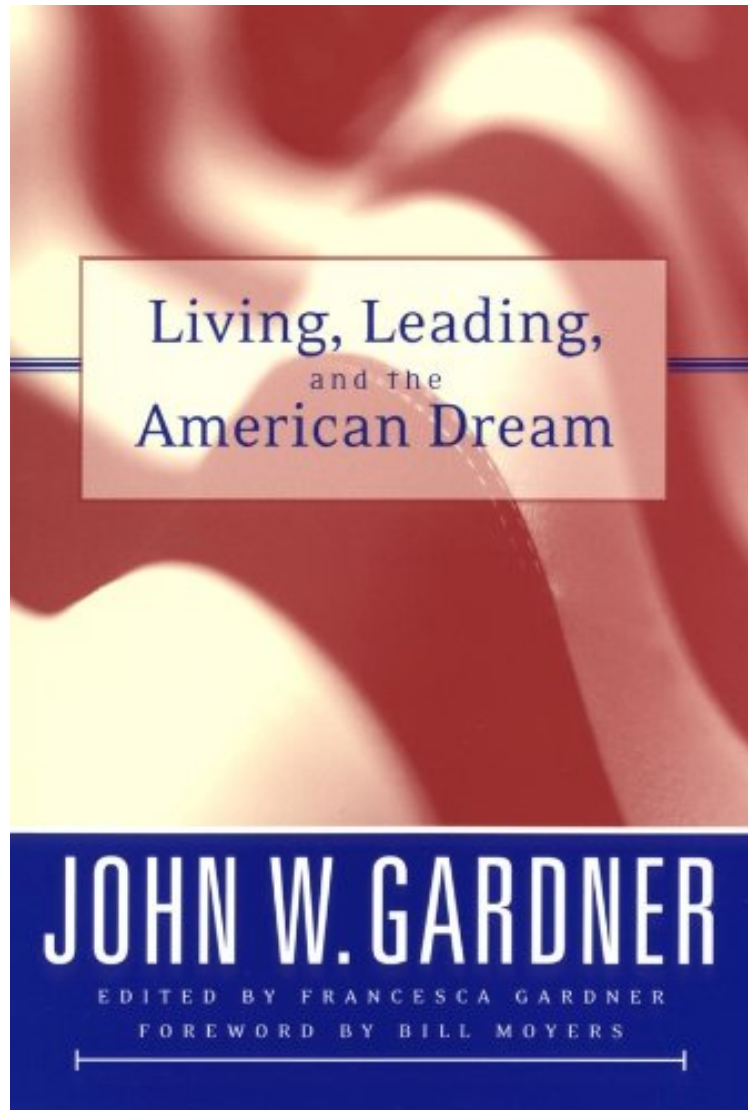


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Living, Leading, and the American Dream (J-B US non-Franchise Leadership)

John W. Gardner

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John W. Gardner : Living, Leading, and the American Dream (J-B US non-Franchise Leadership) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Living, Leading, and the American Dream (J-B US non-Franchise Leadership):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommended leadership book. By Stephanie This is a great book! Very inspirational and gives a lot of insight that we can apply to ourselves and improving our leadership style. 10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. For all those that care about democracy, this is for you. By A Customer In this time of political fear and war mongering, it is great to be reminded that dissent is not un-American

and in fact it is your patriotic duty to stand up for the ideas and beliefs you hold true. And Gardner was true to his word. He stepped down from the Johnston administration to protest the war in Vietnam and went on to found Common Cause. I'd like to see a politician do that today. What I found most relevant is his theme that if you want a working democracy you have to work for it. He constantly is reminding us that people need to be involved and engaged in the political process if democracy is to survive. Too many people today have been scared out of the process and too many others accept blind allegiance as patriotism. When founding of Common Cause, he wrote "The impulses to lie, cheat, steal and defraud will never die. The swindlers and charlatans and well-dressed crooks who prey on the citizen by manipulating the political process will always be with us." Sadly his words have proved to be all too true. For those who need to be inspired that there is still hope for a real and true American democracy, this book is for you. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. What patriotism is really about By A Customer I had heard of John Gardner but had not read any of his work. This book is one of the most inspiring I have ever read. Gardner talks about what it really means to be an American, and what we all need to do if we are going to have a country we can be proud of.

