

Sometimes when you read a book it changes your life and today I am going to share with you a book that changed my life and I am confident it will change your life as well.

The book is titled—**The Underachiever’s Manifesto: The guide to accomplishing little and feeling great.**

See after I read this book I came to the conclusion that there is just too much achievement in this world and after being a recent convert to the school of underachievement I feel it is my duty my calling to enlighten everyone that Y’all have got a serious problem. And you need to stop it.

You need to wake up and I was going to say smell the coffee, but please don’t do that because it may cause you to drink it—which would just give you more energy to go out and accomplish some other achievement or goal.

What you need to do is to discover the laziness that has so far eluded you in your life. Everyone needs to put their potential back in the lock box, lower the bar, and please understand that no matter who you are, there is something you are trying too hard at.

So this book is only 96 pages long but the author takes his own principles to heart. I mean this entire book wouldn’t fill 6 full sized pages but that is exactly the point. How many self-help books have we read that repeat the same thing over and over again. We’ve heard the mantra’s:

- You gotta be number one.
- Give a 110%.
- Don’t settle for being second best.

Well I’m here to tell you that all these celebrities, sports stars, executive guru’s, the whole self-help community—their just cashing in on our failures and we need to realize that sometimes good is good enough.

This puny book contains 10 principles/10 commandments that will show you the light. Now I don’t have enough time to go into all of them today but I will touch upon a few that I feel are important.

Commandment #1: If no one in your life thinks you’re failing to live up to your full potential, then you have got some work to do.

Now luckily, this commandment was one that I already have achieved. After all, I am married and as all married men can attest to—it is a universal fact that their in laws consider them to be colossal underachievers.

In fact, to drive home this point. I once asked my father-in-law of his 3 son-in-laws where would you rank me in terms of favorites— 1 be the most favorite and 3 being the least.

Without batting he said, “Jim,” yes, my name is Jamie even though I’ve been married to his daughter for 25 years. He said, “Jim out of the 3 son in laws you are tied for fourth.”

Now some people might take this as an insult but I relish in it because the way I look at I can only go up in ranking. I have no pressure and as this book cleverly points out in—

Commandment #8: The tallest blade of grass is the surest to be cut.

So who would anyone ever want to be number 1? It is far too dangerous and to back this commandment up there is ancient Japanese folk wisdom that says, “The nail that sticks up gets hammered down.” Meaning if you’re better than everyone else, you’d better make damn sure that they don’t recognize it.

And let me tell you after watching many Japanese Kung Fu movies like Bruce Lee’s Enter The Dragon, I have learned whatever you do in life—never question ancient Japanese folk wisdom

Commandment #10: The very last commandment states simply---the 4% value added principle.

When I read this last commandment it has numbers and percentages long words and it sounded confusing so I just skipped it. But you see this is when I discovered that I was becoming a true believer in the underachievers manifesto, because rather than read something that sounds really complicated—I just skipped it and saved my brain from the confusion that was sure to follow.

I do have one warning if you read this book and if you remember this essay, which seems like way to much activity to me, but if you do then I might be in trouble because then you will know that just about every part of this essay was basically plagiarized from this book.

But you need to understand this is exactly part of my message—see I have become the Buddha of Underachievement. I have achieved true enlightenment because my malicious and premeditated lifting of material is a sign of perfect underachievement

I have 3 kids, a wife, a dog. I like to drink beer and play golf. I don’t have time to think of my own material let alone write asinine essays. I have got more fun things to do.

So like other prophets with new ideas I may receive criticism for my preaching’s and actions. Perhaps even a few of you who believe in literary integrity may attempt to contact the author of this book and report me. But your actions will be in vain because the author also has achieved enlightenment had he will probably just tell you that striving to go that the extra mile—only leads to exhaustion

But it is a winding road that we travel on and some people gain wisdom faster than others. But by now you should be confident that underachievement is the key to happiness. Please I beg of you—dedicate yourself to the pleasures and benefits of mediocrity.

Go ahead and live life to the minimum and now that I have shown you the way and you have seen the light, turn it off you’re wasting valuable energy. And lets all promise to do less together.