

This book is worthless unless you collect dinner plates and you want to view a black and white picture with little information about it. It did not cover any art pottery and provided 2 pages in color.

Print If you are like most Managers, you are inundated with data on a daily basis yet not much of it helps you make decisions that improves results. You need information for decision making. The data itself is usually not very helpful as-is. Successful Executives already understand this issue and focus only on information they need to make decisions. To be a better Manager, you need to eliminate the clutter and improve your decision making. These six things will help you make better decisions: **Collect only Useful Data** Before collecting data, take a step back and ask the fundamental question: Can I turn this data into information or knowledge to help me make decisions that will improve services and reduce costs? When you understand the answer to that question, you will be in a better position to establish what data to collect and how to turn it into information you need to make decisions. **Use Analytical Tools** Use tools to that help you analyze the information and data you have. Export the data from your system if necessary and load it into Excel. You can use other software or enterprise systems that are designed for data analysis as well. **Get Accurate Data** Of course, you need good data in the first place. Make sure you have what you need and it is reasonably accurate but consider how you will use it and how much of a difference accurate data will make in your decision making. For instance, if you are tracking costs as part of a process in order to make management decisions, does your tracking method have to tie into the financial system and match to the penny? Does it have to be a live link with your own system, or can you download the needed information from the financial system daily or weekly? **Convert Data to Information** Information is when you take the data you have and analyze it or manipulate it by combining it with other data, trending it over time, assessing or analyzing the outliers that need to be dealt with, and most importantly applying your own experience and knowledge to transform that data into something you can use to make a decision with. And dashboards such as the typical stoplight with red orange and green indicators for the speed dial will only give you a point in time. The real value of data is comparisons and trends. Compare the results from one call center agent to the average or to another call center agent. Look at the trend in sales or expenses over time or again some other factor. Assess your response or delivery times against geography, product, personnel, seasons or other factors. And certainly compare both within your organization and outside using benchmarking approaches. **Make Decisions with the Information** Once you have collected and analysed your data and turned it into information, you should assess what matters to your decision. What is the likelihood the result would be in that range? How big a risk will it be? What parts of the information are important to the decisions you want to make? How will they impact the success or failure of your initiative? How much weight do they have compared to other factors? For instance, when looking at costs and how you may implement processes, approvals or other methods to reduce them, will you be causing costs to increase elsewhere and what is the real likelihood that you will be able to make the reductions you project? **Solidify Your Business Case** If you are developing a business case using information, you stand a much better chance of getting it approved with solid information that tells the story and supports your argument. Consider questions that may be raised about your information, particularly if it points to changes others may not like, and answer them up-front. This may include the reliability of the information, whether it is a trend or an anomaly and what impact an increase or decrease might have on the decision. He is an author, speaker and consultant focusing on topics relevant to Managers and aspiring Managers in businesses of all sizes who want to get results, get attention, and get ahead. He is also a contributor to Forbes and AllBusiness Experts. Michel is available for speaking engagements, training and consulting. Connect with him or send an email. Other Articles of Interest:

Chapter 2 : Review: Unless by Carol Shields | Books | The Guardian

LEADERSHIP BOOKS are useless if you don't have the desire, the passion, and the commitment to be a leader. There's got to be thousands of books written about leadership, each of them promoting their "easy way" to become a better leader, offering a few easy steps to great leadership, etc.

