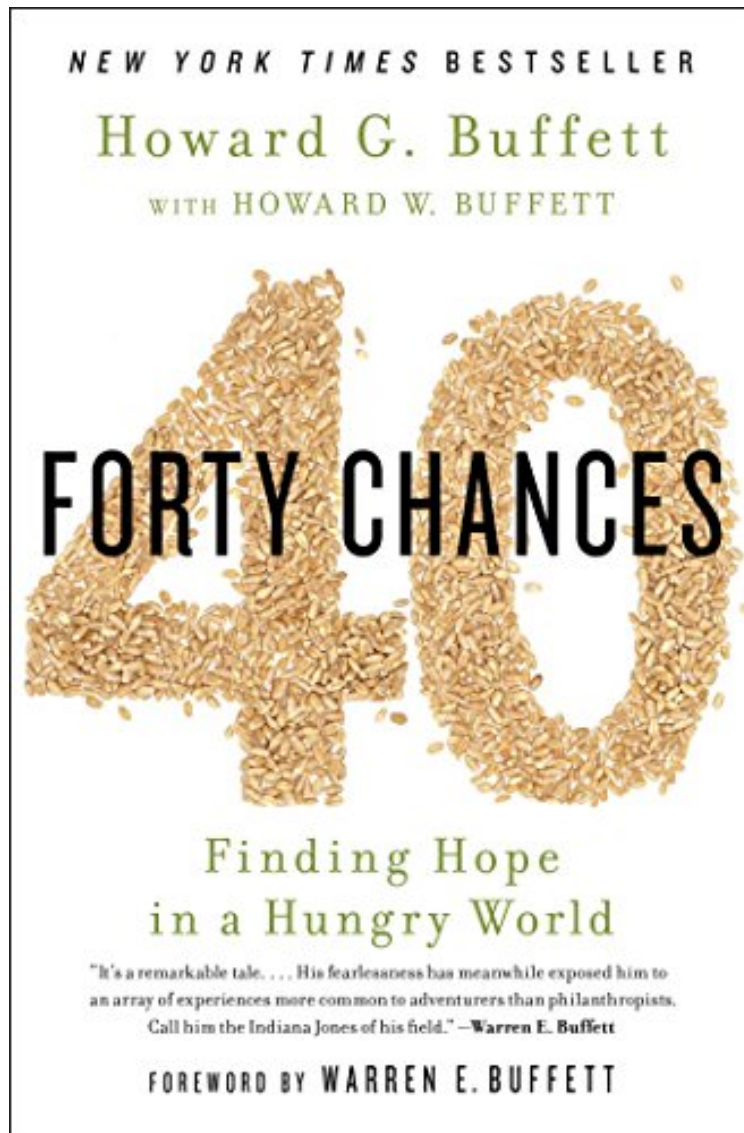


40 Chances: Finding Hope in a Hungry World

Howard G Buffett

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Howard G Buffett : 40 Chances: Finding Hope in a Hungry World before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 40 Chances: Finding Hope in a Hungry World:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Pessimistic Optimist are great people.By Michael MarsdenFORTY CHANCES by Howard G. Buffett with H. W. BuffettSimon Schuster, 2013, 433 pagesISBN 978-1-4516-8786-6 I was very skeptical about learning anything from this book. Howard G. Buffett's father is a Billionaire, what could he tell me, I grew up in the real world. I was wrong, I learned a great deal from this book. The title is the key, Forty Chances. Howard is a farmer and the premise of the book is "a farmer can expect 40 chances or growing seasons

to get it right. The object of farming is to feed people not to just get a crop to market. Howard begins with farming and quickly links feeding people to places where people are starving. Starvation is linked solidly to farming failure in those locations often due to conflict. You can't farm when a war is going on. There are other obstacles to successful farming around the world. In 40 stories (actually 41 stories) Howard details why some places in the world people cannot feed themselves. The complete title to this book is FORTY CHANCES - Finding Hope in a Hungry World. Finding hope is not preached but discovered as the 40 stories unfold. There are many dimensions to the problem of farming in the world from land ownership, seed available to social norms. I must compliment Howard for using these 40 stories to present the problems. They add credibility to the conditions he describes and to the possible solutions he presents. This is not a Billionaire telling how he thinks others should do things; this is a farmer sharing his concern, failures and successes. Thank you Howard I learned a great deal. Michael Andrew Marsden

— The North Idaho Ghost Writer

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Amazing stories

By zoe masterpole

This book is one of the best books I have read. I have a passion for global food security and this book addresses issues that people do not normally discuss. The hardcover was a great option for me as I have already read it twice and plan to lend it out to many people. The idea of 40 chances is explained on a local level, how many times a farmer typically harvests his field, and how many years left the Howard Buffett Foundation has left to complete its goal. The website for this book has many resources worth checking out. They did a variety of interviews around that book release that could be helpful to check out if you are unsure of the content. This book would be of interest to anyone, not just people interested in agriculture or international development.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "Forty Chances" - good storytelling, and good non-fiction... about the world's agriculture food supply practices

By Gayen

Howard G. Buffett is an excellent storyteller! ...despite the seriousness of the topic(s): sustainable food production and hunger/malnutrition. His book are his own, first-hand experiences - both as a farmer/philanthropist...learning about local farming practices around the world!

