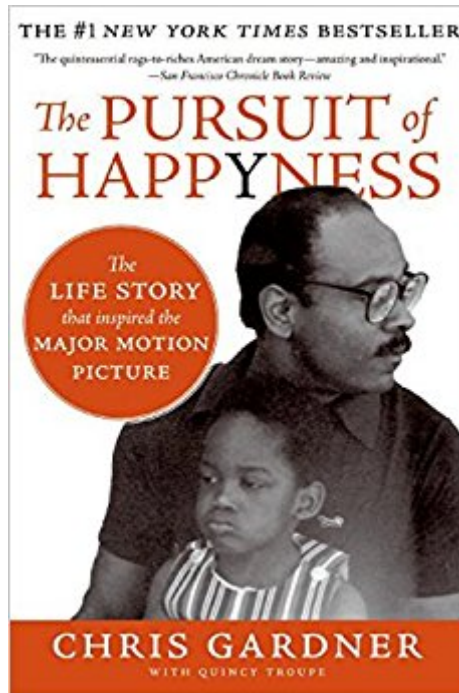




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The Pursuit Of Happyness



Synopsis

The astounding yet true rags-to-riches saga of a homeless father who raised and cared for his son on the mean streets of San Francisco and went on to become a crown prince of Wall Street. At the age of twenty, Milwaukee native Chris Gardner, just out of the Navy, arrived in San Francisco to pursue a promising career in medicine. Considered a prodigy in scientific research, he surprised everyone and himself by setting his sights on the competitive world of high finance. Yet no sooner had he landed an entry-level position at a prestigious firm than Gardner found himself caught in a web of incredibly challenging circumstances that left him as part of the city's working homeless and with a toddler son. Motivated by the promise he made to himself as a fatherless child to never abandon his own children, the two spent almost a year moving among shelters, "HO-tels," soup lines, and even sleeping in the public restroom of a subway station. Never giving in to despair, Gardner made an astonishing transformation from being part of the city's invisible poor to being a powerful player in its financial district. More than a memoir of Gardner's financial success, this is the story of a man who breaks his own family's cycle of men abandoning their children. Mythic, triumphant, and unstintingly honest, *The Pursuit of Happyness* conjures heroes like Horatio Alger and Antwone Fisher, and appeals to the very essence of the American Dream.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gardner's inspiring rags-to-riches memoir of his transformation from homeless single father to philanthropic owner of a multimillion-dollar brokerage house somehow has less of an impact in audio than on paper. Blake has an excellent, manly voice, perfect intonation and excellent

streetwise cursing abilities (a crucial part of Gardner's account of his relationship with his stepfather). Yet as good as the narrator is, by the third CD listeners may not be able to shake the feeling that he's an actor reading someone else's words. Since Gardner's love of jazz is a running theme, the evocative jazz trumpet music at the beginning and end of each CD is appropriate; even more between-tracks music might have been effective where the narrator's pauses are not long or dramatic enough (say, between one sentence where he is with his biological father in Louisiana and the next, at work in his brokerage office). This is a moving story whose audio version might have been better served with more dramatic devices. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Chris Gardner is the chief executive officer of Gardner Rich & Company, a multimillion-dollar brokerage with offices in New York, Chicago, and San Francisco. An avid philanthropist and motivational speaker, Gardner is a recipient of the Father of the Year Award from the National Fatherhood Initiative. He has two children and resides in Chicago and New York.

Sappy

I saw the movie twice before I read the book. It took me all of 3 day to read it! It's a fascinating tale of a single-parent black male aspiring to become a renowned stock broker on Wall Street. Along the way, he encounters bigotry, homelessness, physical and mental abuse, and a plethora of other obstacles. The book is an entirely converse version of the movie starring Will Smith and his son Jayden. If you want the real story, take several days to read this enthralling story. Especially gripping was how Gardner recounts in graphic detail how he was raped by another black man when he was in his early teens. Gardner also intersperses elements of hilarity throughout this tale too like the time he and his wife were at the beach when another women walked by and his hormones arrested his better judgment. If you like rags-to-riches stories please purchase this book. Not only does Gardner's story resonate with us "PSD" black males, it will appeal to everyone. After all this is a story not about black and white but GREEN!

Wonderful book.

This is such a great book. I have never read a hole book and this one I couldn't put down

Boring. Very racial comments. Did'nt finish book due to this

Great book. Mr. Gardner gets very personal about his life, mixing the good with the bad. He tells a very real story that I find encouraging, not just for kids dealing with what appears to be insurmountable odds, but also for anyone in any situation. Chris Gardner makes you feel that you can do anything, if you work hard and not give up. Can I give this book 10 stars?

Loved every letter of the book! Makes me want to meet him in person ! Well earned Mr. Gardner !

Great Book for all to read!

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