Several of the biggest comic companies have played into that mentality. In the last few years, variant covers have risen again as publishers attempt to create collectors items by producing specialty issues. To put it more simply, Marvel and DC as well as many smaller publishers create a standard comic book with a set cover image, before offering retailers a chance to order the same comic with a different cover image if they increase their orders to reach a certain threshold. Essentially, this creates variant editions of the comics that have far fewer copies than the standard editions. The variant covers are not inherently valuable. They are only worth what someone is willing to pay for them. Publishers and retailers went out of business because they overextended themselves. How can modern comics lack value when their classic counterparts can still sell for thousands of dollars or more? There are three main components that determine whether a comic book is valuable: Action Comics 1 meets all three of those components. Once the three criteria of value are met, the next step is grading the comic by the condition of the cover, the pages, whether it has been creased, etc. For the older comics, there are very rarely pristine copies, which plays into the demand and the skyrocketing cost. But those comic books tend to be priced well out of the range of most comics enthusiasts. Very few comics in the last twenty years have become truly valuable. For example, the first printing of The Walking Dead 1 has greatly increased in value because the TV show has made it even more popular and there were only a few thousand copies of that printing. The subsequent printings of The Walking Dead 1 are worth far less to the collectors because there are so many of them that it is no longer a rare comic. There are often thousands of copies of the same comic coming out month after month, but there is very rarely a new comic of historical significance that strikes a chord with collectors and fans alike. Or even half of the price back. So why buy comics at all? Well, there is this crazy notion that comics were meant to be read. If the only enjoyment that you derive from your comics is the pleasure of seeing them placed between a CGC slab with a grading number then you may want to reexamine your priorities. Unless you have some of the truly rare and in-demand comics then your collection is only a monument to the money that you spent on it. And do you really want to be at the bottom of the pyramid when everyone eventually figures out that there is little to no collectibility left in comics? For those of you who truly love comics books as an artform, the good news is that there are some really amazing comics out there that can suit almost any taste. But feel free to share your own opinions in the comment section below!

Chapter 3 : Your Survival Kit is Worthless Unless You Pack This One Thing – The Prepper Dome

"Worthless" is the single most important book young men and women can read before they attend college. While teachers, guidance counselors and even parents are afraid to tell you the truth in an effort to spare your feelings, "Worthless" delivers a blunt and real-world assessment about the economic realities and consequences of choosing various degrees with a necessary and tough fatherly love.

Excerpt [uncorrected, not for citation] Introduction: Why Education Is Useless Intellectual rhymes with ineffectual, and rightly so, many would say. The uselessness of education is a perdurable theme in Western cultural history—one so influential, in fact, that any respect we might have for highly educated people is likely to retreat before our suspicion of them. Tradition encourages us to think that those who are book smart are lacking in street smarts. We are inclined to believe that even if their hearts are in the right place a dubious proposition to begin with, their heads are in the clouds. We entertain this suspicion even if we have never heard of Aristophanes and of the work that he titled *The Clouds*. A Chinese emperor of the third century B. C. seems to be of much the same opinion. Of course, Bush pays lip service to the importance of education; and despite the popular sport of taking potshots at "sissy-bitches intellectual morons," as George Wallace characterized persons such as myself, people rarely damn education absolutely and completely. In the words of Derek Bok, the former president of Harvard, "Disputing the importance of education may seem comparable to criticizing motherhood and family. Like a haunting spirit, this theme is liable to materialize in all our social relations, cultural forms, activities, and aspirations, threatening to set them at naught. So why is education useless? Education is useless because it destroys our common sense. As Michel de Montaigne suggested in the late sixteenth century, paraphrasing the apostle Paul, "The man who presumes to know no longer knows what it is to know. It is just astonishing how stupid education can make people: Meanwhile, down-to-earth people like survivalists caress their weapons and look forward to confirming their expectation that the most educated types will be among the first to be eliminated when the day of reckoning comes. Practically speaking, after all, survival does not stem from fine words; it blooms from the barrel of a gun. Education is useless because it leads us away from idealism. Among the humanists of the Renaissance and right on down to the present day, it is not really about inculcating learning or knowledge but rather about breeding social distinction. It serves elites, not the truth. Education is a masquerade of power, a mechanism of power, and a means to power; beyond that, it is useless. Timothy Leary taught us, if you really want to learn something, one of the first steps you must take is to drop out. Education is useless because it isolates us from the rest of humanity. The isolation of the learned is so proverbial that it is even commonplace to regard them as being fiercely alienated among their own company. What Agrippa said of philosophers is characteristic: In an area where heating is less important and the automobile more, I have sometimes thought of it as a series of individual faculty entrepreneurs held together by a common grievance over parking. Education is useless because it hardens our hearts. It makes people think so much that they forget to feel. They find a fitting image in aliens from outer space that exhibit hypertrophied mental powers and no sympathy at all for the earthlings whose bodies they probe. Educated people become abstract rather than concrete, logical rather than emotional, analytical rather than trusting, cold rather than warm. Accordingly, as we envision them, an English professor to whom a student writes a desperate plea for help will return it with grammatical errors marked in red; a theologian preoccupied with fitting angels on the head of a pin will walk unthinkingly past a beggar on the street; an economist will know the price of everything and the value of nothing. Educated people do not shout with excitement, laugh with abandon, or shake their booties to a funky groove, and they look with chilly disdain on those who do. The more dusty they seem, the better they like it. If you happen to love literature, for example, at all costs you must flee from professors waving their "texts" of "theory. If you manage to escape their clutches, somewhere you may be able to join an underground cell of book lovers who remember what it means to be moved and inspired by great art; but if you fail, you will not even be able to remember what you have lost. Education is useless because it lowers our spirits. Erasmus wrote that "the least miserable among men are those who come closest to the level of intelligence. If Burton thought study "fit and proper to expel idleness

