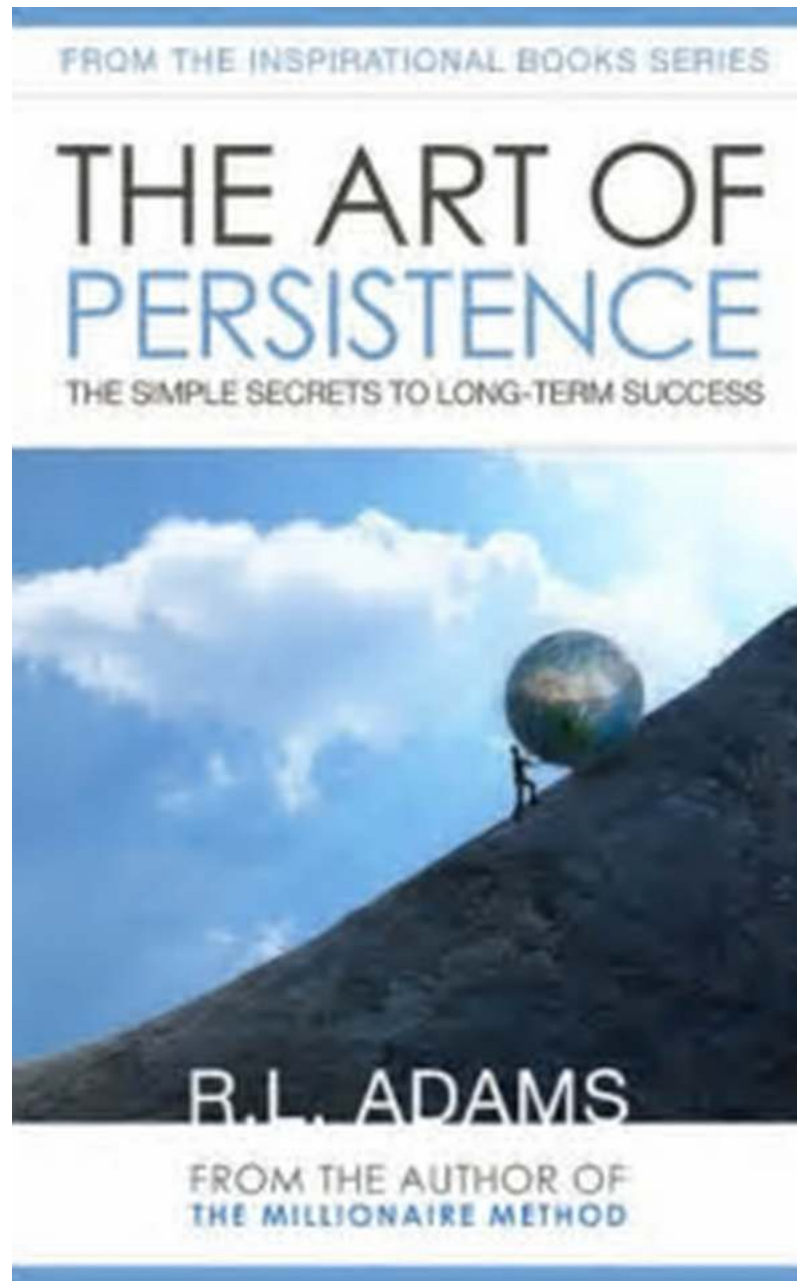


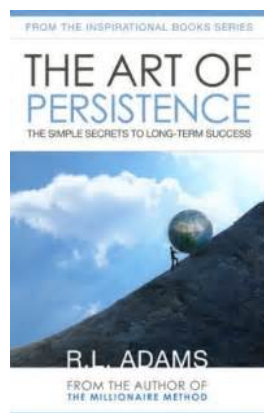
The Art of Persistence: Mastering the Skill That Leads to Great Success



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When it comes to achieving success, talent and intelligence play a significant role. However, there is another essential quality that separates the successful

from the rest - persistence. The art of persistence is a skill that can make all the difference in one's journey towards greatness. In this article, we will explore the importance of persistence, how it can be cultivated, and the incredible achievements that can be accomplished through its mastery.



The Art of Persistence: Akamatsu Toshiko and the Visual Cultures of Transwar Japan

by Charles River Editors (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 13193 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 412 pages



What is Persistence?

