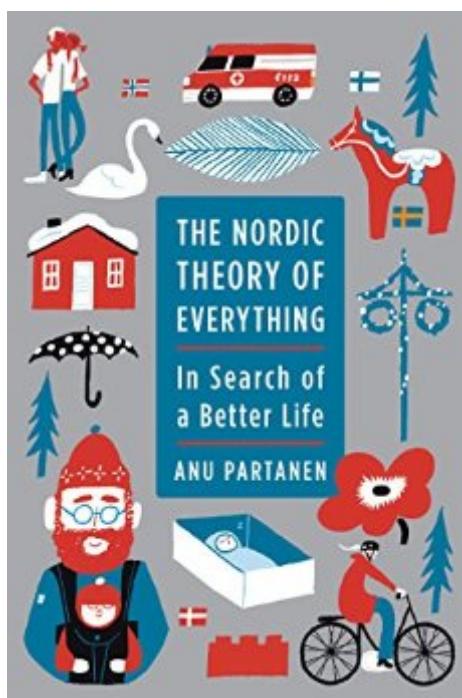


The book was found

The Nordic Theory Of Everything: In Search Of A Better Life



Synopsis

A Finnish journalist, now a naturalized American citizen, asks Americans to draw on elements of the Nordic way of life to nurture a fairer, happier, more secure, and less stressful society for themselves and their children. Moving to America in 2008, Finnish journalist Anu Partanen quickly went from confident, successful professional to wary, self-doubting mess. She found that navigating the basics of everyday life—“from buying a cell phone and filing taxes to education and childcare”—was much more complicated and stressful than anything she encountered in her homeland. At first, she attributed her crippling anxiety to the difficulty of adapting to a freewheeling new culture. But as she got to know Americans better, she discovered they shared her deep apprehension. To understand why life is so different in the U.S. and Finland, Partanen began to look closely at both. In *The Nordic Theory of Everything*, Partanen compares and contrasts life in the United States with life in the Nordic region, focusing on four key relationships—parents and children, men and women, employees and employers, and government and citizens. She debunks criticism that Nordic countries are socialist “nanny states,” revealing instead that it is we Americans who are far more enmeshed in unhealthy dependencies than we realize. As Partanen explains step by step, the Nordic approach allows citizens to enjoy more individual freedom and independence than we do. Partanen wants to open Americans’ eyes to how much better things can be—to show her beloved new country what it can learn from her homeland to reinvigorate and fulfill the promise of the American dream—to provide the opportunity to live a healthy, safe, economically secure, upwardly mobile life for everyone. Offering insights, advice, and solutions, *The Nordic Theory of Everything* makes a convincing argument that we can rebuild our society, rekindle our optimism, and restore true freedom to our relationships and lives.

Book Information

File Size: 952 KB

Print Length: 432 pages

Publisher: Harper (June 28, 2016)

Publication Date: June 28, 2016

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B018QLGBF2

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #41,719 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #56 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > European #78 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Sociology #156 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Commentary & Opinion

Customer Reviews

THE NORDIC THEORY OF EVERYTHING: In Search of a Better Life by Anu Partanen. Reviewed by C J Singh (Berkeley, California). A "Must-Read" Book. Noticing the extraordinary praise by Robert Reich, Chancellor's Professor of Public Policy at UC Berkeley, I purchased a copy last week. Yesterday, at the Books Inc Store, Berkeley, I attended the author's lively presentation, followed by audience questions, each answered with precise knowledge, concision, and grace. In my close reading, Anu Partanen's "THE NORDIC THEORY OF EVERYTHING: In Search of a Better Life," written in highly engaging style, is an excellent example of lucid critical analysis, documented with more than 400 research citations. The widely held stereotype in the US of Nordic countries is often states that discourage individuality. In fact, Nordic countries foster individuality by minimizing dependencies on family members and employers. Just how is convincingly detailed in the book. The subtitle "In Search of a Better Life" accurately describes the author's view-point and tone. An immigrant to the US who arrived from Finland eight years ago, now in love with the country of her adoption, she is also proud of her heritage. Rightly so, the Nordic countries have been consistently top-ranked as the happiest. The US is not even in the top ten. Partanen offers suggestions based on the "The Nordic Theory of Love" (Chapter 2); for better "Family Values for Real" (Chapter 3); for children "Attaining Educational Success" (Chapter 4); for better health care "How Universal Health Care Could Set You Free" (Chapter 5).

