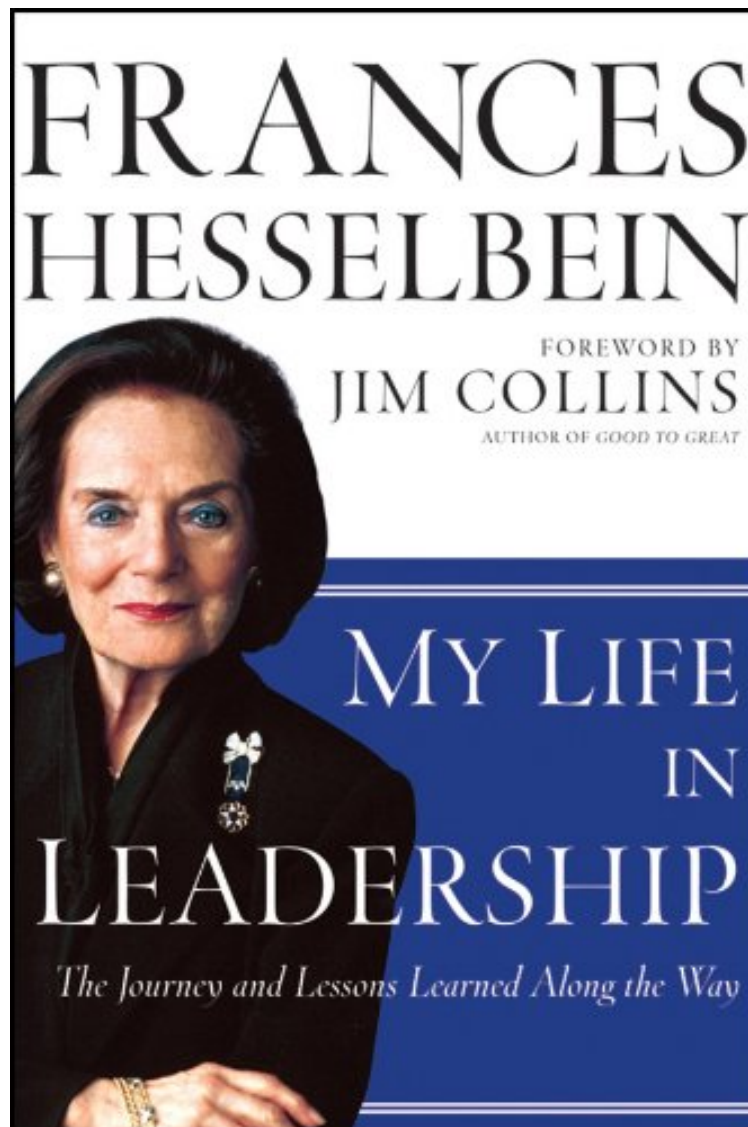


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## **My Life in Leadership: The Journey and Lessons Learned Along the Way (J-B Leader to Leader Institute/PF Drucker Foundation)**

*Frances Hesselbein*

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**Frances Hesselbein : My Life in Leadership: The Journey and Lessons Learned Along the Way (J-B Leader to Leader Institute/PF Drucker Foundation)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised My Life in Leadership: The Journey and Lessons Learned Along the Way (J-B Leader to Leader Institute/PF Drucker Foundation):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Simple, but powerful all the same!By Srikumar S. RaoNo less a

management authority than Peter Drucker lauded Frances Hesselbein as one of the greatest managers he knew so I have been intrigued by her for a long time. Frances has also been a guest speaker at my class at Columbia Business School and elsewhere so I know first hand that she can be an inspiring speaker. Her voice is low but her presence is large. There is nothing "new" that you will learn from this book but the lessons are powerful and bear repeating. In fact, they bear repeated repeating. Define yourself, don't let others define you. Choose your battles carefully. Leadership is about how to be, not how to do. Get feedback - constantly - and heed it. These "lessons" are not presented systematically in bullet points - rather you learn them through the narrative of Frances' story. The narration is smooth and the book is a quick read. Some parts are downright fascinating such as the state of the Girls Scout organization - disarray - when she came there and how she handles major crises such as the time when pins were found in several girl scout cookie packages. I wish some of our major corporations would have as forthright an approach. Frances also talks about her relationship with Marshall Goldsmith, the leading executive coach. I had heard from Marshall about how it all came about and it was refreshing to get the story from Frances' perspective as well. Frances is gracious to a fault and has the ability to make you feel welcome and important and this shows through in the many anecdotes she narrates. The important point to note is that this is not a "technique" she uses to build relationships, this is just who she is. And that is a point she does make but, being self effacing, she does not use herself as an example. All in all a book to read and ponder. And then come back to from time to time to refresh your memory because it is so easy to forget.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If you lead organizations, a good read. By Charles S Haupt Lots of interesting autobiography. Some great insights into running large non-profit organizations. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Quite a Journey By Betty Shotton I have admired Frances Hesselbein as a leader for the past 35 years. She accepted the position of President of Girl Scouts USA when I was a Girl Scout Executive in Richmond, Va. She transformed the organization and made it totally pertinent to the needs of young women coming of age in the late 70's and into the 80's. This book is a gift to leaders as they ponder what really counts. She shows how values of inclusion, respect, diversity, altruism and vision have played a critical role in her remarkable leadership success story. She traces her cultural roots and family influences and shows how they were instrumental in the development of her fine character. With an uncanny ability to enroll high level thinkers and business leaders in supporting her endeavors, whether its Girl Scouts or The Drucker Foundation/Leader to Leader Institute, she reminds us that greatness doesn't have to come with money. When people are committed to something bigger than themselves, something that contributes in meaningful ways to our society and its future, miracles can occur. This is a wonderful to read and inspiring book by a truly great leader.

In a clear and compelling voice, Frances Hesselbein delivers key leadership lessons. Tracing her own development as a leader, she narrates the critical moments that shaped her personally and professionally: from her childhood in Pennsylvania, to moving up from Girl Scout troop leader to Girl Scout CEO, to founding and leading the Leader to Leader Institute, to her friendships and experiences with some of the greatest leaders and thinkers of our time. Each chapter includes an inspirational story, a key lesson and how to apply it to daily life.