Persistence can be defined as the ability to continue pursuing a goal or objective despite facing obstacles and setbacks. It involves unwavering determination, resilience, and the refusal to give up even when faced with difficulties. The art of persistence requires one to maintain focus, stay motivated, and persevere through challenges in order to achieve long-term success.

The Power of Persistence:

Persistence is often cited as a key factor in achieving great success. History has numerous examples of individuals who overcame seemingly insurmountable odds through sheer persistence. Thomas Edison famously said, "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work," referring to his relentless pursuit of

inventing the light bulb. Edison's persistence eventually led to one of the most significant inventions in modern history.

Similarly, the story of Colonel Harland Sanders, the founder of Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC), is another testament to the power of persistence. Sanders faced repeated rejections when trying to convince restaurants to use his fried chicken recipe. Despite facing countless setbacks, he persisted, and eventually, KFC became a global phenomenon.

Persistence not only helps individuals overcome challenges but also instills a sense of resilience and determination. It enables individuals to bounce back from failures and setbacks, learning from their experiences and growing stronger in the process. The art of persistence is not just about achieving a single goal; it is a mindset that allows for continuous growth and success.

Cultivating Persistence:

While some individuals may naturally possess a higher degree of persistence, it is a skill that can be developed. Here are some strategies to cultivate the art of persistence:

1. Set Clear Goals:

Persistence begins with setting clear, specific goals. Knowing what you want to achieve provides a sense of direction and purpose. Break your goals down into smaller, manageable milestones, and create a plan to work towards them. Having a clear roadmap helps maintain focus and motivation while navigating challenges along the way.

2. Develop a Growth Mindset:

A growth mindset is the belief that one's abilities and intelligence can be developed through dedication and hard work. Embracing this mindset encourages persistence because setbacks and failures are seen as opportunities for growth and improvement rather than reasons to give up. A growth mindset allows for greater resilience and a more positive outlook towards obstacles.

3. Learn from Failure:

Failures and setbacks are inevitable in any pursuit. However, the art of persistence lies in the ability to learn from these experiences and use them as stepping stones towards success. Analyze what went wrong, identify areas for improvement, and make the necessary adjustments. By viewing failures as valuable learning opportunities, one can maintain a sense of progress and continue moving forward.

4. Surround Yourself with Supportive Individuals:

The journey towards success is often challenging, and having a support system can make all the difference. Surround yourself with individuals who believe in your abilities and provide encouragement and motivation. Share your goals and aspirations with them, and they will help keep you accountable and motivated, even during times of difficulty.

5. Maintain Self-Discipline:

Persistence requires self-discipline and the ability to stay committed to your goals. Develop daily habits and routines that align with your objectives. Embrace the idea of delayed gratification and understand that short-term sacrifices are often necessary for long-term success. By maintaining self-discipline, you will be better equipped to overcome distractions and stay focused on your journey.

The Art of Persistence in Practice:

Persistence has led to monumental achievements in various fields, from science and literature to sports and entrepreneurship. Here are some remarkable examples:

1. J.K. Rowling:

Before becoming a household name with the Harry Potter series, J.K. Rowling faced numerous rejections from publishers. Despite the setbacks, she persisted and continued to believe in her story. Rowling's persistence eventually paid off, and her books have become some of the best-selling in history.

2. Michael Jordan:

Regarded as one of the greatest basketball players of all time, Michael Jordan did not have an easy path to success. He faced multiple failures, including being cut from his high school basketball team. However, Jordan's persistence and determination led him to become a six-time NBA champion and an iconic figure in sports history.

3. Marie Curie:

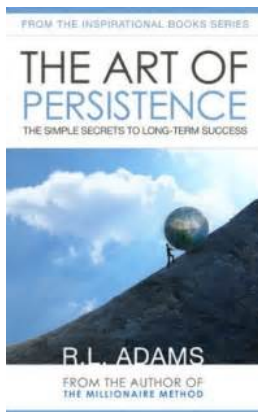
Marie Curie, the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, faced numerous challenges as a female scientist in a male-dominated field. Despite the obstacles, she persisted in her research on radioactivity, eventually winning two Nobel Prizes and making groundbreaking discoveries that revolutionized the field of science.

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The art of persistence is a skill that can be learned and cultivated. It requires unwavering determination, resilience in the face of challenges, and the refusal to give up on one's goals and dreams. From historic figures like Thomas Edison and Marie Curie to modern success stories like J.K. Rowling and Michael Jordan,

persistence has been a common trait among those who have achieved greatness.