and melancholy," he also believed that "learning dulls and diminisheth the spirits, and so per consequens produceth melancholy. Montaigne wrote of the "school of stupidity" that gives the vulgar crowd an enviable patience with their woes and a fearlessness toward the future, and in this image of common people we see his own desireâ€”an extremely common desireâ€”to escape the miseries of education. Education is useless because it weakens our bodies. Of course, there are exceptions, as there are with all the reasons why education is useless. You are free to toast the memory of Moe Berg, the polylingual Princeton-educated catcher for the Yankees, or to gawk at the occasional prof who pumps iron. The fact remains that we all know enough to expect that the sedentary life of learning will make us wimps. Accordingly, *Revenge of the Nerds* is centered on academic high achievers who have to find ways to compensate for the physical wussiness inevitably associated with their brains, and it takes a bite from a freakish arachnid to transform the bookish Peter Parker into the star of *Spider-Man*. Education is a white thing, some say; but education is also a spaz thing, a decadent thing, and, as folks such as George Wallace and Derek Bok have suggested, a sissy thing. Education is useless because it swells our heads. In *The Advancement of Learning* Francis Bacon had to struggle with the assumption that "the aspiring to overmuch knowledge was the original temptation and sin whereupon ensued the fall of man" and that "knowledge hath in it somewhat of the serpent, and therefore where it entereth into a man it makes him swell. Through education, one is likely to become a know-it-allâ€”and we all know that nobody likes a know-it-all. One does not have to be highly educated to be a megalomaniac, of course, but it helps, as countless movies about mad scientists have assured us. Education is useless because it dulls our personalities. Being a student, a teacher, an intellectual, or any sort of learned person is a far cry from being a pop star, and it shows. One does not expect learned people to be fashion forward, to say the least. One expects them to be grey, dull, unassuming, and, in a word, soporific. Thus, a former colleague of mine tells the story of how a student was dozing off in his class until he woke the sluggard up and suggested that since he was having so much trouble staying awake, he should stand at the back of the room for the rest of the hour. The sleepy student did so, my colleague resumed lecturingâ€”and a couple of minutes later, another student suddenly rose and went to stand at the back of the room. We all have stories like this that we tell on ourselves. Education is useless because it makes us slaves. He thus adapted to his own time, in which education was being democratized and modernized, the long-standing suspicion that education is ignoble. The trendy right-wing accusation that universities inculcate "political correctness" in those put into their charge is another version of this accusation that education enslaves, producing Stepford students. It turns us into bohemian and politically correct radicals, queer and anti-social misfits, ivory-tower radical-chic utopians, idiosyncratic scorners of social order. The case of Socrates, that corrupter of youth and defier of the gods, is the locus classicus for this conviction, which has been reinforced in the United States by the McCarthyite witchhunts of the s; by the reactions against campus protests associated with the free speech, civil rights, black power, antiwar, feminist, and gay and lesbian rights movements of the s and s; and by the "culture wars" of the s and s. From the age of Socrates to the last half-century of American social history, learning has been seen as having the potential to incite rebellion against tradition, political order, and religious orthodoxy. Some teachers at state universities in the U. Even where the law is less ham-handed, though, one cannot help but be aware that trials, inquisitions, purges, book-burnings, and executions have played as crucial a part in academic life over the centuries as have classes and convocations. In the long history of trying to keep education from various groups of people, such as the working classes, women, and slaves, for fear that it would make them discontented, we see this knowledge that education is useless because it leads to insubordination. So, too, do we see it today in religious institutions, such as Baylor University, that require prospective professors to submit a statement on their moral convictions so that their loyalty to certain limits of thought can be established. A little learning is a dangerous thing, perhaps, but so, evidently, is a lot. Education is useless because it impoverishes us. This ancient complaintâ€”that education leaves us "eloquent, but in rags"â€”still has currency today despite the oft-quoted statistics about how much more, on average, college graduates earn than those with only a high-school diploma. We all know that nobody goes into teaching for the money, and by the same token we all know that learning in general is profitable only for those who leave behind theory, free inquiry, and pure research in favor of work for business and industry. You cannot eat knowledge; it does

