



Free Agent Nation: The Future of Working for Yourself

By Daniel H. Pink

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Widely acclaimed for its engaging style and provocative perspective, this book has helped thousands transform their working lives. Now the paperback edition features a comprehensive 30-page resource guide that explains the basics of working for oneself.

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Free Agent Nation: The Future of Working for Yourself By Daniel H. Pink **Bibliography**

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Not all "free agents" are highly paid athletes whose main skills are dunking a basketball or hitting a baseball. In fact, as Pink (contributing editor, *Fast Company*) reveals, over 25 million Americans are now self-employed, and fewer than one in ten works for a Fortune 500 company. This excellent work synthesizes the seismic shift in attitudes about and patterns of work in the economy from the early 1950s era of William Whyte's *The Organization Man* to today's independent worker, the free agent. Pink astutely summarizes what this major shift in the definition of employment now means to millions of Americans and explains the various types of free agents (including soloists, temps, and those involved in their own microbusiness). Other chapters cover examples of how self-sufficiency works so well for numerous life situations, while in many cases free-agency employment does not work well at all. This work may not be rooted in empirical research, but Pink's thorough review of the literature and his extensive roadwork interviewing hundreds of independent workers successfully merges psychosocial data with pragmatic reality. This major contribution to better understanding the trend toward independent contract work is highly recommended for all university libraries and larger public libraries. Dale Farris, Groves, TX

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From Booklist

With Manpower, Inc., the temporary agency, the nation's largest private employer and one-quarter to one-third of American workers operating as "free agents," this author offers analysis of this "new economy" and advice on how to succeed in it. The *Fast Company* cover story that Pink, a former Gore chief speechwriter, wrote on the growth of "free agency" produced so much feedback that he traveled across the country with his young family to interview "America's new independent workers" for this book. Pink examines facts and figures, explores the roots of increasing free agency, and considers the new work ethic, employment contract, and time clock it generates. He outlines the structure of free-agent work and major disruptions (especially for *involuntary free agents*) and offers some predictions about how this new paradigm will affect institutional arrangements, including education, "e-tirement," real estate, finance, and politics. Pink understands how busy free agents are; each chapter closes with "The Box," which punchily summarizes the chapter's key points. *Mary Carroll*

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Review

"... *Free Agent Nation* is a delight." -- *The Financial Times*

"A book with interesting facts, . . . appealing interviews, friendly prose and a provocative point of view." -- *The New York Times*

"Beautifully written . . . profoundly prophetic . . . 25 years from now we'll still be discussing *Free Agent Nation*." -- *Tom Peters*, co-author of *In Search of Excellence*

"Bound to be one of the decade's most important books." -- *Virginia Postrel*, columnist, *New York Times*, and author of *The Future and Its Enemies*

"Compelling . . . there is so much insightful information that the reader wants to underline almost every word." -- *HR Magazine*

"FREE AGENT NATION will turn your notion of a "career" upside down. It might even set you free." --
Scott Adams, Dilbert cartoonist

"A nice surprise . . . punchy prose . . . prescient prognostications." -- *Miami Herald*

"Enlightening and insightful." -- *Harvard Business School Working Knowledge*

"That rare business book—both substantial and enjoyable to read." -- *The Economist*

"Warning: This book may make you rethink your career." -- *CNN.com*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kevin Ortiz:

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Gary Carter:

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