If you aspire to achieve success in any area of your life, mastering the art of persistence is essential. Cultivate a growth mindset, learn from failures, surround yourself with supportive individuals, and maintain self-discipline. By embracing the art of persistence, you will be on the path towards achieving remarkable accomplishments. Remember, success often comes to those who keep going, even when the going gets tough.



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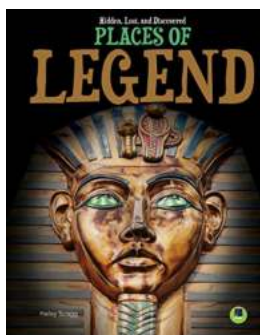
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The Art of Persistence examines the relations between art and politics in transwar Japan, exploring these via a microhistory of the artist, memoirist, and activist Akamatsu Toshiko (also known as Maruki Toshi, 1912–2000). Scaling up from the details of Akamatsu’s lived experience, the book addresses major events in modern Japanese history, including colonization and empire, war, the nuclear bombings, and the transwar proletarian movement. More broadly, it outlines an ethical position known as persistence, which occupies the grey area between complicity and resistance: Like resilience, persistence signals a commitment to

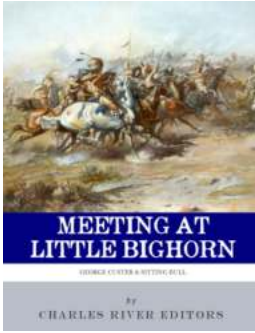
not disappearing—a fierce act of taking up space but often from a position of privilege, among the classes and people in power. Akamatsu grew up in a settler-colonial family in rural Hokkaido before attending arts college in Tokyo and becoming one of the first women to receive formal training as an oil painter in Japan. She later worked as a governess in the home of a Moscow diplomat and traveled to the Japanese Mandate in Micronesia before returning home to write and illustrate children’s books set in the Pacific. She married the surrealist poet and painter Maruki Iri (1901–1995), and together in 1948—and in defiance of Occupation censorship—they began creating and exhibiting the Nuclear Series, some of the most influential and powerful artwork depicting the aftermath of the Hiroshima bombing. For the next forty or more years, the couple toured the world to protest war and nuclear proliferation and were nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1995.

With abundant excerpts and drawings from Akamatsu’s journals and sketchbooks, *The Art of Persistence* offers a bridge between scholarship on imperial Japan and postwar memory cultures, arguing for the importance of each individual’s historical agency. While uncovering the *longue durée* of Japan’s visual cultures of war, it charts the development of the national(ist) “literature for little citizens” movement and Japan’s postwar reorientation toward global multiculturalism. Finally, the work proposes ways to enlist artwork generally, and the museum specifically, as a site of ethical engagement.



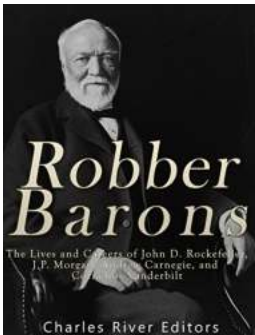
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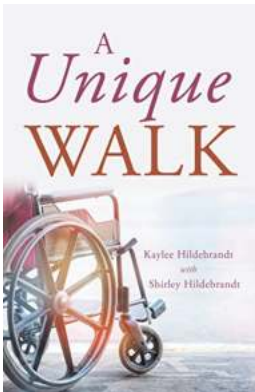
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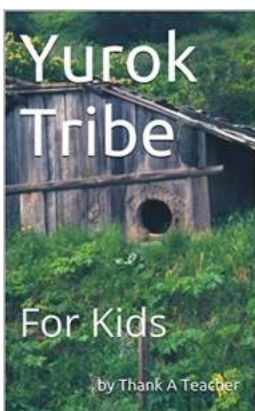
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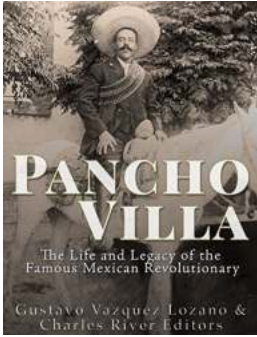
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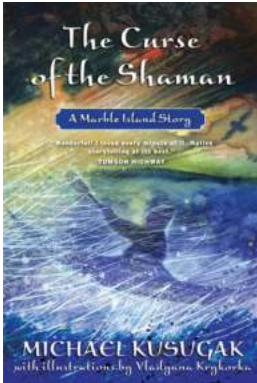
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