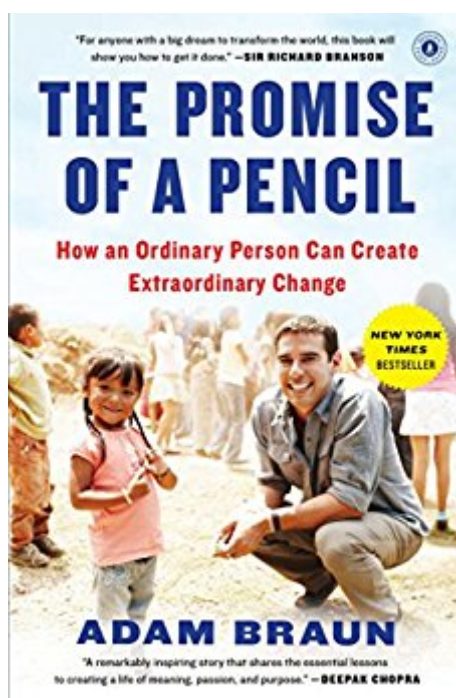


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# The Promise Of A Pencil: How An Ordinary Person Can Create Extraordinary Change



## Synopsis

The riveting story of how a young man turned \$25 into more than 200 schools around the world and the guiding steps anyone can take to lead a successful and significant life. Adam Braun began working summers at hedge funds when he was just sixteen years old, sprinting down the path to a successful Wall Street career. But while traveling he met a young boy begging on the streets of India, who after being asked what he wanted most in the world, simply answered, "A pencil." This small request led to a staggering series of events that took Braun backpacking through dozens of countries before eventually leaving one of the world's most prestigious jobs to found Pencils of Promise, the organization he started with just \$25 that has since built more than 200 schools around the world. The Promise of a Pencil chronicles Braun's journey to find his calling, as each chapter explains one clear step that every person can take to turn your biggest ambitions into reality, even if you start with as little as \$25. His story takes readers behind the scenes with business moguls and village chiefs, world-famous celebrities and hometown heroes. Driven by compelling stories and shareable insights, this is a vivid and inspiring book that will give you the tools to make your own life a story worth telling. \*All proceeds from this book will support Pencils of Promise.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The Promise of a Pencil was actually a really incredible book to read. Adam Braun writes it in a way that really focuses on his development and his reactions or feelings in situations which helps you connect with him and his story. It is interesting because it follows the creation and development of his non-profit organization Pencils of Promise and gives great insight on how to build a successful non-profit and yet while you're reading you feel like you are reading a story. By that I mean- you feel like you are simply reading about Adam's life rather than a How-To. As I said The Promise of a Pencil gives great insight on how to build a successful non-profit because Adam Braun doesn't simply focus on his call to help people. He focuses on fundraising, building a board, making connections, etc- all of the business and finance things that are glossed over in other books that I have read. He really focuses on the reality of building a non-profit. I have only one negative thing to say about this book and it should definitely NOT stop anyone from buying this book but while reading this book I kept thinking to myself that he seemed extremely self-absorbed- the situations he was in were always about his thoughts, his feelings, his reaction and I kept wanting him to place himself in their shoes or comment on their pain. I kept reading and I am so glad that I did. I think it was written like this to show the massive changes that he undergoes and because this is a book about a guy who didn't ever think he would start a non-profit. It is about his story, his development into the man who created an incredible non-profit which makes education possible for even the most impoverished. Whether you want to open a non-profit yourself or you are just interested in philanthropy- this is a book I would recommend for everyone.

Amazing! Inspiring! Has inspired me to do something with my "20 something" dreams ... which were 30 years ago ... but it's never too late to start! Although now I have a beautiful family who are growing up so fast, there is something missing in my life. I truly believe it is my desire to help people .. it has always been a part of my life but it has been directed towards my own children and their schools. Well, now I want to do the same for children around the world ... who are facing such incredible challenges for what we take for granted. Reading Adam's story has given me the push I needed to find my passion in life ... to sincerely help anyone that I can help. I am grateful that Adam has taken the time to write this amazing story on how he started PoP ... I truly felt like I was with him

every step of the way. Great story teller! I'm going to be buying a copy for my children as they graduate high school ... it's that good!

Dude, stellar read. Not just a story of PoP but also a lot of wisdom dropped throughout. I have followed charity: water and Scott Harrison for a few years, Blake Mykoskie and Toms shoes, no clue how I missed Adam Braun and Pencils of Promise. My biggest takeaway from all of these philanthropreneurs is that they started! They didn't wait for the big plan, or the right connections, they just dove right in with what they had, and from there, with insane amounts of work, things happened. Def will be supporting PoP but even more so, will be distributing copies to fellow treps to be inspired during the long nights and endless hours building a dream. Stellar read-

One person's ability to make a difference is what inspired me to read this book. Braun's memoir definitely demonstrates how one person's determination can make a difference in the global community. While some may debate whether Braun was an "ordinary person," this should not take away from the power of his story. Organized by mantras, Braun's narrative unfolds as he shares the lessons he learned along the way. The reader cannot help but be inspired by Braun's words and actions. Throughout his journey, Braun is goal-oriented, reflective, and genuine. He is definitely a person I would like to meet someday. Near the end of the book he states, "Purpose is found when you stop thinking about how you exist in the world and start trying to figure out why you are here. Once you solve that question, everything else will fall into place." Braun's narrative highlights how he found his purpose and made a difference.

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