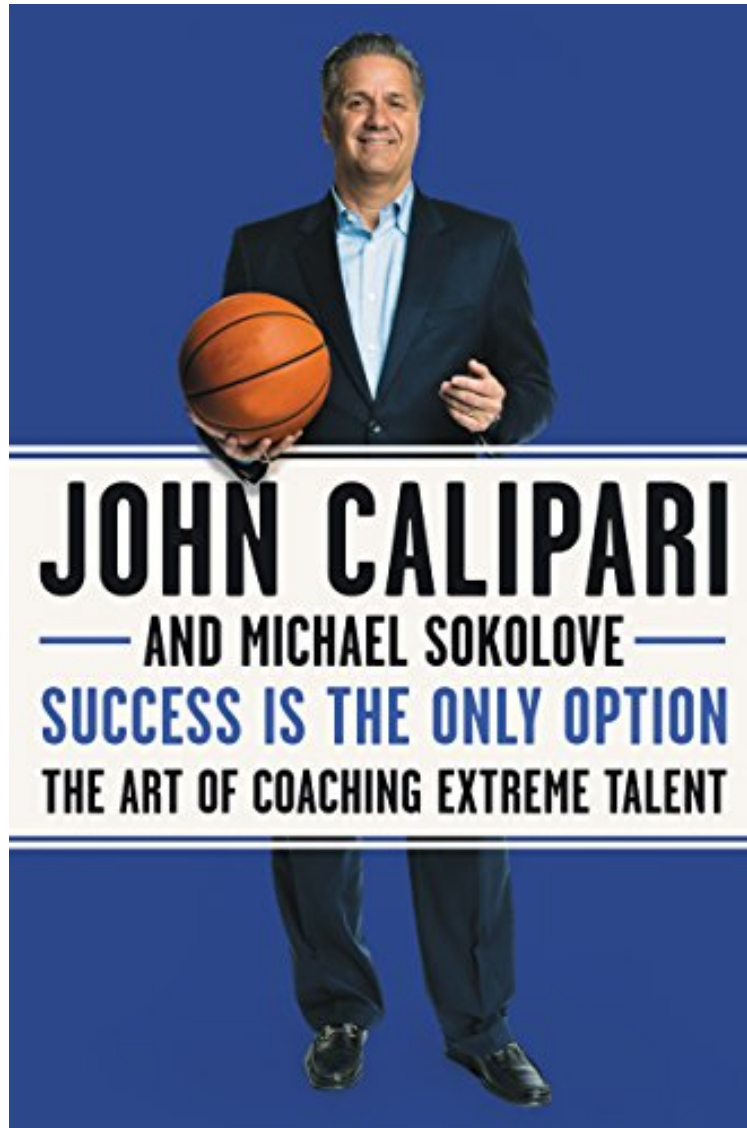


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Success Is the Only Option: The Art of Coaching Extreme Talent

John Calipari, Michael Sokolove

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John Calipari, Michael Sokolove : Success Is the Only Option: The Art of Coaching Extreme Talent before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Success Is the Only Option: The Art of Coaching Extreme Talent:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Insights about helping peopleBy Steve PollockCoach Cal shares his coaching insights, and his tips translate far beyond basketball. In fact, this is not a basketball book, or even a coaching book. This is a collection of stories about how to help talented people help themselves by helping others. He is right. We are here for a reason, and it is a leader's job to create self-awareness and nurture ownership for pursuing one's passion.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book. I work in the healthcare market in ...By

Mike Friedel Excellent book. I work in the healthcare market in sales. Great business lessons, well written and I really liked reading about Coach Cal and the Kentucky basketball program. Before the book I was not a fan of the one and done aspect of College basketball and I now have a much better understanding of this along with a tremendous appreciation of how Coach Cal makes it work. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Leadership By Mike Shrader Excellent look at value systems and management insights to growing people and organization as well as teams.

Kentucky's charismatic coach shares the secrets of creating one of the premiere programs in college basketball, revealing how he transforms a group of former high school superstars into selfless, cohesive teams—including a remarkable squad last year that fell just one game short of a perfect season. Kentucky basketball coach John Calipari is known for his unparalleled ability to recruit the nation's best young players, some of whom will spend just one year with him before going to the NBA, and convincing them to commit to the team without sacrificing their personal goals. It is a promise he makes to them: "Fully invest in the present—and each other—and I guarantee it will serve your future." Here, for the first time, he distills his team-building methods in ways that apply to CEOs, business owners, coaches, teachers and leaders of all kinds—lessons for anyone seeking to inspire talented individuals to reach for their best selves and contribute to a greater good. A basketball team is an intimate workplace, in which blend is everything and character matters. As such, it is a window into the nature of successful leadership. Calipari views each new team like a startup business—one composed of new players, new relationships, and new challenges. Each season is a series of discoveries as he learns how to unleash the extreme talent in each of his players and mold them into championship material as college basketball comes to a crescendo every spring. While he can't control everything, he is responsible for everything—just like a CEO. An enlightening look at leadership, management, and team building, *Success Is the Only Option* offers the keys to winning, on and off the court.

From the Back Cover Kentucky basketball coach John Calipari is highly regarded for his unparalleled ability to recruit the country's top high-school talent without making outlandish promises. Instead, he tells his players, "Commit to each other, be about each other without sacrificing your goals, and by doing this you can achieve all your dreams and more." Here, for the first time, he distills his team-building methods in ways that apply to CEOs, business owners, coaches, teachers, and leaders of all kinds—lessons for anyone seeking to inspire talented individuals to reach for their best selves and contribute to a greater good. A basketball team is an intimate workplace, in which blend is everything and character matters. As such, it is a window into the nature of successful leadership. Calipari views each new team like a startup business—one composed of new players, new relationships, and new challenges. Each season is a series of discoveries as he learns how to unleash the extreme talent in each of his players and mold them into championship material as college basketball comes to a crescendo every spring. While he can't control everything, he is responsible for everything—just like a CEO. An enlightening look at leadership, management, and team building, *Success Is the Only Option* offers the keys to winning, on and off the court. About the Author John Calipari is the head coach of men's basketball at the University of Kentucky. He led the Kentucky Wildcats to the 2012 national championship, and has been to a total of six Final Fours in his career, including four in a five-year period. He was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2015. He lives in Lexington, Kentucky. Michael Sokolove is a contributing writer for the New York Times Magazine, as well as the author of the books *The Ticket Out*, *Hustle*, and *Warrior Girls*. He lives in Bethesda, Maryland.