



JOHN-TALMAGE MATHIS

## For the (Soon) Unemployed: You Against Them

*John-Talmage Mathis, Lee Marvin Adams (Introduction)*

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Fired... Quit... A New Start... Or Just Fed Up...

Let this book serve as your lantern to a brighter tomorrow.

self-help • employment • entrepreneurship • self-discovery

"I'm aware of the mixed feelings and emotions during this time of your job loss. There are knots in your stomach that serve as a reminder of the impeding concerns. You're anxious about tomorrow's turmoil. I know these feelings. I've felt them too during my times of unemployment. This means I've ventured through the valleys of uncertainty -- more than once."

The book focuses on self-help, self-discovery, entrepreneurship, and employment. The chapters are transitional, and the hope of the book is to reawaken the reader's motivation -- to give some sense of direction by allowing the author's defeats give insight into the looming uncertainties that exist in an unemployed person's mind.

"Unemployed or fearing unemployed, start at square one. Do as nature does. Squirrels gather acorns and bears prepare for hibernation; you too must gather your own acorns and prepare for hibernation."

Whether terminated, fired, discharged, laid off, or aware of an upcoming turmoil, it's the actions taken now that will determine whether life becomes bountiful with enjoyment, or if this phase in life becomes an experience comparable to hell.

"Electricity, shelter, and a safe place to sleep ... trump the need to preserve your credit score, or purchase a new gizmo."

With unemployment at staggering new heights, many have lost their job. The question then becomes: What now? What does one do when abandoned by their second family?

Too often the newspaper headlines inform us of the thousands, or millions, of jobs lost. It has become routine to read about the new round of layoffs -- so much so that it's discussed on porches in the same manner as approaching bad weather.

And from this, many tend to blame themselves, and some will fall into a depression. Whatever is felt by you, understand that this experience isn't something to personalize; the termination was a business calculation. Put this ordeal behind you and move forward. Sure, rough patches and doubt will exist, but with a plan and preparation, this hurdle in life may soon prove to be the most enlightening.

The book examines the route to take to become an entrepreneur. The book also contains exercises to guide you in finding your near ideal job.

Learn how to choose a suit for a job interview, learn how to raise capital for new ventures, and ultimately, learn how to enjoy life. You will see the importance of discovering your life-balance. You will also learn

how to invest in your own life portfolio.

## Reviews

"Prepare to be enlightened. Prepare to be a little disappointed, and even a little shocked at times as the author peels backs the cover on a part of America rarely seen. Prepare to be better informed about an eventual end more and more Americans are facing in this new economy. Long before the final page, you'll be glad you picked up this book."

--Lee Adams, Comedian, and contributor

"Profound advice for these economic times."

"It's written in a self discovery, facilitator style. I liked how he gives an honest look of himself and his perspective. Interesting read."

"I especially appreciated the tips that enabled me to find direction again and put one foot in front of the other and start changing my situation instead of wallowing in it."

"His style is, as he puts it, "The book will, however, attempt to guide and revitalize your motivation to where you'll roll up your sleeves and live out your inner dreams."

## About the Author

Author of the I Deal to Plunder, John-Talmage Mathis holds an MBA from Louisiana State University in Shreveport as well as four undergraduate degrees from McNeese State University. He is also a proud military veteran.

## **For the (Soon) Unemployed: You Against Them Details**

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## From Reader Review For the (Soon) Unemployed: You Against Them for online ebook

### **Lisa says**

Has good tips and sound advice. A resourceful book for the unemployed. Has good tips on resumes and interviewing. I am going to implement some of the suggestions.

This was a free book for an honest review.

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### **Skylar Jones says**

John-Talmage Mathis's For the (Soon) Unemployed: You Against Them, serves as a life guide for the American worker struggling in the conditions of today's economy. In what becomes a very satisfying read, Mathis addresses a rather morose topic realistically, fully facing the situation for what it is. Mathis takes a practical approach to construct a survival guide for the unemployed. He focuses on changing the reader's perspective of the unemployment, encouraging his readers to view it as an opportunity for self-development rather than as a misfortune. By the end of the book, or even far before the last pages, Mathis will have you seeing the situation in a brighter light than before.

