



## Anyone Can Do It

*Duncan Bannatyne*

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## **Anyone Can Do It Details**

Date : Published 2007 by Orion (first published October 12th 2006)

ISBN : 9780752881898

Author : Duncan Bannatyne

Format : Paperback 302 pages

Genre : Business, Biography, Autobiography, Nonfiction, Self Help

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## From Reader Review Anyone Can Do It for online ebook

### Tomid Tomid says

I did not think I would see the day that I would **read** the biography of a celebrity, let alone love it. I spied it on my brother-in-law's bookshelf and picked it up for some reason. After reading the back cover I just knew I wanted to read the whole book. I read it all inside a few weeks (which is good for me). Duncan wasn't my favourite dragon before I read his story, but now I am a fan.

This isn't a criticism, or at least I don't intend it to be, but in places he surprises me with how freely he talks about the private details of his love-life. The bigger surprise, however, was on page 231. I was not expecting that sort of thing from somebody who has everything. It was a revelation.

I would take issue with him on one front, however. That 'anyone can do it'? Even before I was half-way through, I had been convinced that his life is not the life for me. The risks he took to get his businesses off the ground, and the people he had to deal with (including turf wars and extortionists). Not anyone can do what he did, and I give him full kudos for having dragon-sized balls. I would like to believe that when he began his quest to become a millionaire businessman, there were 99 other people in the same situation, with the same talents and vision. But one-by-one they fell by the wayside as the risks they took ended in bankruptcy. 1 of those 100 entrepreneurs survived to tell the story. Here it is. Enjoy.

*(Duncan, do you know what happened to all the baddies? Did the extortionist end up in jail? Is Paddy still selling ice-cream from a van? Did your Navy superior get his comeuppance? I'd really like to know.)*

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### Mohammad Ali Abedi says

[Audiobook Review]

I think the audio book was an abridged version, because it was so short, and might actually be interesting in reading the author's full book. Duncan Bannatyne was late at the getting rich game. He started at 30, and a few years later he became a millionaire, which makes his book somewhat more interesting to someone in my position, who is 31.

I think what makes Duncan interesting is that he just DID things, he didn't seem to overthink them, didn't make tons of business plans, just went out and took the risks, tried to be better than others, and it seemed to have worked out for him.

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### Wassima Gamal says

This is the first biography I have read and i am definitely going to keep on reading some. This book is truly inspiring and insightful. I have learned more in business with this book than with my business education. Duncan's journey is interesting because he worked on opportunities. He sold ice creams because it was popular in the summer. He started Quality Care Homes because the turnover was guaranteed governments money. He reinvested his money where the money was at but he didnt work in a business he was always

fond of.

I have more appreciation and respect for him because he has principles (making an investigation for stolen eggs for example). I even got upset for his failed marriage.

Can anyone do it? You have to have a bit of luck and good sense of business.... He bought his first van for £400... His first 2 or 3 bed flat for £12 000...

This is a great read for any entrepreneurs starting from the bottom.

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### **LeikHong Leow says**

Duncan Bannatyne is the second biography of a British entrepreneur I read about (after Richard Branson).

Mr. Bannathyne has an interesting story to share, he started his entrepreneurship career by selling ice-cream in the summer, venture into health care homes, fitness clubs and others businesses making him a multi-millionaire.

He indeed is a very inspired business person, especially toward the end of the book, he shared about his involvement as one of the panel investor in the TV reality show - Dragon's Den. Sharing many stories behind the screen.

Lovely read.

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### **Richard says**

Best known for his role in BBC's "Dragon's Den", entrepreneur Duncan Bannatyne tells his story from his childhood in Scotland up to 2006 and the fifth season of Dragon's Den.

The book is a fairly open and honest accounts of Bannatyne's success - and failures - moving from running an Ice-Cream Van to launching his care home business, gyms and even a short-lived acting career before joining the cast of Dragon's Den where he became a household name.

Bannatyne's drive in business and his commitment to the Charities he supports is evident throughout, and he is frank about his personal relationships. With that said, the book felt as though it was missing "something". In the end it felt like a lightweight read that contained some useful learning for any aspiring entrepreneur who was reading, but not really enough to be of consequence.

With that said, the book is a Biography and not a business tome - and I enjoyed it for what it is.

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### **Dawn Bates says**

I liked Duncan's approach to writing this book and related to him on quite a few levels.

Coming from a working class background, I was often told by my mother and step father not to get ideas above my station and received constant digs about them never being good enough all because I wanted more from my life. It was comforting and inspiring to read Duncan's journey. I could see where my desire to be in

charge of my life came from, although I had seen it before on other levels, reading Duncan's story only confirmed what I already knew about myself. I want more for my family and I than my parents gave me, which does not imply that what they gave wasn't good enough, I just want more and different.

I loved the man's principles and his straight talking way of going about things.

I was slightly bemused by how he is very keen to invest in businesses yet did not seem to want to invest in trying to save his marriage to Gail. He states that when he meets entrepreneurs if they are not prepared to invest in themselves, he will not invest in them, maybe Gail didn't want to invest in him (although he did say she did not want to get divorced, and for a perceptive guy, you'd hoped he would have done some kind of therapy to get the marriage back on track)

Other than this, he is an inspiration to everyone. or at least he should be!

