

My choice for summer reading would, without a doubt, be Austin Young's *Leadership is a Choice*. As can be deduced from the title and the explanatory notes "Conquer Your Fear and You Can Be a Leader Too," this book is obviously about facing phobias and weaknesses to become a true leader. General McArthur wrote in his Prayer to his Son: "Build me a son, O Lord, who will strong enough to know when he is weak, and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid." Young will offer tips and examples to achieve such a level of self recognition and clarity of mind, thus enabling the reader to brave his fears and weaknesses, and walk proudly forward on the path to leadership.

Never have I enjoyed the heavy responsibility that comes with leadership. Even less do I like the power of such a position. However, being a critical thinker and well organized, I am often propelled into becoming the leader of class events. To me, leadership is far from a choice, it is a burden that I loathe. If I ever have the chance, I wriggle out of being a leader and am content to do just as I am told. Young puts leadership in a wholly different light. He believes that leadership is a choice; a path

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that starts from conquering fears. I have been an unwilling leader, but have I ^{ever} been a true one, one who faces his fears? Have I not merely made lousy decisions and ordered others to do things? If I read Young's book, I may glean the truth of leadership. My fear of responsibility originates from an illogical aversion of making mistakes. I should face the fact that everyone blunders. In this global age, entrepreneurship is on the rise. Anyone can become a CEO one day. It is a choice that every person can make, even me, whose intense terror of leadership obliterates all else. Because leadership is a choice, it is the choice to climb atop a high mountain, to tread paths of fear yet still reach the summit. Everyone can complete this road, even I.

Thus spoke Albert Lippman of leadership: "The final test of a great leader is that he leaves behind him in other men the conviction to carry on." Mayhap Young's book is the first baby step towards such greatness: greatness that every person with true courage may achieve.