not pay the bills; even as I write there are people with Ph. Education is useless because it pampers us. Students, teachers, and scholarly types in general think that they are laboring at their jobs if they are reading books or simply sitting in a comfy chair and staring into space. Nice work if you can get it, eh? Education accustoms us to a fuzzy, squishy, bleeding-heart sense of the world in which we imagine that conflicts can be solved if we all sit in a circle for a discussion. Education babies us, softens us, making us think that living in the world is as safe as turning the pages of a scholarly journal. Education is a luxury, as we recognize in financing our primary and secondary schools primarily through property taxes for why should the poor be given on a silver platter the same education as the rich? It is so useless that we treat higher education in particular as a privilege rather than a right. Accordingly, we make welfare recipients work instead of going to school, not forgetting at the same time to eliminate programs that would allow prisoners to get college degrees, and in fact generally keeping in mind that it is better to spend money on penitentiaries, weapons, and ballparks than on schools. How did such foolishness as offering Pell Grants to prisoners ever get started in the first place? It could only have arisen from the addled brains of coddled eggheads with too much schooling and too little sense. Education is useless because it makes us optimists. It encourages every crazy idea that people may have no matter how thoroughly the reality of life may refute it. Where but in universities today do we find Marxists, for example? Can these people never learn? Evidently not—for like all their intellectual comrades, they would rather stick to illusions than face facts. If you want to become a dreamer, a utopian, then by all means you should take education seriously and pursue it as far as you can. If you want to come up with real-world solutions to real-world problems, though, you need to climb down out of your ivory tower and get your hands dirty for once in your life. The idealism of youth may be charming, of course, and the idealism of their teachers may generally be harmless, since after all they are only teaching, not really doing anything; but still education is quite useless. At best, its idealism is a phase people go through, like experimenting with drugs and hair styles, before they settle down to real life. Education is useless because it makes us pessimists. In the term that William Safire penned for Spiro Agnew, that distinguished public servant, educated types become "nattering nabobs of negativism. Instead of approaching things with a can-do spirit, they take pride in seeing obstacles, in multiplying problems, in creating difficulties where there really are none. Pantagruel throttles this particular offender until he repents, speaks naturally, and shits his pants, but the cure is rarely so easy. Educated people become skeptical, cynical, jaded, disdainful of ordinary speech, and unable to let a single moment, object, or event pass without tedious analysis and carping criticism. We have them to thank for the career of Woody Allen. Education is useless because it leads to dogmatism. It puts so-called knowledge into the sacred forms of textbooks and traditions, and pity the poor student who is naive enough to believe all that claptrap about free inquiry. Like those professors of anatomy who would stand next to a dissected corpse and read from a volume of Galen, teaching their students that if they observed any discrepancy between the ancient theory and the actual body, it must somehow be the fault of the body, education teaches people to disregard the plain evidence of their senses.