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### **Jessica says**

3.5 STARS

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### **Anthony Randall says**

Interesting, informative, helpful to read how he made a mint, although I think the title is wrong, not everyone has Duncan's tenacity, drive and ambition, and neither his head for figures. It should be called 'Anyone has the opportunity to do it'.

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### **Just Another Reader says**

*Anyone Can Do It* is an inspiring read for all entrepreneurs—newcomers and veterans who yet have to earn their first million. Duncan Bannatyne didn't make his first million until he was past 30. In fact, he did not decide to become a millionaire until he was 30, although he has already shown an entrepreneurial drive when he was young. Anyone thinking they're already too old to pursue that dream of wealth and freedom can learn from this guy.

There's a lot to learn from this book about how businesses are run. However, you must get past the *me, me, me* and *I, I, I* writing style. Though it's normal because it's a memoir, some people might not like the many glaring proclamations of "Here's what I've done. Isn't it awesome?" It distracted me at some point, but later realized that it's just how Mr. Bannatyne naturally is. His personality is so strong that you can feel it in the book.

I'm giving this book three stars because I like it, but admittedly I'm a little biased when it comes entrepreneurial, business, self-help, and success stories books because I get strongly inspired and motivated by other people's success.

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## **Cooper says**

I like biographies, and although I am not as big a fan of Duncan Bannatyne as I am of other entrepreneurs the way he made himself by starting with nothing and reinvesting each time he made money is how he has got where he is, and while I don't think 'anyone' can do it, a lot of people could follow his example. He has inspired me further still.

I have always found him a little rough, and his bio seems to back that up. I am not at all a fan of the way he justified his first divorce nor overall how he treated his current wife before finally marrying her ... he is far too much of a player.

I was very impressed with what he has done in Romania on a charity level, and that also has inspired me more also to try and help where I can as there are so many in the world much worse off than we could imagine. It makes our life problems seem very trivial.

If you want to know how others have made it, this kind of book will appeal to you. If you are content in your own life it probably won't.

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## **Evren says**

Decent and inspiring book on entrepreneurship. Sometimes gets a bit over "I donate!" however contains really useful information and insight. A must read for anyone interested in starting a business.

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## **Karen says**

This is an interesting book. Duncan was/is certainly very gutsy and developed his companies at a rapid rate, but he had a good head to work out the mathematics on each company. At different times in the book the word 'ruthless' crossed my mind, but in the last chapter he described how he wasn't ruthless in his approach. He was a tough negotiator and walked out on several big deals based on principle (but they came crawling back to him). Interesting insight into his world.

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## **Richard Flewitt says**

Once you can wade through the me, me, me aspects of this book it is a good read. It's an empowering story for would-be entrepreneurs and there are some sound business tips hidden in there too. Don't take no for an answer from planning authorities and banks, build a strong team who you can really trust - then delegate!

Duncan Bannatyne went up in my estimations with the amount of good charity work he does too. He's a no-nonsense guy with a big heart - and possibly an ego to match

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## **Val Penny says**

Duncan Walker Bannatyne, OBE, is a Scottish entrepreneur, television presenter, philanthropist and author. He was born in Clydebank on the West Coast of Scotland on 2 February 1949. His business interests include hotels, health clubs, spas, media, TV, stage schools, property and transport. His OBE was awarded for his contributions to charity.

Bannatyne has written seven books. *Anyone Can Do It* was his first.

Bannatyne's father, Bill, was a most interesting man. He served in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regiment during the second World War. He survived working on the Burma Railway after being captured by the Japanese following the Fall of Singapore. This must be the tenacity Duncan Bannatyne inherited. As a child Duncan lived in one room with his parents and siblings. Six other families shared the large house. He attended Dalmuir Primary School where he displayed a talent for arithmetic. From there he won a place at Clydebank High School after he passed the eleven plus exam.

Most pupils owned a bicycle so the young Duncan resolved to earn the money to buy one for himself. However, the local newsagent would not automatically employ him but challenged him to find 100 new customers in return for a paper round. He called her bluff by doing just that. He later commented that it would have been more entrepreneurial to have sold the list!

I found this book is truly inspiring and insightful. I learned a great deal about the psyche of an entrepreneur by reading it. I have also come to the realisation that I was never ruthless enough to have a future as such! Duncan Bannatyne's journey is interesting because he worked relentlessly on opportunities: he sold ice creams because it was popular in the summer, he started Quality Care Homes because the turnover was guaranteed money from the British Government. He then reinvested his money but did not always work in businesses that were of personal interest to him. He was purely money oriented. That would never work for me.

I have gained more appreciation and respect for him as a businessman, but I doubt we would get along personally. I was not surprised to learn about his failed marriages.

Can anyone do it? Personally, I doubt it. You would have to have a lot of luck and good sense of business and ruthless determination to succeed. That being said, this is a great read and is definitely worthwhile for all would-be entrepreneurs starting from the bottom.

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## **Maria del Pilar says**

His villa in Cannes an excellent reward for all his work. The conversation with God is a similitude of any of religious characters who found it a church or monastery. Lengthy data about Dragons' Den programme. From investing in pieces of land to inserting his companies into the stock market, a detailed job following all the process, outstanding.

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