In "Forty Chances", a few chapters are success stories! Buffett writes with compassion, sometimes sharing warm or humorous accounts of individuals or groups...but always with throughout purpose, Buffett raises serious concerns/even alarms... about the destructive agriculture practices around the world. He focuses on our world's history(s) of food production, about issues - including differences in soils weather between the northern/southern hemispheres. His writing is terse, without polemics!...Buffett is deeply concerned about food in-security(s) and how geography (weather/soil conditions) makes a huge difference in what will/will not secure the supply of affordable food. He makes the case for HOW WHY we must improve worldwide food security/sustainability....Buffett makes his articulate case(s) for facing our immediate and longterm worldwide food needs - and how to re-think production practices distribution. Buffett is knowledgeable, articulate, with personal, firsthand farming knowledge. He admits he loves big farming machines - but NOT ever 'at the expense' of both large small farming operations and the all-important issues of climate and soils... nor the need for sustainable (long-term) production successes. He describe work of well-meaning governments, and some nonprofit agency's and their failures to understand the impact of local weather, crop failures, economic conditions, market access/transportation, local political and /or military conflicts. Buffett advocates that international agencies, individual national govts, and nonprofits must all understand the real, local conditions (weather/water/soil/financial/politics/transportation) ...that always affect food production and distribution. And... that local farmers (big small) need encouragement/education on how to use sustainable farming practices, for their own hoped-for long-term economic sustainability.

With a foreword by Warren Buffett, 40 Chances is an "inspiring manifesto" both an informative guidebook and a catalyst for igniting real change (Booklist) in the struggle against world hunger. If someone granted you \$3 billion to accomplish something great in the world, what would you do? In 2006, legendary investor Warren Buffett posed this challenge to his son Howard G. Buffett. Howard set out to help the most vulnerable people on earth—nearly a billion individuals who lack basic food security. And Howard gave himself a deadline: forty years to put the resources to work on this challenge. 40 Chances: Finding Hope in a Hungry World captures Howard's journey. Beginning with his love for farming, we join him around the world as he seeks out new approaches to ease the suffering of so many. Each of the forty stories here provides a compelling look at the lessons Howard learned, ranging from his own backyard to some of the most difficult and dangerous places on Earth. But this message goes beyond the pages of this book, it's also a mindset: a way of thinking that speaks to every person wanting to make a difference. It's about reasons to hope and actions we can take. 40 Chances "recounts Howard's personal and professional experiences in surprisingly candid and colorful fashion; successfully blending personal stories with a tough look at the struggle to fight domestic food scarcity and world hunger; A satisfying read" (Publishers Weekly) that provides inspiration to transform each of our limited chances into opportunities to change the world.

From Publishers Weekly

A son of legendary investor Warren Buffett (who provides the foreword), Howard G. Buffett considers himself a farmer first and foremost. He explains that all farmers get 40 growing seasons in their lifetime,

giving them just 40 chances to improve. In 40 chapters—constructed as elegant essays—Buffett describes his quest to make a difference in the world, which began well before his father established philanthropic foundations for his three children. The younger Buffett has focused his foundation on wildlife conservation and world hunger. Here, he recounts his personal and professional experiences in surprisingly candid and colorful fashion. An accomplished photographer, Buffett humanizes his stories with his own pictures: from a young boy in ankle chains whom he encountered in Senegal, to a shy village girl in Sierra Madre, to a subsistence farmer digging zai pits in Mozambique. Buffett invites his son Howard W. Buffett, also a philanthropist, to contribute a few chapters, but unfortunately these miss the mark. Despite this shortcoming, the book successfully blends personal stories with a tough look at the struggle to fight domestic food scarcity and world hunger. Those interested in these issues or global philanthropy are sure to find this a satisfying read. Bw photos throughout. Agent: Jillian Manus, Manus Associates Literary Agency. (Oct.)

From Booklist "The 'forty chances' in the title of this inspiring manifesto on ending world hunger refers to the average number of growing seasons in a farmer's career and, by way of analogy, the amount of opportunities we have to realize our dreams. Howard G. Buffett, a famed philanthropist and farmer himself, takes this notion as a springboard to describe his vision and recount his efforts so far to address poverty and starvation both at home and in the Third World. Fittingly, the author presents 40 stories about his mission, beginning with his own upbringing under the watchful eye of his father, legendary billionaire Warren Buffett, who taught his children to respect the dollar and those in need. During visits to Africa as a teen, Howard saw this deprivation up close and has since returned there to teach farming methods, although he is as honest here about his failures as his successes. With contributions from his own son, Howard W., Buffett's work is both an informative guidebook and a catalyst for igniting real changes in the world. --Carl Hays "This book is like Howard himself: inspiring, positive, and full of great stories. If you ever find yourself doubting that we can change the world for the better, read this and your optimism will return." -- Tony Blair "Howard has three passions: his devotion to the fight against hunger and misery; his love for farming; and his ability as a photographer and writer to share his amazing journey. Through the stories in 40 Chances, Howard invites all of us to join his efforts to fight poverty." -- Carlos Slim "The Jewish Talmud teaches that if you save one life you save the entire world. Howard Buffett has lived this prescription, and in the process has saved the world many times over. 40 Chances illustrates that his commitment and passion to help folks out of poverty, at home and especially in the developing world, has had a remarkable and measurable impact on the lives of farmers and rural citizens worldwide. 40 Chances should be a primer for all our citizens on how one man has the passion to save the world, and how we can all follow his lead in our own way." -- Secretary Dan Glickman "Whether we are driving his combine in Illinois, meeting with farmers in Guatemala, walking across the border from Mexico to the US, or indulging in our shared love for Dairy Queen, a day spent with Howard Buffett is one spent learning and laughing. Howard's intellect is only surpassed by the size of his heart. This book will give readers a chance to learn from him in the way that I have and form their own plan for making the most of the 40 Chances we all have." -- Eva Longoria, Actress and Philanthropist "Howard Buffett's account of his long battle against food insecurity conveys his deep respect for poor farmers and his conviction that they can be empowered to feed the world. His work is amazing and will inspire you to join his crusade." -- President Bill Clinton