

# Authentic Happiness: Using the New Positive Psychology to Realize Your Potential for Lasting Fulfillment

By Martin E. P. Seligman



**Authentic Happiness: Using the New Positive Psychology to Realize Your Potential for Lasting Fulfillment** By Martin E. P. Seligman

A national bestseller, *Authentic Happiness* launched the revolutionary new science of Positive Psychology—and sparked a coast-to-coast debate on the nature of real happiness.

According to esteemed psychologist and bestselling author Martin Seligman, happiness is not the result of good genes or luck. Real, lasting happiness comes from focusing on one's personal strengths rather than weaknesses—and working with them to improve all aspects of one's life. Using practical exercises, brief tests, and a dynamic website program, Seligman shows readers how to identify their highest virtues and use them in ways they haven't yet considered. Accessible and proven, *Authentic Happiness* is the most powerful work of popular psychology in years.



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Sales Rank: #65620 in eBooks
Published on: 2002-10-02
Released on: 2002-10-02
Format: Kindle eBook

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From Publishers Weekly

In his latest user-friendly road map for human emotion, the author of the bestselling Learned Optimism proposes ratcheting the field of psychology to a new level. "Relieving the states that make life miserable... has made building the states that make life worth living less of a priority. The time has finally arrived for a science that seeks to understand positive emotion, build strength and virtue, and provide guideposts for finding what Aristotle called the `good life,' " writes Seligman. Thankfully, his lengthy homage to happiness may actually live up to the ambitious promise of its subtitle. Seligman doesn't just preach the merits of happiness e.g., happy people are healthier, more productive and contentedly married than their unhappy counterparts but he also presents brief tests and even an interactive Web site (the launch date is set for mid-August) to help readers increase the happiness quotient in their own lives. Trying to fix weaknesses won't help, he says; rather, incorporating strengths such as humor, originality and generosity into everyday interactions with people is a better way to achieve happiness. Skeptics will wonder whether it's possible to learn happiness from a book. Their point may be valid, but Seligman certainly provides the attitude adjustment and practical tools (including self-tests and exercises) for charting the course. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

#### Review

Cheryl Richardson author of *Stand Up for Your Life Authentic Happiness* is one of the most important books of our time. It offers a powerful message of hope for millions who long for a deeply satisfying life. Highly accessible and filled with practical advice, if you read it and use it, it will change your life.

#### From the Inside Flap

Advance Praise for Authentic Happiness

- "Authentic Happiness is an excellent book about emotions that are vital, positive, and lend great strength to our lives. Martin Seligman, a pioneer in the field of positive emotions, has written a book that will make a real difference to many people."
- -Kay Redfield Jamison, author of An Unquiet Mind
- "A revolutionary perspective on psychology, Seligman's Authentic Happiness is a beacon for human behavior in the new century. Laypersons and professionals alike will find this book enormously enriching. It summarizes a huge literature, it provides concrete self-assessment tools, and it speaks with a joyful voice about what it means to be fully alive."
- —Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, author of Flow: The Psychology of Optimal Experience
- "Martin Seligman is one of the most original thinkers the social sciences have produced in our century. Authentic Happiness is a fascinating, compelling look at a body of ground-breaking research. An important book."
- —Jonathan Kellerman
- "A highly insightful scientific and personal reflection on the nature of happiness, from one of the most creative and influential psychologists of our time."
- —Steven Pinker, Peter de Florez Professor of Psychology, MIT, and author of The Language Instinct.
- "To read this book is to walk with your head floating in clouds of possibility while your feet tread firmly on

the ground of scientific research. Dr. Seligman gives us the tools to tap into our greatest strengths, so that we can live more joyously while making a greater contribution to loved ones, work and community."

- —Joan Oliver Goldsmith, author of How Can We Keep from Singing: Music and the Passionate Life
- "At last, psychology gets serious about glee, fun and happiness. Martin Seligman has given us a gift—a practical map for the perennial quest for a flourishing life."
- —Daniel Goleman, author of Emotional Intelligence
- "Seligman takes the best, most recent science in psychology and applies it to our oldest, most basic human questions—how can we be happy? And how can we be good? His book is ground-breaking, heart-lifting and, most importantly, deeply useful. With pun intended, I'm optimistic about its success."
- -Mary Pipher, author of Reviving Ophelia
- "An amazing book! Absolutely full of practical wisdom and its authentic sources. What depth of understanding! Seligman affirms our power of choice with a perspective on old and new psychology I found compelling and fascinating. This book will help restore the Character Ethic."
- —Dr. Stephen R. Covey, author of The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People
- "The Constitution may guarantee the right to pursue happiness, but it doesn't offer clear paths to follow through the wilderness. Seligman does. By turns smart, funny, irreverent, and insightful, he is the perfect guide, someone who can make such a difference in life, and lives. A world hungry for happiness will love his new book."
- —Diane Ackerman, author of A Natural History of the Senses

#### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

#### Eric Campanelli:

Have you spare time to get a day? What do you do when you have a lot more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent their particular spare time to take a stroll, shopping, or went to typically the Mall. How about open as well as read a book titled Authentic Happiness: Using the New Positive Psychology to Realize Your Potential for Lasting Fulfillment? Maybe it is for being best activity for you. You already know beside you can spend your time with your favorite's book, you can cleverer than before. Do you agree with the opinion or you have various other opinion?

#### **Herman Ovalle:**

The book Authentic Happiness: Using the New Positive Psychology to Realize Your Potential for Lasting Fulfillment can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. So just why must we leave the best thing like a book Authentic Happiness: Using the New Positive Psychology to Realize Your Potential for Lasting Fulfillment? Wide variety you have a different opinion about book. But one aim in which book can give many data for us. It is absolutely right. Right now, try to closer with the book. Knowledge or information that you take for that, you may give for each other; you may share all of these. Book Authentic Happiness: Using the New Positive Psychology to Realize Your Potential for Lasting Fulfillment has simple shape but the truth is know: it has great and large function for you. You can search the enormous world by available and read a reserve. So it is very wonderful.

#### **Diane Smith:**

Do you certainly one of people who can't read pleasurable if the sentence chained inside the straightway, hold on guys this kind of aren't like that. This Authentic Happiness: Using the New Positive Psychology to Realize Your Potential for Lasting Fulfillment book is readable by means of you who hate the perfect word style. You will find the facts here are arrange for enjoyable studying experience without leaving actually decrease the knowledge that want to provide to you. The writer regarding Authentic Happiness: Using the New Positive Psychology to Realize Your Potential for Lasting Fulfillment content conveys the thought easily to understand by many people. The printed and e-book are not different in the content material but it just different such as it. So, do you nonetheless thinking Authentic Happiness: Using the New Positive Psychology to Realize Your Potential for Lasting Fulfillment is not loveable to be your top record reading book?

#### **Mable Watkins:**

People live in this new day time of lifestyle always try to and must have the extra time or they will get large amount of stress from both lifestyle and work. So , when we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely of course. People is human not really a robot. Then we request again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative in spending your spare time, often the book you have read is Authentic Happiness: Using the New Positive Psychology to Realize Your Potential for Lasting Fulfillment.

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