instructive first-hand perspectives that question and critique city council and government policies as to what constitutes adequate provision. Scanlan sought in his year-long exercise to examine our relation (as supporters, donors, volunteers and community members) to agencies and wider communities in addressing social issues in the world. Through his extended observations, sensitive probing and nuanced take, Scanlan raised complicated questions and implications as to how individual doing-good may salve and glancingly absolve moral guilt but which, in the bigger scheme of things, may also result in furthering the gradual devolution of governmental and wider social responsibility. High-profile philanthropists like Bill Gates et al further add to the illusion that social justice and aspects of the social contract could be outsourced to private foundations and charities at no cost to governments. His overall message is however clear - that greater advocacy and wider engagement of the public with causes, underlying issues and the under-served is increasingly crucial in the face of a trend towards decreased official support, funding and devolution of responsibility to the private and religious sectors. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Heart in the right place. Needed a 'generous' editor. By Wayne Smith Exhaustive preparation not matched with true generous living (he flees a drop-in centre and makes fun of a street person and can't believe an African news team isn't interested in mindless background sounds to news items). Heart's in the right place but he could've used a generous editor. A self-admitted "sheltered" man, the author does offer an interesting mini-global tour but as a philanthropic/generosity-of-spirit road trip, it is somewhat disappointing. [...]

Can one person make a difference? When we write a cheque to a charity, or run in a fundraiser, or volunteer at a food bank, were part of the solution, aren't we? Lawrence Scanlan went on a year long odyssey to discover the answers and uncover the true face of philanthropy its players, its politics, its undeniable satisfactions and its fundamental perils. Scanlan builds housing in New Orleans, teaches journalism in Senegal, works with AIDS/HIV victims in Costa Rica and the homeless in Canada. He encounters the legacies of famous philanthropists, from Andrew Carnegie and Bill Gates, to lesser-known figures like prison nun Mother Antonia. Finding hope and humor every step of the way, he nevertheless confronts some uncomfortable truths about direct engagement and the societal divide that allows most of us to look away. *A Year of Living Generously* is a passionate call for greater connection and genuine commitment from us all.

"At this critical time in our national economy with so many left behind, this book reminds us of the value of outreach not just for those helped, but for the benefit of our own souls." #8212 Sacramento Book