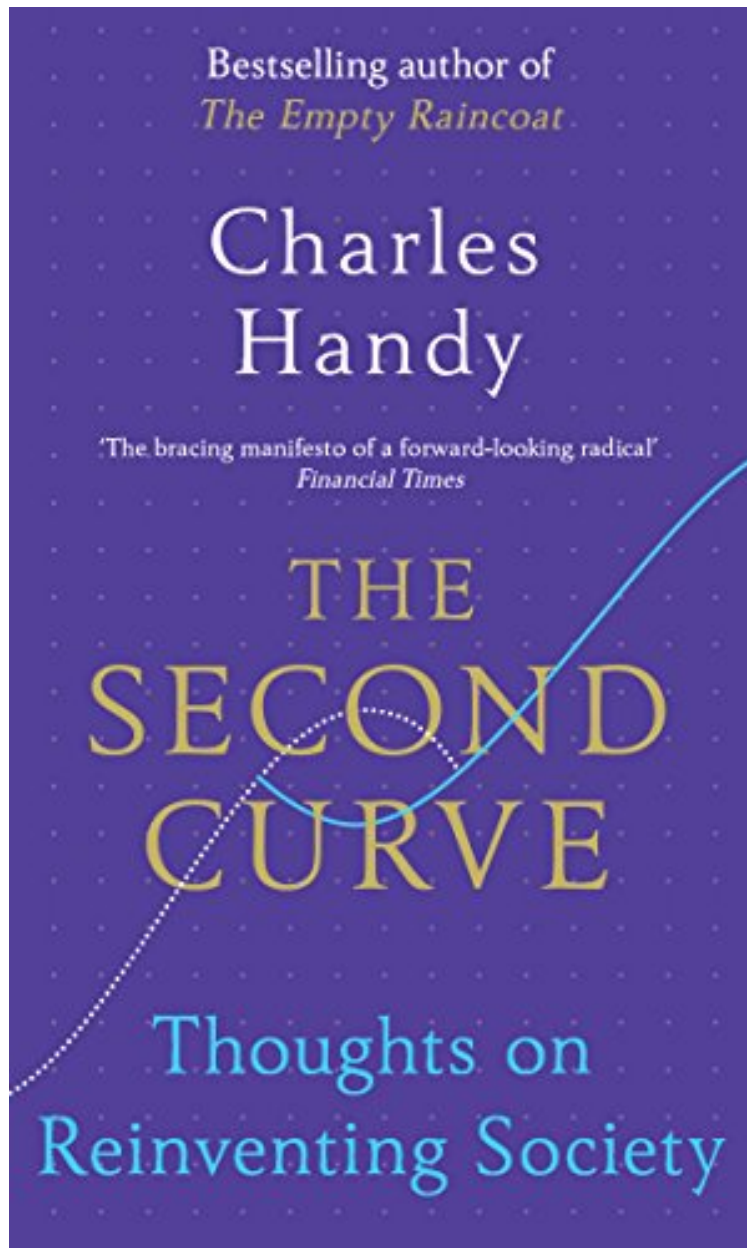


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The Second Curve: Thoughts on Reinventing Society

Charles Handy

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Charles Handy : The Second Curve: Thoughts on Reinventing Society before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Second Curve: Thoughts on Reinventing Society:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A very enjoyable series of essaysBy CustomerA very enjoyable series of essays. I've always enjoyed Charles Handy's outlook on life, society and work. The author adopts a common

sense approach to outlining his views on the world of work and its impact on society not unlike the advice you'd get from a grandfather who's been around the block a few times (he has!) and this I mean this as a compliment. The author takes a top level view of the world covering a wide variety of areas. What I identified with was that there is hope for those in the workforce in their late 40's plus who might feel that job hunting is futile based on the widely (and wrongly) held attitude that workers in this age bracket have little to offer. A lot of Charles Handy's ideas are revolutionary and may find difficulty gaining acceptance in certain quarters of government and conservative boardrooms. However, this should not put people off reading his ideas and at least trying to put them into practice. He is one of those people who have tried to make a difference in improving the lot of others. Well worth a read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The author offers ideas and proposals about how these things could be improved and how they will probably need to adapt and change to better serve present and future needs of society. The author does not hesitate, where he deems it appropriate, to challenge conventional/traditional wisdom e.g. concerning the stakeholders of firms/corporations. The central premise of this book, which constitutes a series of short essays, is the argument that often around the peak in the cycle is the optimal time to move to the next thing, hence 'the second curve', since we are often inclined or forced to make changes towards the end (decline) stage in the cycle when it is probably too late. Overall, I found this book fascinating and stimulating to read, offering plenty of 'food for thought'. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Once you read Charles Handy you will keep coming back! By duane rossman I love the writing of Charles Handy! It is innovative and stimulating. I was particularly interested in the Second Curve or Sigmoid curve at it relates to healthcare in moving from fee for service to value. Absolute correlation and Demonstrates the challenge of jumping the curve!

Britain's leading guru looks to the future. Charles Handy is one of the giants of contemporary thought. His books on management — including *Understanding Organizations* and *Gods of Management* — have changed the way we view business. His work on broader issues and trends — such as *Beyond Certainty* — has changed the way we view society. In *The Second Curve*, Handy builds on a life's work to glimpse into the future and see what challenges and opportunities lie ahead. He looks at current trends in capitalism and asks whether it is a sustainable system. He explores the dangers of a society built on credit. He challenges the myth that remorseless growth is essential. He even asks whether we should rethink our roles in life — as students, parents, workers and voters — and what the aims of an ideal society of the future should be. Provocative and thoughtful as ever, he sets out the questions we all need to ask ourselves — and points us in the direction of some of the answers.

"The bracing manifesto of a forward-looking radical ... The *Second Curve* successfully channels the energy and enthusiasm of the younger generation, in whom Handy places great hope ... Handy's prescience over the decades has earned him the right to dabble and, given his record, you would not want to bet against some of his radical ideas coming true." -- Andrew Hill * *Financial Times* * "Gentle but incisive ... [Handy's] voice is a reassuring, challenging presence. We should continue to listen to it." * *Management Today* * "This book will get you thinking." * *Daily Telegraph* * "Compelling and scalable." * *Edge* * "Strong and original... It is impossible not to be impressed and a little daunted by so much energy and wisdom." * *Irish Independent* * About the Author Charles Handy is an independent writer, broadcaster and teacher. He has been an oil executive, an economist, a professor at the London Business School, the Warden of St. George's House in Windsor Castle and the chairman of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacture and Commerce. He was educated in Ireland, England (Oxford University) and the U.S. (Massachusetts Institute of Technology). His many books include *The Elephant and the Flea*, *Gods of Management*, *Myself and Other Important Matters*, and *Waiting for the Mountain to Move*.