Chapter 4 : Sara Holbrook's Blog Spot: Why Education is Useless

John Naisbitt is an American author and public speaker in the area of futures studies. His first book Megatrends was published in It was the result of almost ten years of research.

Whether language came as side effect of larger brains or it was actually our ability to communicate that made our brain larger, the main point is, humans strive for clarity! One of the most powerful way humans use to deepen their understanding of the world is by asking questions. In an interview to one of the greatest scientists of our times, Richard Feynman , he was explaining how magnetism worked, when the journalist suddenly asked, Referring to why magnets attract each other. That seemingly simple question made Feynman flinch for a few seconds. Not because the question was naive. Quite the opposite, it was so powerful that it knocked him down. In other words, when we ask questions, we want an answer that is clear and straight to the point. Although scientific answers are complex by nature. Yet it has not been the way the web worked so far. Because machines did not understand human language. Therefore, in order to make the content on your blog findable, you had to adjust it so that machines could index it. Things are changing quite fast, though. Thanks to natural language processing NLP. Why is that relevant to your blog? In short, software programs called spiders crawl the web, trying to make sense of what they find, and index few pages out of billions of pages to answer your Google searches. Deciding whether a page is relevant, therefore it needs to be indexed is not an easy task. How many times does this page contain your keyword? Do they appear in the title? Do they appear in the URL? This list of questions goes on and on, until Google finally delivers a result in less than a second! The Hummingbird that changed the net In September a new search platform " Hummingbird " came out. Within this search platform, a new algorithm, called RankBrain became a major player. Out of the more than hundreds factors that Google accounts for when deciding whether the content on your blog is relevant RankBrain has become the third-most important signal contributing to the result of a search query. Also that Socrates is an ancient greek philosopher. We cannot help it! Because humans think in terms of relationships among concepts. Yet that is not what machines used to do. Until RankBrain changed it all! RankBrain looks more at the relationship between concepts and words rather than a single word or keyword. The algorithm learns to understand what you write based on contextual information and the network of concepts it meets along the way. In short, a word is not an island, but it gets relevance based on the context it sits on. Keywords are not enough. What can you do? How to make machines understand the classics Athens B. We are in Athens, the most developed city at the time. Yet that man was ready to be sentenced to death. He was not afraid, and although he was in a risky situation he spoke his mind until the last instant. For how crazy that sounds, it is what many experts would do! Yet to make it comprehended by machines we have to take an additional step. First, as soon as I placed the text in my WordPress editor and saved it as a draft, WordLift started to analyze it semantically. What is an entity? An entity is a page that is structured semantically, thus understood not only by humans but also by search engines. Third, WordLift suggested a set of entities such as Apology, Classical Athens, Daemon, Plato, Socrates and Socratic Dialogue that would help me to tell the story both to humans and machines. With a click, I selected the entities classified by WordLift and saved the article. WordLift marked my content through schema. How do I know? Once I click on it, and take an additional step I can see how the information I placed in my editor is reshaped until it became organized knowledge. In short, the information I wrote in the article was reshaped and organized in a set of nodes and edges. Where the nodes are the articles and entities. While the edges are the relationships between those articles and entities. Why is that relevant? That knowledge is now accessible to both humans in the form of text and machines in the form of schema. The only caveat is to structure your content by creating Entities rather than keywords! The Evolution of SEO: First, humans use questions to communicate. Yet we expect answers that are clear and straightforward. Paradoxically, though, that is not the way the web worked until recently. Yet a revolution happened in , when Hummingbird unleashed RankBrain. Third, now thanks to semantic web , humans and machines are on the same page. Yet to take advantage of this revolution, you have to stop thinking about keywords and start creating Entities! Do you want to create your first entity? Get in touch with me! Are you

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Chapter 5 : Unless by Carol Shields

Thomas Carlyle "Conviction is worthless unless it is converted into conduct."