Mathis splits up the book into three parts. Part one "Coming of the Storm" is about preparing for the job loss and how to attack the job application process and resume writing. Part two "The Aftermath" is about how to use the free time to develop talents for a possible entrepreneurial route, and how to interview. Part three "Living the Right Life" is his take on life's journey and life lessons. It has three parts, but the same themes repeat throughout the text. Mathis coaches the importance of a work-life balance. On the work side, he gives advice on how to obtain that next job, with resume, job search, and interview tips. On the life side, he gives advice on the importance of talent refining and long term planning for goal setting and dream achievement. He uses a colloquial tone to gain the readers trust, to change their outlook on life which makes his approach extremely successful, and it will have a lasting impact on anyone who decides to pick up his book.

The book's audience is not just unemployed Americans. The words that Mathis lays out are relevant to anyone who may lose a job, has lost a job, unhappy with their current job, jobless post graduates, or basically anyone who is looking for career and life advice. Mathis offers professional advice about the process of obtaining a new job, as well as his insights on how to live a fulfilling life. Mathis is qualified to give professional advice from his education and career choices. He holds an MBA, a Bachelors in Marketing, a Bachelors in Management, and an Associates in Computer Information Technology. He has worked in management and has been both the giver and the recipient of the termination speech many times, and has perfected process of managing unemployment as a result of this. Mathis is currently supporting himself through his writing and consulting arrangements, he is no longer a full-time employee for any company. Through this path his life experiences have led him to "appreciate the beauty in simplicity", and to develop a passion to share his insights through written word.

Mathis does not jump right into the meaty part of his book, instead he introduces the book with a description of what he calls the "Corporate Injustice March". This section is about exploiting the unethical business practices of the corporate world, to open up why his topic has become such a pressing issue in today's economy. Mathis assaults the shifty business practices for about forty pages, fueling the flames of the reader already angered from the job loss. This book isn't trying to start a revolution, although there is little doubt

that Mathis would be on the front line. This introduction instills trust in the reader. The remainder of the book is written in a style that is borderline fluffy, and the reader may not take him seriously if they feel that he can only be so optimistic because he views the world with rose-colored glasses. The words in the introduction really catch the reader's attention, setting up for a realistic approach to the themes Mathis is about to discuss.

About fifty pages into the text, after a lengthy introduction and a forward by a colleague, Mathis presents Chapter 1. Right away he tries to persuade the reader to change their perception of the job loss. This will be helpful if you are looking for a pick-me-up, a good find for someone who has been terminated and goes looking on Amazon for an eBook that holds all the answers. He allots a few days for moping, and then asks the reader to create a plan and organize what they would like to do next, what career path to pursue. The next few chapters Mathis gives explicit instructions on how to: secure the financial situation, write a resume, search for jobs, and be an entrepreneur. Mathis writes as if he expects the reader stops after each chapter to do what he said to do. He even takes a break for a few chapters between the resume submission and the interview preparation to talk about life lessons, as if it were filler for the downtime while the reader waits for the phone call. These chapters consume about half of the book, addressing Mathis's points on how to resume and improve the work side of life.

For the chapters not on job obtainment, Mathis gives insights on how to live a fulfilling life. Mathis encourages the reader to become more productive in life, by laying out a guide of how to set goals and keep records of personal achievements. He believes that this will provide reassurance and a sense of accomplishment. He asks readers to break up long-term goals into small quickly attainable goals, so that they can get that sense of immediate satisfaction. He encourages people to look to themselves to how to live their life, not from societal influences. He presents these lessons and more with a conversational tone, giving the reader the impression that some of these things may actually be attainable. Many people preach to reach for the stars, but Mathis does so realistically by admitting that there is no easy way, in contrast to childhood movies and books that overcook the messages to the point of annoyance.

