

Book Review**The Greatest Miracle In The World**

Achieve your greatest potential and discover the key to lasting happiness

* Sunaina Hoogan

About the Author of the Book :

Og Mandino was former president of the Chicago based magazine Success Unlimited and has been inducted into the American national Speakers Association Hall of Fame. At the age of 52, he has devoted himself full-time to writing and lecturing. He is also the author of "*The Greatest Salesman in the World*", one of the best selling books worldwide.

Abstract:

The Greatest Miracle in the World is a heart warming story of hope and inspiration that will affect your thoughts and actions long after the final sentence had touched your heart. This is the incredible story of Simon Potter, a ragpicker who delivers an inspiring "Memorandum of God" to make the difference between success or disaster in YOUR life. This book is sure to bring you up when you are feeling down – a great antidote for depression.

The Story:

This story begins in Chicago – On a winter evening when the city is twenty six inches piled up with snowstorm, Og Mandino in his usual routine is driving back home when he first saw him. He was feeding the pigeons standing in the chilling snowfall. Og went up to him and asked him for his help to park his car. Og initiated a conversation with the stranger. Introducing himself he said the name is Simon Potter, Age-79, and Profession- Ragpicker. The definition I had for a ragpicker was someone who picks up the waste materials and junk to earn a livelihood. But Simon was not that sort of ragpicker. He seeked more valuable waste materials of the human kind, people who have been discarded by others, or even themselves, people who still have great potential but have lost their self-esteem and their desire for a better life. Simon tries to change their lives for better, give them a new sense of hope and direction and help them return from their living death... which is the greatest miracle in the world.

Og was quiet surprised and hesitated for certain moments and said, "Simon, forgive me, but Aren't you trying to play God?" To this Simon replied, Mister Og, I am not playing God. What you will learn sooner or later, is that God very often plays man. God will do nothing without man and whenever He works miracle it is always done through man."

Og and Simon started meeting often and shared a bond which was like; Simon was a Guru, business consultant, priest, teacher for Og. While Og got to know Simon he found out that Simon was once a proprietor of the largest export import firm in Damascus. After the war, all of it was confiscated by the Nazis. How does Simon, an ex – millionaire turn to a ragpicker in Chicago?

The second part of the story deals with unique hand book of God which is also published in this book. Simon always talked about "hand of God" or "memorandum of God". Simon insisted Og to publish the memorandum in his next upcoming book, which Og titled as "The greatest miracle in the world". Og went to Washington for the promotions of his latest book, but when is returned back he found a manilla envelope rested on his desk which said "*A farewell gift from an old ragpicker*". Og tried to find Simon in the whole of Chicago but he could not trace him. He was exhausted and returned to the envelope which said, "Memorandum of God" - One needs to read this for a hundred evenings spending just 20 minutes each day.

The God memorandum is only your ticket to a new life. It will do nothing for you unless you open your mind and your heart to receive it. The means of transportation and the power to break your inertia, must be generated by forces long dormant but still alive with you. This hand book contains four key laws of

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everlasting peace, happiness and success.

- Count your blessings
- Proclaim your rarity
- Go another mile
- Use wisely the power to choose

And one more to fulfill the other four. Do all things with love... love for yourself, love for all others and love for God. Wipe away your tears. Reach out, grasp God's hand and stand straight. And ultimately remember the secret God whispered in your ear when you first emerged of your mother's womb;

YOU ARE MY GREATEST MIRACLE IN THE WORLD.

Reviewer's view:

When I first read the book title, it was not a very catchy or attractive one as most of the books today are. So what was so unique about this book that made me review it?

The message is clear; God has never placed any of us in a hole from which we could not grow and, if we had locked ourselves in a prison of failure and self-pity, we were the only jailers...we had the only key to our freedom. Then why are we unhappy? This is because we no longer believe we are a special miracle of God. We look in our mirrors and no longer see the godlike qualities that once were so evident.

Hope and Inspiration is always there. When all hope has gone the world will end. And do not think of only one candle when you seek to overcome the blackness of despair. "If everyone lit a candle we could turn the darkest night into the brightest day"! My take away from this book was that each human must eventually become his own ragpicker to survive in this planet...

Like a butterfly from its chrysalis you will fly.. fly as high as you wish, where nobody will obstruct your mission or your search for true riches of life...