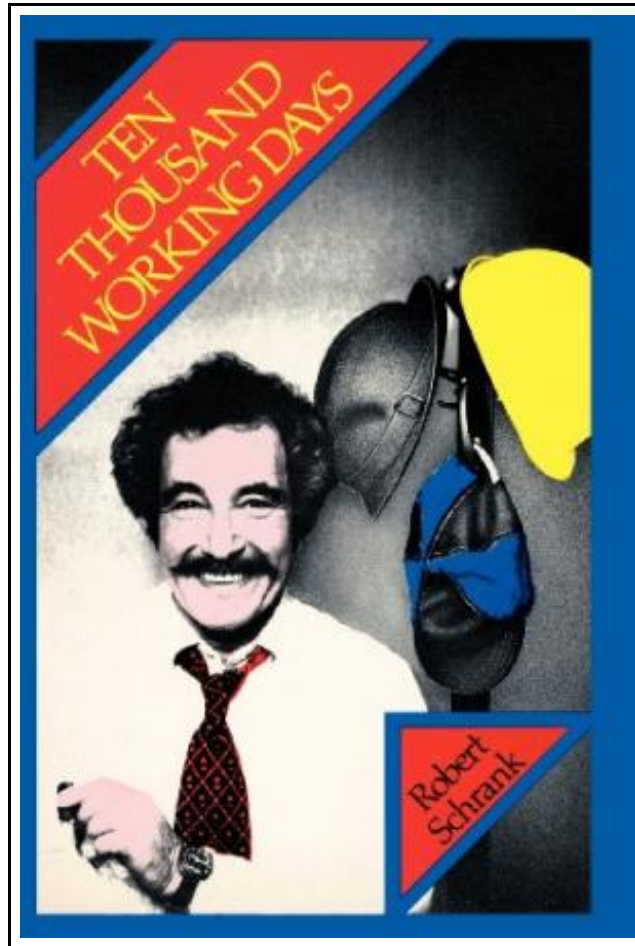


Ten Thousand Working Days



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Reviews

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(Yvette Marquardt)*

TEN THOUSAND WORKING DAYS

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MIT Press Ltd, United States, 1979. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New edition. 229 x 147 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Robert Schrank is a Project Specialist at the Ford Foundation, and he holds a master s and doctorate in the sociology of work. He serves as consultant to the New York City Mayor s Productivity Council, the National Academy of Sciences, the U.S. Department of Labor, other governmental bodies, and universities. So another academic specialist has written another book about the values and goals -- or the lack of them, or their decline, or whatever -- of working stiffs, about which he knows from nothing, right? Wrong. This particular academic specialist didn t get to college until he was over forty, and earned (the right word for a working man) his doctorate when he was in his fifties. For more than forty years -- ten thousand working days -- from the age of fourteen on, he has held down an astonishing variety of jobs that cover both a wide occupational range and just about every level, from the top to the bottom, in the organizational scheme of things. He has been a plumber, a city commissioner, a plant manager and engineer, an auto mechanic, an antipoverty program bureaucrat, a machinist, a union official, a coal miner, a foundation professional, a farmhand. Not in that order, but the point is that the experiences, commingling in the memory, all have an equal value in human terms. Always onward-and-upward, the American-Dream-come-true, is exactly not the point. Robert Schrank writes about each of these jobs in a personal, chronological, specific, narrative way, but always from a perspective that has been enlarged by the scope of his professional training and and commitments. His memories give his experiences uniqueness. His...

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