



The Measure of Our Success: Letter to My Children and Yours

Marian Wright Edelman

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The #1 *New York Times* bestseller is a thinking person's *Life's Little Instruction Book*, with simple yet inspirational messages about living.

The Measure of Our Success: Letter to My Children and Yours Details

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Author : Marian Wright Edelman

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From Reader Review The Measure of Our Success: Letter to My Children and Yours for online ebook

Gretchen says

I thought her key points were right on even though some of the facts and information was outdated

Camille Dent says

This is a great short read. The author is definitely passionate about what she advocates and presents it efficiently. She is good about giving a realistic perspective, and everything she addresses can be applied to interactions with people in general, not just parent-child relationships.

Karen says

I read this book the year it came out in 1992. It is written by Marian Wright Edelman who was the first black woman admitted to the Mississippi bar and founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund. She is also a graduate of Yale Law School. I loved her wisdom she shares in her "25 lessons for life" that she learned from her parents and taught her own sons. The message is timeless.

Daniel L. says

A Message We Need to Pass Along to the Next Generation

Drawing from inspirational experiences from her own childhood, Dr. Edelman talks to (not at) her own children, urging them, in whatever occupation they may choose, to serve the community at large. This is also a book for adults (parents, educators, and religious and community leaders) to read, to live a life of principles and a desire to somehow make the world a better place - in short, to serve as the strong, positive role model that so many of our children have had to do without.

The book is also an indictment on how American society and political leadership do a great job at paying lip service to the needs of children but fails miserably in their actions. Complaining, however, is not enough; if children are to grow up to be conscientious and caring citizens, adults must set a good example.

It's a small book with a big heart and a great message. I strongly recommend it to anyone who cares about children and social justice in general. These sentiments would inspire Ms. Edelman's excellent column in The Huffington Post, which I follow religiously.

Lecy says

I picked this book up for the comparative media studies class I'm taking and I'm glad because I wouldn't have

known about it otherwise. This is a short collection of essays in the form of a letter to Edelman's children, in which she imparts her wisdom about how to make it in the world as a person of color. The word "wisdom" can't possibly begin to cover all that she writes to them. She teaches them what it means to be black, that education is one of the most important things in life, how to treat people, even if you don't like them, and that absolutely nothing comes free - you get what you work hard for. This was so, so good.

Karen says

So many quotes!

Ashley (OhPossibilities) says

I read this for my class and it was a great book for those who need a perspective of life. Sure, it was a letter to her children but I believe we all could learn something from this amazing woman.

Ariana says

A highly quotable and easily digestible set of lessons. Marian Wright Edelman is an incredible force in her activism and her wisdom radiates in this short book. The state of the world has made improvements since its publication in 1992, but many of her admonishments of inequality and oppression are still relevant. Highly recommend.

Trish says

A book worthy of a reread

Marwah Hassounah says

It seems like a short read, but its depth requires you to give it time to read. I enjoyed it a lot.

Andrew Shipe says

It's amazing to realize this book was written 25 years ago. The impulse for me to read it was seeing the "Twenty-Five Lessons for Life" that makes up Chapter Four. Edelman, who founded the Children's Defense Fund decades ago, mixes progressive polemic with faiths-based exhortation into a short book that could either make both sides of the political spectrum mad or bring us closer together. Let's hope more people read this book and do the latter!

Nichola Gutgold says

Great book on values and lessons.

Jennifer says

The Measure of Our Success.

~A letter for my children and yours

Nicholas is home sick today, and this book is due at the library tomorrow. It's a short 87 page read, but very good. It opened me up to some of the issues that African-Americans face in their lives.

I first heard of this book through my "In style" magazine featuring Reese Witherspoon. She mentioned it as required reading in college, and it's one of her all time favorite books. I now know why.

This is a book full of wisdom, quotes from respected Americans, and old fashioned every day advice. Edelman wrote this book full of 21 letters or lessons to her three boys. However, this is a book I plan to buy for Nicholas when he graduates. Sure it'll be "old" by then, but these lessons are ones that stand the test of time.

Three of the most profound lessons in the book are:

1. Don't feel entitled to anything you don't sweat and struggle for.
 2. Never give up. You can make it no matter what comes. Nothing worth having is ever achieved without a struggle.
 3. Always remember that you are never alone. You are loved unconditionally. There is nothing you can ever say or do that can take away my or God's love.
-

Emmy Birish says

I was forced to read this for school. It's not necessarily bad but this was dreadful to read. I felt like I've heard all the advice before. I respect the author's background and how she learned to be successful but this would be better if it wasn't a book but rather maybe a speech. Did not enjoy. Maybe because I was forced to read it.

Sue says

I'm currently rereading this book... I encouraged one of my great aunts to read this book when it first came out. Her notion of success was based on what college her kids and grandkids went to (most went to Ivy Leagues) and/or how much money they were making (usually a lot). Sharing this book with her was my way

of saying what I thought mattered most in life. Ironically, she ended up ordering over a dozen to give to her grandkids.
