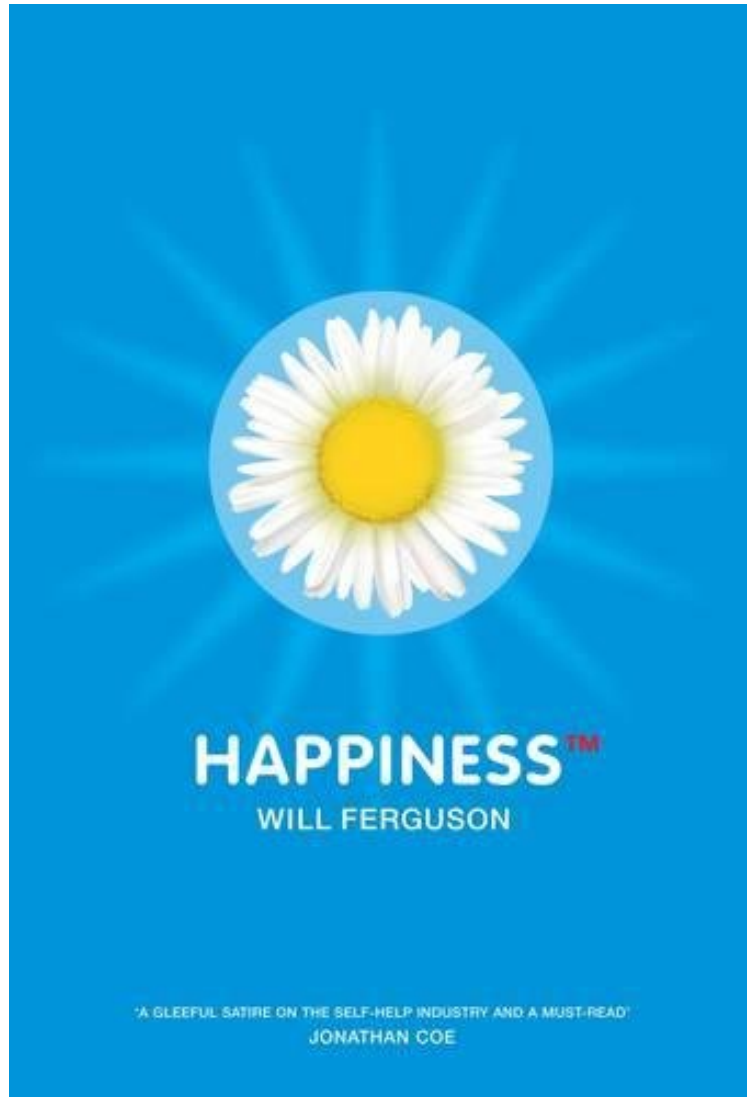


[Ebook free] Happiness TM

Happiness TM

Will Ferguson

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Will Ferguson : Happiness TM before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Happiness TM:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Idea but Falters in ExecutionBy Book FanaticThis book has an incredibly interesting story idea that I think could have made a great book, however that didn't happen in this book. Ultimately there's just too much filler in this book. At the very beginning I was thinking to myself get to the point already and at the end I was thinking when is this thing going to be over. So I found my interest waning at times in this book. At other times it's incredibly fascinating. It also has a point, while making fun of self-help I believe the author is

giving his own prescription for what makes a good life in these pages. I want my review to be too negative this was actually a good book that had potential. The writing was just too choppy and not compelling enough to keep me interested in between major events in the storyline. However I do definitely recommend this book. It's an easy read and thus worth the time. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Happiness is a very entertaining book from start to finish. By Karen F. Johnston Happiness is a very entertaining book from start to finish. The plot, although not complex has many twists and turns. This book will have readers laughing out loud. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The System is greased on misery. By digitalice Watch out if happiness breaks out the system could collapse.

When one of those irritating self-help books actually gets it right, then unnatural and worrying times are just around the corner. While the rest of the country is joining the new Happiness™ cult, Edwin (the wiry, grey-suited, low-level editor at U.S. publisher Panderic Press) is in trouble. A cartel of drug, alcohol, tobacco, and drug-rehab bosses have a contract out on him. It's all the fault of the mysterious Tupac Soiree, and his book *What I Learned on the Mountain*. But who is Tupac? And how can Edwin stop the world from succumbing to this plague of Happiness™? Will Ferguson has created a comic masterpiece, a brutal satire of modern times

.com "The Age of Nice is at hand, and there's nothing we can do about it." But the protagonist of Will Ferguson's *Happiness*, terminally luckless book editor Edwin de Valu, does want to do something. In fact, he feels obliged to put a stop to the Age of Nice, because it's all his fault. Desperate to save a flagging career in the world of self-help publishing, Edwin has staked everything on a dubious, thousand-page manuscript bearing the motto "Live! Love! Learn!" Promising its readers endless wealth, effortless weight loss, and everlasting happiness, the book has become a runaway success. And that's where Edwin's problems really begin. There's the murderous cartel of drug and tobacco barons who want Edwin's head on a plate, as well as the fact that misery, cynicism, irrational hatred, draught beer--all the things that once made Edwin's life as an underdog bearable--have become outlawed. It's down to one man to save the globe from the tyranny of the group hug! But can Edwin do it before the world economy melts down and a bestselling serial killer called Dr. Ethics enacts his own deadly revenge? It has been said--possibly by the sort of homily-peddling guru that Ferguson attacks so masterfully in his debut novel--that there are many routes to happiness. The general effect of reading this razor-sharp satire on the self-help industry is to understand that these routes lead us nowhere, except perhaps to a cul-de-sac called Hell. This would be depressing to realize, except that Happiness clubs its readers into submission with the sort of zany, almost otherworldly wit that makes us profoundly glad to be alive. -- Matthew Baylis, .co.uk From Publishers Weekly

Though it might seem redundant to satirize the self-help industry, Canadian writer Ferguson (*Hokkaido Highway Blues*) makes a heroic effort in his first novel, combining sitcom-like gags about the publishing industry with the truism that if a self-help book ever actually succeeded in its goals, it would wipe out its own market. The massive and horrible *What I Learned on the Mountain*, by Rajee Tupak Soiree, arrives in Edwin de Valu's slush pile and is promptly tossed in the garbage by the hapless editor. However, Mr. Mead, owner of Panderic Books, needs a self-help book to fill a hole in the fall catalogue. Edwin volunteers Tupak's magnum opus, then sets out to retrieve it from the waste system and edit it, a process that proves to be unsettling. Edwin's editorial ordeals are mitigated by his immediate boss, May Weatherhill, with whom he is carrying on an intermittent affair, although he is married to the insufferable Jenni. Eventually, the book comes out and becomes a sleeper hit: soon all of America is quitting smoking, drinking, drugging and even reading (except for Tupak's oeuvre). Edwin and Mr. Mead are so horrified by the new world they have helped create that, accompanied by Mr. Ethics, a former Panderic self-help author who is on the lam from prison, they resolve to find and kill Tupak. This is a richly imagined and at times darkly humorous book, but Ferguson's felicities are undermined by the clunky obviousness of his biggest jokes. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. A brilliant parody . . . bright and very funny. * * Mail on Sunday * * Will Ferguson's talent as a satirist is to be treasured. His wit enlivens every page, and what starts as an amusing book about publishing expands into a glorious romp through modern life. * * Literary * * Happiness™ is a wonderfully assured, gleefully twisted and deeply irreligious satire which manages to be as moving as it is funny. -- Charlie Hill * * Independent on Sunday * * Will Ferguson is a very gifted writer. * * Bill Bryson * *