

Book review: The Five Temptation of a CEO: A Leadership Fable
By Bill-Bill

CEO: So where are we going? I am under your command!

F : whoa, the CEO of LCF is under my command; I didn't know that I've got a promotion.

CEO: Haha, I just love your humor, but where are we heading for?

F : Nowhere just drive around, I love the coastal scene here.

CEO: Okay.

F : Ah, tomorrow is the anniversary of your CEO career. So how do you like your job? Any regrets?

CEO: Ha, regrets? Why would I regret about doing a job which millions of people dream of doing? Beside it was my dream too. But why you say so?

F : Nothing, but it sound like that this job gives you pride, status all the things you wanted.

CEO: Of course, I got status, honor, money, this Ferrari you are sitting on and you, without this job, I don't know if I would ever meet you at that board meeting sweetie.

F : What's yours is yours, but I think you are missing something in your career.

CEO: what's that, I've got money, pride, status and you. I've got what all men would dream for.

F : have you read a book about five temptations of a CEO? By Patrick Lencioni

CEO: No, what five temptations, women?

F : Ah come on, women don't work on female CEOs. And I think you are falling in to them. You see you are way too satisfied by being a CEO.

CEO: Well why not, I paid half a million dollars to get that MBA from M.I.T. And this is what I should get. Don't tell me that being a CEO should not care about their status, there is no way anyone would give it up.

F : Yes, that's exactly the case. I know you have sacrificed a lot, but pride goes before a fall. Being a CEO is truly a milestone of one's life but this should not be the ultimate goal. Your utmost milestone as a CEO should take LCF to its climax. It should be the consequences which matters, the benefits for the big party instead of your own.

CEO: I know, and I did, I made decisions, which are best for LCF, and because of those decisions that I've made, I help the company to become the leader of this industry.

F : There is no doubt about that for sure, you made sharp decisions even if no one is sure if it is a good one. And that's why you did not fall in to one of the five temptations.

CEO: I would quit if you said I fall in to all that five.

F : When you made decisions you were great, you make it quick even if it comes out to be a poor one. But you were always able to admit your mistakes. Unlike some Asian country leaders, who were never brave enough to admit historical mistakes even if the result was so clear.

CEO: Well, I guess that's why I get such pay.

F : Haha, but I am sure you would get more if you thrust those who help you.

CEO: I consider their advices but trusting them blindly is just...

F : Do you got a degree in engineering, marketing or communication? IN LCF, they are all experts of their field, they could generate the greatest benefits we could possibly get in their specialty. Trust them more so they could have greater freedom to come up with more new ideas before you making the final decisions. Don't interrupt them after they had made the first step and take control of the rest just because you think you are the CEO of LCF.

CEO: But that's what most people would like to do, having everything under our controls, within our hands. Just like what most parents and some countries do.

F : That's why most of their kids and citizens aren't performing at their best, they lack the creativity. All you need to do is just to relax and let them do what they think is the best, allow them to challenge their colleague so to bring in conflicts, competitions. Then you pick out is the best to adopt. That's what a successful CEO should do.

CEO: Sounds reasonable.

F : Remember everything in our daily lives isn't exactly what we could learn from textbooks or schools, we must learn from others experiences and advises. Reading is a good way, so read more. Here is the copy of " The Five Temptations of a CEO" by Patrick Lencioni. And at the back there are self-assessments so you can check to see if you are a good CEO.

CEO: Thanks, so where are we going now? We pass the coastal line long ago.

F : How about the library then.

“In the industrial age the CEO sat on the top of the hierarchy and didn’t have to listen to anyone. In the information age you have to listen to the ideas of people regardless of the position they are in the organization.”

CEO is what many of the new generations consider as a good job. A much better achievement compare to doctor or lawyer. It can give you honor, pride, wealth and status. And those are what most of us spend our lives craving for. However, the fear within our heart forced us to protect what we had fought for, secure them at all cost. It is because of our innate behaviors, which lead us to failure, and therefore being a CEO is not as simple as it seems. They aren’t like the one in the movies, sitting down in the conference room holding financial conference, playing golf while discussing business and earn millions a year. Instead from the book I learn that they are worth of it. As Mr. Hiromu Arakawa wrote in “full metal Alchemist”- “one who don’t make any sacrifice will have no harvest.” CEOs face loads of temptations, and must resist those temptation or else they will not be able to manage the company well. They have got to sacrifice their status, egos, popularity, certainty, harmony and invulnerability in order to exchange the over all benefits for the company.

This book taught us how to be CEOs, how to trust others, how to make decisions and what our goals should be. So we could be a better CEO of ourselves. Teaching us how important it is to trust people around you, make decisions, which would benefit the whole party rather than oneself. If you want to become a successful leader or do any position involve decision-making this book would definitely help. However, for those who aren’t so ambitious this book still is beneficial as you will some day form your own family and there must be a CEO in that family. This book could guide you to make the appropriate choice so there will be a well managed home.

If I had read this book earlier, I would become a better instructor in HKAC, due to my fear of uncertainty and mistrust in the past, I let procrastination stole a lot of time from me before coming up with a

final decision. This had slow down my troop progress and was undesirable to my fellows. But I am sure after reading this book I now could make better decisions.

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