"Liberty and duty, freedom and responsibility. That's the deal." John W. Gardner's life was dedicated to revitalizing the American Dream, a dream that must be recreated by each generation of caring citizens as they reshape it to meet the unrolling future. Now more than ever, citizens must step up and take action to create the world in which we want to live. *Living, Leading, and the American Dream* is an inspiration and a call to action. Beginning with an exploration of Gardner's life and values in his own words, this stirring and engaging collection shares Gardner's vision on personal renewal, community, leadership, and civic engagement. The essays and speeches collected in this transformational volume are founded on Gardner's belief that we as a people want freedom; freedom at home as well as a world where freedom is possible. They are founded on his deep belief in the dignity and worth of the individual and his unshakable resolve to protect and preserve that dignity. They are founded on his belief that men and women should be empowered to achieve the best that is in them, and that we are the declared enemies of all conditions, such as disease, ignorance, or poverty, that stunt the individual and prevent such fulfillment. And they are founded on the fact that achieving these goals is difficult and requires the commitment of all citizens. The essays in *Living, Leading, and the American Dream* move from individual to community to society, offering Gardner's vision on the role of the individual in attaining the greater good. Leaders of innovative organizations, civic leaders, and concerned citizens will find guidance and inspiration in Gardner's unique vision of every citizen's responsibility and capacity to make a difference.

From the Inside Flap "Liberty and duty, freedom and responsibility. That's the deal." John W. Gardner's life was dedicated to revitalizing the American Dream, a dream that must be recreated by each generation of caring citizens as they reshape it to meet the unrolling future. Now more than ever, citizens must step up and take action to create the world in which we want to live. *Living, Leading, and the American Dream* is an inspiration and a call to action. Beginning with an exploration of Gardner's life and values in his own words, this stirring and engaging collection shares Gardner's vision on personal renewal, community, leadership, and civic engagement. The essays and speeches collected in this transformational volume are founded on Gardner's belief that we as a people want freedom; freedom at home as well as a world where freedom is possible. They are founded on his deep belief in the dignity and worth of the individual and his unshakable resolve to protect and preserve that dignity. They are founded on his belief that men and women should be empowered to achieve the best that is in them, and that we are the declared enemies of all conditions, such as disease, ignorance, or poverty, that stunt the individual and prevent such fulfillment. And they are founded on the fact that achieving these goals is difficult and requires the commitment of all citizens. The essays in *Living, Leading, and the American Dream* move from individual to community to society, offering Gardner's vision on the role of the individual in attaining the greater good. Leaders of innovative organizations, civic leaders, and concerned citizens will find guidance and inspiration in Gardner's unique vision of every citizen's responsibility and capacity to make a difference.

From the Back Cover "As an educator and social activist, John Gardner gave so much to the benefit of our communities, states, and nation." — The Honorable Jimmy Carter "John Gardner embodied the excellence he taught. This sampling of a noble life will keep alive the breadth of his perceptions and the depth of his commitment to a more rational, more caring society" — Daniel Schorr, senior news analyst, National Public Radio "Intellectual, activist, gadfly, leader, dreamer, and realist, John Gardner held a wry and joyous faith in the capacity of all Americans to renew themselves and our country. This inspiring collection of his insights and his vision is his parting gift to all who share that faith; or need to be reminded of it." — The Honorable Timothy E. Wirth, president, United Nations Foundation "ohn always said 'leaders find the words,' and it was never more true than in his own writings. This book is a great gift, enabling his spirit and inspiration to keep guiding our lives in meaningful directions, like the treasured mentor and companion he was for so many." — Robert L. Joss, dean, Graduate School of Business, Stanford University "*Living, Leading, and the American Dream* is an invaluable collection of John Gardner's wise lessons on how to be a strong leader, a committed citizen, and a thoughtful, productive individual; a true gift from a truly great man in an age when all three are so badly needed." — Marian

Wright Edelman, President, Children's Defense Fund
About the Author
John W. Gardner (1912-2002) recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, was an adviser to presidents and, to many Americans, a personification of citizen participation and volunteerism in a democratic society. Gardner was Lyndon Johnson's Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, and a member of presidential panels during the Johnson, Carter, and Reagan administrations.