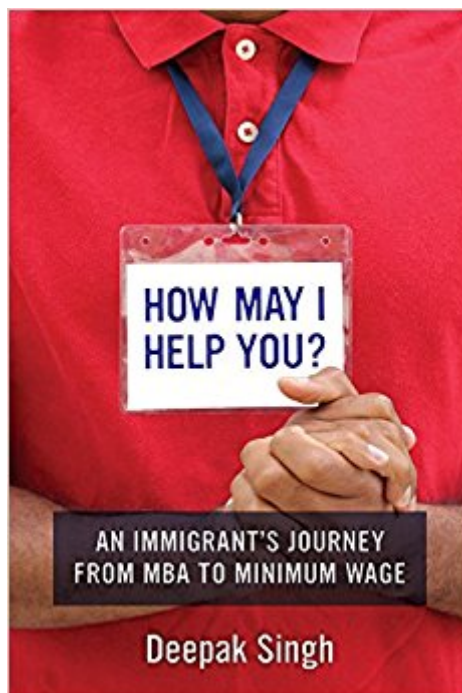




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How May I Help You?: An Immigrant's Journey From MBA To Minimum Wage



Synopsis

In this moving and insightful work, Deepak Singh chronicles his downward mobility as an immigrant to a small town in Virginia. Armed with an MBA from India, Singh can get only a minimum-wage job in an electronics store. Every day he confronts unfamiliar American mores, from strange idioms to deeply entrenched racism. • Telling stories through the unique lens of an initially credulous outsider who is "fresh off the plane," Singh learns about the struggles of his colleagues: Ron, a middle-aged African-American man trying to keep his life intact despite health concerns; Jackie, a young African-American woman diligently attending school after work; and Cindy, whose matter-of-fact attitude helps Deepak adapt to his job and his new life. • How May I Help You? is an incisive take on life in the United States and a reminder that the stories of low-wage employees can bring candor and humanity to debates about work, race, and immigration.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"An interesting look at a puzzling societyâoursâfrom the point of view of a sympathetic but not uncritical outsider." (Kirkus Reviews 2016-12-06)"With careful candor and clarity, [Deepak Singh] shows the challenges facing new immigrants and the effort it takes to surmount them." (Booklist 2017-02-03)

"Deepak Singh shares his incredible stories of learning, feeling, beauty, work, friendship, and marriage. It is at once deeply personal and specific, while also resonating with fellow humansâ™

similar struggles across the globe."â "Dr. Susan D. Blum, author ofÂ Lies That Bind: Chinese Truth, Other Truths "I devoured Deepak Singh's memoir at home, at work, on the subway and on the streets of New York. It's funny, eye-opening, and deeply human in its regard for working-class Americans and for all people who struggle to make ends meet. If Barbara Ehrenreich had been born in India,Â Nickel and DimedÂ might've looked a lot like this." â "Arun Venugopal, WNYC "Deepak Singh reanimates the fears, joys, bafflements, and general vertigo of those first few months after immigrating to the United States. With humor and pathos in equal measure, Singh shows us how difficult it is to work at the most insecure levels of American society."Â â "Siva Vaidhyanathan, University of Virginia

I had read articles on NPR by the author, which is why I bought the book. An immigrant from India who moved here around the same time the author did- I found myself agreeing with his observations, but that is not the only reason why I like the book. Like all good books, it makes you feel intensely and think deeply. There is a sensitivity to the narration, and a simplicity to the emotion. One feels drawn in to the story, regardless of one's background and that I think is the true genius of Mr Singh.

I found this to be an enjoyable book. Very quick read. Insightful. All in all I liked it a lot. I wish I'd gotten to learn how he progressed out of the minimum wage situation, however.

Loved the honesty and observation/ understanding of Characters... Aspring middle class Indians dream desperately of going to America and once they are there every moment initially is spent on readjusting and correcting their image of America and Americans..... I have stayed in the US for few years as part of my job in IT companies and could completely relate to Deepak's observations.... Author's ability to find common grounds in social structures in 2 completely different societies is excellent....

An honest, brave and funny at times. A must read to know stories of immigrants still landing if not on Plymouth rock but many airports of AMERICA everyday.

Deepak gives me a wonderful, new pair of eyes for seeing America. And India. I wish everyone could read this book.

A great depiction of the contrast of cultures and lifestyles between India and the US. Excellent descriptions told with true heart, honesty and humor.

It gets the point across about man's humanity(or lack of)to man. a little repetitious.

Excellent book! Depak did a great job describing the struggles that many modern day immigrants face in our largely ethnocentric society.

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