Water purification tablets Spare knife Pretty impressive if you think about it, that all of these little items can fit into that small container. The goal of having all of these items with you in that small container is that you will carry it with you at all times. By making this survival tin part of your Every Day Carry equipment you will be more likely to benefit from having these items when you need them. But whenever I look at one of these tins, I imagine myself carrying it every day and wondering what situation I would need to be faced in that would make this tin something that would actually help me Survive. Most of us have pretty similar days in that we wake up, eat breakfast, go to work or school and then eventually come home. It could be that some disaster strikes and you are no longer at home, but somehow transported into the wilds of Africa with nothing but your survival tin. Actually, if I wanted to I could easily rationalize how any one of these items could benefit me any day, but would they be required for survival? So, you have a survival kit now and you carry this everywhere you go now. Maybe you just stick it into a spare cargo pocket on your 5. Now you are prepared for anything, right? I think there is something missing from this plan. If you have a survival tin you have to be prepared to use it. You have to have the mindset that says I am going to take my wire saw even though I live in a big city with zero trees and use it to live if something happens. You have to be able to do something with that compass. You have to know how to make a fire with that flint and tender. You have to have both a brain that knows how to use the items you have carefully assembled and the will to live that will give you the motivation and creativity needed to use these implements to somehow make your life better. The survival tin is just a small example but I know of people who buy tons of survival gear. The most impressive to me are the ones who create color coded lists of their inventory, mark everything with colored sharpies and place everything they have in a basement on shelving units from floor to ceiling. Sadly, it is some of these same people who take a car trip without having a first aid-kit or a map if they get lost. Purchasing some amount of survival gear is a requirement I think for most of us. You have to know how to use it. You have to take that axe and be able to use it. If not, what do you have? You have a lot of really nice stuff that someone who did not prep is going to want to take. Seriously, if you want to call yourself prepared, an equal portion of this game is the mental attitude you need to survive. You can take someone with a strong desire to live and nothing but a pair of fingernail clippers and put them up against someone who has an entire warehouse of survival gear and guns, but not a clue as to how to use any of their stuff and guess who will win? The most important item you have to consider is your mental state and that is what you need to pack first. This above all of the mini fishing kits in the world is what will keep you and your family alive. Survival tins and gear are all excellent tools, but make sure your head is on straight first and then regardless of what life throws in your path; you will find some way to make it through. Content on this site unless the work of a third-party may be shared freely in digital form, in part or whole, for non-commercial use with a link back to this site crediting the author. All links in articles must remain intact as originally posted in order to be republished. If you would like to be notified of new articles, contests and Prepper news, please sign up for our daily newsletter , follow us on Twitter , or Like Us on Facebook.

Chapter 6 : Table of Contents: Why Education Is Useless

"Strategic planning is worthless - unless there is first a strategic vision." - John Naisbitt Strategic planning is worthless - unless there is first a strategic vision.

