



Harder Than I Thought: Adventures of a Twenty-First Century Leader

Robert D. Austin, Richard L. Nolan, Shannon O'Donnell

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Meet Jim Barton, new CEO of Santa Monica Aerospace. Jim's job won't be easy: the company's hemorrhaging cash, struggling to regain investors' trust after an accounting scandal, and striving to transform its military and manufacturing culture to become a global aerospace integrator.

Jim isn't real: Harder Than I Thought is a novel. But his story--developed in consultation with seasoned, actual CEOs--contains crucial lessons for all chief executives. Walk in Jim's shoes to engage in challenges that include:

- 1. Formulating and executing strategy
- 2. Managing financial and labor crises
- 3. Fostering a culture of innovation and continuous transformation
- 4. Forging global partnerships
- 5. Making ethical choices in an increasingly transparent environment

As events in each chapter push Barton to the edge of his abilities, he seeks counsel from a panel of expert advisers. These collaborative reflections invite you to apply the lessons from this story to your own situation.

Experts agree that many twentieth-century leadership practices are inadequate to the stormy twenty-first-century present. This engaging and provocative book equips you with the insights you'll need to rise with the occasion of a rapidly shifting business landscape.



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