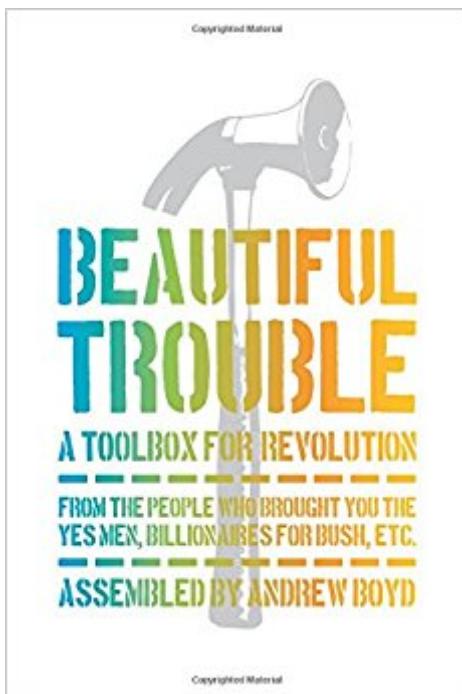


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# Beautiful Trouble: A Toolbox For Revolution



## Synopsis

"Elegant and incendiary." <sup>151</sup>Naomi Klein. Beautiful Trouble brings together dozens of seasoned artists and activists from around the world to distill their best practices into a toolbox for creative action. Sophisticated enough for veteran activists, accessible enough for newbies, this compendium of troublemaking wisdom is a must-have for aspiring changemakers. Showcasing the synergies between artistic imagination and shrewd political strategy, Beautiful Trouble is for everyone who longs for a more beautiful, more just, more livable world <sup>150</sup>; and wants to know how to get there.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Andrew Boyd is an author, humorist and twenty-five-year veteran of creative campaigns for social change. He led the decade-long satirical media campaign <sup>147</sup>Billionaires for Bush. <sup>148</sup>He co-founded Agit-Pop Communications, an award-winning <sup>147</sup>subvertising <sup>148</sup>agency, and the netroots movement The Other 98%. He <sup>149</sup>is the author of three books: Daily Afflictions, Life <sup>149</sup>Little Deconstruction Book and the creative action manual The Activist Cookbook. You can find him at andrewboyd.com. Dave Oswald Mitchell is a writer, editor and researcher. He edited the Canadian activist publication Briarpatch Magazine from 2005 to 2010, and his writing has been published in Rabble, Reality Sandwich, Rolling Thunder and Upping the Anti.

I am a college professor and am currently developing a class on Arts of Resistance where we look

at contemporary art history/practice of work that is socially engaged. I have reviewed a lot of books to find materials for class, and this is the best book I have come across dedicated to the art of creative activism. I highly recommend it! We will be using this as one of our 2 main texts in class. The modules are all bite-sized and digestible. It has excellent cross-referencing to connect tactics, principles, case studies, and practitioners. It is a wonderful handbook for anyone interested in creative activism. Will not disappoint.

Excellent book. Highly informative.

Belongs -- in multiple copies -- on the bookshelves of every social action organization in our not-so-free world. Amazing compendium of practical, proven, effective strategies for fighting for change, created and edited by people who have been on the front lines. Oh, and carry around a couple of copies with you so that the next time someone whines, "I know, but what can I do?", you can hand them this book and say, "Pick one, and get to work." Great list of social change resources, too.

A treasure trove of simple techniques activists can use to change the world. Succinct analysis of many, mostly highly successful, political actions; whether they were successful, how they worked or didn't, and why. It's a book that says, Yes! Try this at home. Try this with your friends, your community or college organization. Change the world, what are you waiting for.

Beautiful book!!!!

Some of the principles are kind of repetitive and even contradictory, but in general is an empowering and inspiring book.

From a second reading after attending The New Story Summit at Findhorn Foundation in Scotland. QUOTE Stephan Duncombe (104): ""Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free." But waiting for the truth to set us free is lazy politics. The truth does not reveal itself by virtue of being the truth: it must be told, and told well. It must have stories woven around it, works of art made about it; it must be communicated in new and compelling ways that can be passed from person to person, even if this requires flights of fancy and new methodologies." I bought this book at Hackers on Planet Earth (HOPE) in NYC, along with Michel Sifry's *The Big Disconnect: Why The*

Internet Hasn't Transformed Politics (Yet)Â that I am reviewing now, both of these books are huge, and the Sifry book relatively unknown when it should a "top 10" reading for all progressives. This book (Beautiful Trouble), at 138 pages in pocket size (3/5ths of a normal pocketbook), is an utter gem. At a minimum it forces reflection. Produced by a team of people and organizations, this is a community resources in every sense of the word. By all means use Look Inside the Book, it does offer a Kindle version look at the contents, otherwise I would have repeated the table of contents here. This is an important book, perhaps most useful as an inspiration and as a source of reflection on what is possible. It is a book I will carry in my briefcase to visit across many days and places. Here are some highlights from my notes:+ Book offers a "pattern language," in essence a formula for telling a new story with new means+ See the website, a growing community+ Song creates sympathy+ Coordination across organizations and industries is key -- most are fragmented beyond imagination+ Debts are shared fictions - pull the plug+ Winning the revolution is an information challenge -- challenge the core premises publicly+ Flash mobs work well, especially under repressive conditions+ Strikes are non-violent but only work when they are general and cross-industry+ Guerilla projection (projecting truth messages against facades without doing damage) is HUGE tool+ Hoax stories that get picked up by mainstream media reveal the larger mosaic of lies that is the mainstream media+ Core practices include clear motive and story, disruptive action with disciplined non-violence, open to participation+ Strategic non-violence demands DEEP education of all participants to avoid false-flag provocations to violence+ Repressed female and minority power is a huge resource to be respected and embraced+ Highlighting human (and true) cost of any issue is not something the media does -- we must+ Play to your SECONDARY audience (the follow on viewers of the YouTube)+ Shift the spectrum of allies from hostile to neutral to friendly to stalwart+ Tell the story -- the "naked truth" is simply not that effective because the story grabs the heart and the heart is central+ Message discipline is vital -- leave the conspiracy theories even if known to be true - for after the revolution+ Listen to those most affected by the issue, let their authenticity be your foundation on that issue+ Challenge the behavior in context, not the person -- everyone really is a good person trapped in a bad context+ Most are ignorant of the power they can exercise by withdrawing consent and boycottingBelow I list other titles to consider in two blocks -- five in this genre, specifics of organizing, and five in the larger context of collective intelligence and public power.

Organizing for Social Change 4th Edition  
Strike Back: Using the Militant Tactics of Labor's Past to Reignite Public Sector Unionism Today  
Doing Democracy: The MAP Model for Organizing Social Movements  
The Occupy Handbook  
Occupy: Reflections on Class War, Rebellion and Solidarity (Occupied Media Pamphlet Series)  
A Power

Governments Cannot Suppress The Power of the Powerless: Citizens Against the State in Central-Eastern Europe The Unconquerable World: Power, Nonviolence, and the Will of the People Powershift: Knowledge, Wealth, and Violence at the Edge of the 21st Century Best wishes to all, Robert David STEELE Vivas THE OPEN SOURCE EVERYTHING MANIFESTO: Transparency, Truth, & Trust

Like described. Like new.

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