As an American immigrant and naturalized citizen of Finnish origin, Partanen is well-positioned to compare the strengths and weaknesses of American and Nordic societies. While she admires the aspirational rhetoric of American individualism and opportunity, and acknowledges the landmark achievements of American democracy in the 18th and 19th centuries, Partanen is perplexed by the failure of American society to modernize its approach to government and social opportunity. People

who are already familiar with the "Nordic system" will not be surprised by Partanen's references to the superior primary and secondary school systems, affordable and high-quality universal healthcare, or the vitality of the Nordic economic systems. However, because Partanen and her social circle have experienced life on both sides of the Nordic/American divide, she can provide insight into how these systems affect the way ordinary people live, love, and work. America does not fare well in this comparison; a recurring theme in Partanen's narratives is the additional stress and anxiety associated with trying to make a secure life in America. Nordic residents don't have to worry about massive unpaid medical bills and a byzantine insurance bureaucracy, or reams of research about local schools, or the difficulty of finding safe and affordable child care. Instead, they can spend more of their time and mental bandwidth on their families and their careers. The result is families that are built on affection, rather than dependency, and a greater freedom for individuals to pursue their personal goals.

This extraordinarily interesting book just published was brought to my attention by a Finnish friend who has lived and worked in the United States for many years, becoming a U.S. citizen in the process. As a retired American Foreign Service Officer for 35 years who in the 1970s and 1980s served twice in the U.S. Embassy in Finland and dealt with Nordic issues in the Department of State in Washington, I had come to admire greatly the Nordic social/political/economic model that to a greater or lesser degree has been followed for several decades by all five of the Nordic countries: Sweden, Finland, Norway Denmark and Iceland. This model has been studied and characterized by social scientists, economists, historians and other academics from many different perspectives and points of view. However, I think the author of this book has performed a unique and extraordinary service by being able to convey the essence and "feel" of what is going on in Nordic societies that those of us who were fortunate to have lived there for some years came to recognize and admire but which is so hard to articulate to an often self-satisfied and self-absorbed American public skeptical of and ill-informed about how foreign countries govern themselves. Perhaps her most important contribution has been to dare to question why most Americans consider that social investment in education, health care and measures to assure decent income opportunities, adequate vacation and leave time and the general "well-being" for all of its citizens should be condemned as "socialism" and as a threat to individual freedom, self-determination and as a disincentive to individual initiative.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

word search books, word search books for adults, adult word search books, word search puzzle books Word Search Puzzles Large Print: Large print word search, Word search books, Word search books for adults, Adult word search books, Word search puzzle books, Extra large print word search The Nordic Theory of Everything: In Search of a Better Life Sleep Smarter: The Ultimate Guide To Sleep Better, Feel Better By Having Healthy Sleeping Habits (sleep smarter, sleep better, healthy sleep habits, sleep ... healthy sleep, sleep apnea, feel better) Warriors Word Scramble: Word Scramble Games - Word Search, Word Puzzles And Word Scrambles (Word Games, Brain Games, Word Search, Word Search Games, Word ... Scramble, Word Scrabble, Unscramble Word) The Best Large Print Word Search Puzzle Book: A Collection of 50 Themed Word Search Puzzles; Great for Adults and for Kids! (The Best Large Print Word Search Puzzle Books) (Volume 1) Fingerspelling Word Search Games - 36 Word Search Puzzles with the American Sign Language Alphabet: Volume 01 (Fingerspelling Word Search Games for Adults) The Best of Everything Word Search Book: Build Your Brain Power with 150 Easy to Hard Word Search Puzzles The Everything Large-Print Bible Word Search Book: 150 inspirational puzzles - now in large print! (Everything Series) The South Beach Diet Supercharged Faster Weight Loss and Better Health for Life [2008 Hardcover] Arthur Agatston MD (Author) Joseph Signorile PhD (Author) The South Beach Diet Supercharged Faster Weight Loss and Better Health for Life [2008 Hardcover] Selected by Extraterrestrials: My life in the top secret world of UFOs., think-tanks and Nordic secretaries The Everything Wedding Vows Book: Anything and Everything You Could Possibly Say at the Altar-And Then Some (Everything (Weddings)) The Everything Wedding Vows Book: Anything and Everything You Could Possibly Say at the Altar - And Then Some (Everything Series) Life Coaching: Complete Blueprint to Becoming a Powerful Influential Life Coach (Life coaching, Life improvement, positive thinking, coaching, better leadership, goals, consulting) The Statistical Theory of Everything: It Explains Everything and is Never Wrong The Nordic Cookbook Noma: Time and Place in Nordic Cuisine The New Nordic: Recipes from a Scandinavian Kitchen The New Nordic Diet: Delicious Recipes for a Healthy Lifestyle (Volume 2) Fire and Ice: Classic Nordic Cooking

[Dmca](#)