

## ***The Little Book About Big Success***

**Charles Holmes**

Infinity Publishing, West Conshohocken, PA, \$10.95 USD, paperback (95p)

ISBN: 0-7414-3395-8

Charles Holmes believes that success and happiness result from “discovering, pursuing, and fulfilling your God-given purpose.” In his slim volume *The Little Book About Big Success*, Charles Holmes, president of a personal development company designed to teach people about success and happiness, argues that anyone can be successful—provided he or she commits to it.

Holmes believes that once you decide what you want, success is as easy as five steps: deciding what you’re willing to give up, planning the work, working the plan, associating with those who have what you want, and never giving up. As a corollary, he explores ten principles for success, from never taking your family for granted to doing something you enjoy, from learning something new each day to not making excuses.

Holmes goes on to discuss the characteristics of successful people: vision, desire, and courage among them. Finally, Holmes offers a seven-day plan for success that focuses on creating goals. To that end, he recommends setting aside an hour a day for seven days. From creating a vision statement on day one to cataloging your strengths and weaknesses on day two, you spend the next few days creating long-term goals and breaking them down into shorter-term ones. The result is a written plan to help you achieve everything you want to.

Holmes’s approach toward goal setting as a method for self-discovery is an effective one. Trying to create a vision statement, strengths and weaknesses list, and goals both long- and short-term over seven days, on the other hand, is awfully ambitious. And that is the catch in *The Little Book About Big Success*—it has huge ambitions but little in the way of details.

Holmes steps to success are practical, but they are very general. There is no information here about how to ferret out what you want, or what to take into account when creating your plan. The book as a whole has a very straightforward, “just do it” attitude. Holmes exhorts his readers, encourages them, and offers stories and object lessons. While *The Little Book About Big Success* may be just the motivation some people need to get off the couch and make their dreams happen, others will need more in-depth guidance than is available here.

Charles Holmes is the president of Charles Holmes International, a personal development company designed to teach people about success and happiness. Holmes frequently speaks about success and happiness to different organizations and businesses within his community.

*BookWire Review*  
*January 9, 2007*