The reality is that not one of those books is going to do anyone any good unless someone truly wants to lead— one who has the passion for leadership and is willing to commit to meeting the challenges of being a leader. You can read book reviews and shorten the reading time on the Blinkist app but the same principles follow. These are principles, ideals if you will, which are the foundation of leadership and defines your character as a leader. The eleven leadership principles are: Be technically and tactically proficient— be competent in your job. Know yourself and seek self-improvement: Evaluate your strengths and weaknesses. Be honest with yourself and work to shore up your weaknesses. Know your employees and look out for their welfare: You should know your employees and how they react to different situations. Informed employees perform better and, if knowledgeable of the situation, can carry on without your personal supervision. Providing information can inspire initiative. Set the standards for your employees by personal example. The employees in your company, division or department all watch your appearance, attitude, physical fitness and personal example. If your personal standards are high, then you can rightfully demand the same of your employees. Ensure the task is understood, supervised and accomplished: Before you can expect your employees to perform, they need to know what is expected of them. Communicate your instructions in a clear, concise manner, and allow your employees a chance to ask questions. Check progress periodically to confirm the assigned task is properly accomplished. Train your employees as a team: Train your employees with a purpose and emphasize the essential elements of teamwork and realism. Teach your unit to train, play and operate as a team. Be sure that all employees know their roles and responsibilities within the team framework. Make sound and timely decisions: Rapidly estimate a situation and make a sound decision based on that estimation. Employees respect the leader who corrects mistakes immediately. Develop a sense of responsibility in your employees: Show your employees you are interested in their welfare by giving them the opportunity for professional development. Assigning tasks and delegating authority promotes mutual confidence and respect between the leader and the team. Employ your employees in accordance with their capabilities: Seek out challenging tasks for your team, but be sure your team is prepared for and has the ability to successfully complete the mission. Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions: Actively seek out challenging assignments for your professional development. Seeking responsibilities also means that you take the responsibility for your actions. You are responsible for all your team does or fails to do. Stick by your convictions and be willing to accept justified and constructive criticism. It takes hard work, it takes commitment and it takes a passion to want to be a leader. Only then will the books or the leadership principles help you.

Chapter 7 : Why RankBrain will make your blog worthless, unless - WordLift Blog

The turmeric you're consuming is useless unless you take it in one of these 3 ways Multiple studies have backed up the medicinal benefits of turmeric! Once you see the undeniable proof that.

The Industrial Revolution may have led to machines that did away with humans in jobs needing strength and repetitive actions. But the takeover was not overwhelming. With cognitive powers that machines could not touch, humans were largely safe in their work. For how much longer, though? AIs are now beginning to outperform humans in the cognitive field. And while new types of jobs will certainly emerge, we cannot be sure, says Harari, that humans will do them better than AIs, computers and robots. AIs do not need more intelligence than humans to transform the job market. They need only enough to do the task well. And that is not far off, Harari says. Most of what people learn in school or in college will probably be irrelevant by the time they are 40 or If they want to continue to have a job, and to understand the world, and be relevant to what is happening, people will have to reinvent themselves again and again, and faster and faster. The age of the cyborg has begun and the consequences cannot be known Read more Even so, jobless humans are not useless humans. In the US alone, 93 million people do not have jobs, but they are still valued. Harari, it turns out, has a specific definition of useless. Modern political and economic structures were built on humans being useful to the state: With those roles taken on by machines, our political and economic systems will simply stop attaching much value to humans, he argues. None of this puts us in the realm of the gods. In fact, it leads Harari to even more bleak predictions. Though the people may no longer provide for the state, the state may still provide for them. All of which leads to the question:

Chapter 8 : Google Says GPA Is Worthless (SATs and Brainteasers, Too)

The Fire Ascending which is the last book of Chris d'Lacey's Last Dragon Chronicles. He wrote this book "organically " meaning he didn't have a plan for where the book would lead or what would happen. He just wrot.