Mathis is a man who feels that repetition is needed to let a message sink in. His life lessons are simple, but he enjoys taking his time backing them up and explaining his reasons for them. His style is informal and conversational, he writes as if he was talking to you, sometimes taking the reader off on a tangent, but along the way creating a fun and enjoyable reading experience. Mathis does not hide behind the smoky screen of a polished writer; he is an average Joe speaking to the average Joe, presenting himself realistically for who he is. If you chose to take on this book, you will feel like the end of it you have made a new friend, with the man living inside this book. He quite often will crack a joke or poke fun at his past mistakes. It is colloquial, but definitely well-written; Mathis has talent as a writer. It is well worth the \$2.99 on Amazon to purchase this eBook by this independently published author.

With his unique informal style, Mathis presents his material in a way that no other writer could have pulled off quite as well. This book is just what many Americans need, lessons from a man that is not sitting on a pedestal with an incomplete look on life. He is an average man who is intelligent enough to develop realistic strategies and lessons for unemployment and life in general, and he wanted to share them with an audience. He wishes that everyone set out personal goals and continually work at achieving them, to leave the life of an assembly line robot behind. His lessons on a work-life balance make it a worthwhile read for the depressed unemployed individual, and for anyone who is looking for a fresh perspective.

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### **Krissi Bryant says**

I really enjoyed reading this, although I am not unemployed I have been. I think it's about time someone finally wrote a book like this.

When you loose your job you have no idea what you're supposed to do. The author gives parts of the book. For example, part 1 the storm is coming(when you loose your job/ will soon loose your job) part 2 the aftermath part 3 living the right life and part 4 completing your journey.

Throughout the chapters the author give helpful advice about legalities, where to shop, when you begin putting in applications. I found it to be very helpful and I'd wish this book was out when I was unemployed!

Thank you to the author for writing this book, and giving me the chance to read and review it!

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### **Eva says**

Found this book to be a wonderful resource book. From resumes, to proper dress, to financial planning, John-Talmage Mathis presents thoughtful and practical advice. Provides meaningful and helpful information for those beginning their careers, transitioning or starting over. Highly Recommend.

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### **Randee Baty says**

This is a very helpful book! John-Talmage Mathis is giving advice to those who are unemployed, soon to be unemployed, underemployed or just looking for a change in life. He offers excellent advice on how to go about finding your next job or calling in life. He offers financial advice, most of which I agree with, as well as advice on resumes, interviewing, networking, all the skills it takes to find that next job.

He also offers advice on living life to the fullest, being a productive person with a sense of personal fulfillment. I think his advice in these areas is dead-on.

My only reason for giving it 4 stars instead of 5 is that I think it runs on a bit longer than it needs to. I think he could have said what he said in fewer words and not weary his readers by the end. Still, that being said, the book is definitely worth a read and I'll take away some excellent inspiration from it.

I received this book in the GoodReads First Reads program.

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### **Kay says**

It was a good read--blunt but good. I liked the authors tone and style, it was very friendly but sort of deadpan. The information provided in the book has been really great.

More review to follow :)

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### **Darci Paice says**

I read this book with my teenager who is graduating and going through a transition period. It was a bit advanced for him with regards to thinking ethically and covered how he should dress and act for an interview it also mentioned many of the things I have told him over the course of his working life so was much appreciated by this parent.

I think this is a great guide book and is inspirational to let you know that things will work themselves out again and it is not only frustrating trying to find that starter job but that the adults in the workforce constantly strive to stay employed and to grow with technology and other aspects that may seem foreign. Sometimes you need to take the high road rather than settle for things you do not believe in.

It was actually a good bonding book because it helped give my son an outsiders perspective and made him think about what is important to him when he makes his career choices and some of the planning that he needs to do to prepare himself to act on opportunities.

I appreciated this read at this time in his life. This would be a great read for any college/university student to get them thinking and have those discussions flow. This is also a great read for those who are mid career and finding themselves underemployed and trying to make their way back into the workforce and gives insite into working for the financial aspects only vs. doing work that you feel is worthwhile, contributes in the right way to society and that you can feel proud to be a part of.

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### **Darcia Helle says**

To say this book is a helpful guide for the unemployed would be grossly undervaluing its worth. While Mathis does give excellent advice for people seeking employment, he delves much deeper. This book is about finding your place in life. Most of us need to work to pay the bills, but that doesn't mean we need to be miserable at our jobs. If you've ever wanted to do something else but didn't know how to make the leap, this book is the perfect start.

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