

The Three Marriages: Reimagining Work, Self and Relationship

By David Whyte

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The Three Marriages: Reimagining Work, Self and Relationship By David Whyte

Drawing from his own experience and the lives of some of the world?s great writers and poets, David Whyte brings compelling insights to our three most important commitments? to another, to our work, and to ourselves?to frame a complete picture of a satisfying life.

David Whyte knows there are three crucial relationships, or marriages, in our lives: the marriage or partnership with a significant other, the commitment we have to our work, and the vows, spoken or unspoken, we make to an inner, constantly developing self. In *The Three Marriages*, the bestselling author, poet, and speaker argues that it is not possible to sacrifice one relationship for the others without causing deep psychological damage. Too often, he says, we fracture our lives and split our energies foolishly, so that one or more of these marriages is sacrificed and may wither and die, in the process impoverishing them all. Whyte looks to a different way of seeing and connecting these relationships and prompts us to examine each marriage with a fierce but affectionate eye as he shows us the importance of cherishing all three equally.

Drawing from his own struggles to achieve this goal as well as exploring the lives of some of the world?s great writers and activists?from Dante to Joan of Arc, from Austen to Dickinson?Whyte reveals that our core commitments are irrevocably connected. Only by understanding the simultaneously robust and delicate nature of the three marriages and the stages of their maturation, he maintains, can we create a real portrait of what makes us tick and a real sense of finding a place in the world.

In prose that?s at once lyrical and inviting, Whyte investigates captivating ideas for bringing a deeper satisfaction to our lives, one that goes beyond our previously held ideas of balance.

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The Three Marriages: Reimagining Work, Self and Relationship By David Whyte Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #378395 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Riverhead Hardcover
- Published on: 2009-01-22
- Released on: 2009-01-22
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.32" h x 1.21" w x 6.30" l, 1.19 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 352 pages

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Poet David Whyte grew up among the hills and valleys of Yorkshire, England. The author of four books of poetry, he is one of the few poets to take his perspectives on creativity into the field of organizational development, where he works with many American and international companies. He holds a degree in Marine Zoology, and has traveled extensively, including working as a naturalist guide and leading anthropological and natural history expeditions. He brings this wealth of experiences to his poetry, lectures and workshops.

In organizational settings, using poetry and thoughtful commentary, he illustrates how we can foster qualities of courage and engagement; qualities needed if we are to respond to today’s call for increased creativity and adaptability in the workplace. He brings a unique and important contribution to our understanding of the nature of individual and organizational change.

In addition to his four volumes of poetry, David Whyte is the author of **The Heart Aroused: Poetry and the Preservation of the Soul in Corporate America**, published by Doubleday/Currency, an audio cassette lecture series, and an album of poetry and music. His new book of prose, "**Crossing the Unknown Sea: Work as Pilgrimage of Identity**" was published in hardcover by Riverhead Books in March, 2001, and is coming out in paperback in April, 2002. He lives with his family in the Pacific Northwest.

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