Radical Grace from the Book of Romans 4: If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about-but not before God. What does Scripture say? Just go to the nearest bank and get some! But did you know that ATMS can all be linked to different networks? We found ourselves in exactly this situation while visiting the open air market in Dinan, France. There were so many nice things, and the prices were so reasonable that we quickly ran out of cash. We had our bankcard, and there was a bank right there in the square! But if we wished to continue to enjoy ourselves in the street market, we needed that cash. We located a tourism bureau nearby, and they gave us a map indicating the location of every bank in the area. We were in for many more messages of doom: Our persistence paid off. Abandon the outdoor market; or hold out a hat while I serenaded the town. Yup, my voice is that bad! Just ask my kids! So all in all, it was good we found the bank! This made me think. We too have a spiritual bankcard. The only problem is, we often tend to try to bank at the wrong establishments. The "popular" establishment, the one that is well known among the people, does not let us withdraw any spiritual funds! The problem with works is that we invest a lot of time, but we get nothing in return. Others bank at an institution called "indifference". They invest on the assumption that the spiritual bank in heaven is generous enough, and whenever needed, salvation funds will be forthcoming. But just like any bank, no funds, no cash. Abraham was right to bank on faith. After all, our spiritual bank is not based on monetary funds, but on trusting our God with all of our hearts, souls and minds. Our relationship with Him not only manifests an abundance of love towards mankind, but assures us an abundance of funds available to us, ones that are rightly named "righteousness". We may be banking with the wrong bankcard. We better take some time and assure ourselves that our spiritual funds are invested according to the Master Financer. After all, He is the One who made salvation possible. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He is the One who invested in us, and not the other way around! Rob Chaffart Receive our free newsletters The Illustrator: This daily newsletter is dedicated to encouraging everyone to look towards Jesus as the source of all the solutions to our problems. It contains a daily inspirational story, a Bible verse and encouraging messages. HTML and plain text versions available. Published three times a week, this newsletter features inspirational devotionals and mini-sermons dedicated to drawing mankind closer to each other and to Christ.

Chapter 9 : Quote by Thomas Carlyle: "Conviction is worthless unless it is converted"

Education is useless because it distances us from real life. Both its dogmas and its doubts have little to do with "real world experience," with "the school of hard knocks," which is the only school that really counts.

Women novelists are used to such gentle belittlements. Jane Austen suffered them too, and Carol Shields, whose most recent book was a short biography of Austen, has learned to live with them, leaving the "Big Bow-Wow strain" to the boys and quietly getting on with what she does best. The old civility is still there, just about. But *Unless* is her angriest book to date - a study in awakening and the belated loss of innocence. There has only been the one novel so far, *My Thyme Is Up*, but it did win a prize, and she is at work on a sequel, *Thyme in Bloom*, which will, she hopes, be as light and summery as its predecessor. Sunniness is what she does best. But the sun clouds over when she learns that Norah, her eldest daughter, has dropped out of university and is sitting cross-legged on a Toronto street corner with a begging bowl in her lap and a placard saying GOODNESS round her neck. But any efforts to speak to her, let alone reclaim her, are rebuffed. Friends offer conflicting advice - let Norah be, have her arrested, treat this as a "behavioural interlude". None of which helps Reta, whose cosy world of optimism has collapsed. Why is Norah acting, or not-acting, as she does? As Reta sees it, "The world is split in two between those who are handed power at birth, at gestation, encoded with a seemingly random chromosome determinate that says yes for ever and ever, and those like Norah, like Danielle Westerman, like my mother, like my mother-in-law, like me, like all of us who fall into the uncoded female otherness in which the power to assert ourselves and claim our lives has been displaced by a compulsion to shut down our bodies and seal our mouths and be as nothing against the fireworks and streaking stars and blinding light of the Big Bang. She knows that this might be nothing but a "tottering fantasy", that her sentiments are "excessive, blowsy, loose, womanish", that she must sound like a madwoman. *Unless* could be classified as a novel about a woman writing a novel about a woman who writes. Though only pages long, it finds room to digress on friendship, shopping, marital sex, relativity theory, hair "I consider coiffure one of my major life accomplishments. I really mean this", graffiti and much besides. Reta may have been slow to wake up, but we feel the loss of her contentment, her dumb sunniness. The last thing she wants, she says, "is to be possessed by a sense of injury so exquisitely refined that I register outrage on a daily basis". But anger makes her see the world afresh and understand it better. As a comic novelist, Reta likes a tidy ending: There is a sense of wintry urgency about *Unless* - of any pretence of charm being dropped in order to get things said. Bard of the banal? No, elegist of the everyday. We should celebrate her achievement while we can.