

Bestselling author of **THE 48 LAWS OF POWER**

ROBERT GREENE

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MASTERY



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MASTERY

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III.

ABSORB THE MASTER’S POWER: THE MENTOR DYNAMIC

Life is short, and your time for learning and creativity is limited. Without any guidance, you can waste valuable years trying to gain knowledge and practice from various sources. Instead, you must follow the example set by Masters throughout the ages and find the proper mentor. Choose the mentor who best fits your needs and connects to your Life’s Task. Once you have internalized their knowledge, you must move on and never remain in their shadow. Your goal is always to surpass your mentors in mastery and brilliance.

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Michael Faraday

KEYS TO MASTERY

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Often the greatest obstacle to our pursuit of mastery comes from the emotional drain we experience in dealing with the resistance and manipulations of the people around us. We misread their intentions and react in ways that cause confusion or conflict. Social intelligence is the ability to see people in the most realistic light possible. Navigating smoothly through the social environment, we have more time and energy to focus on learning and acquiring skills. Success attained without this intelligence is not true mastery, and will not last.

THINKING INSIDE

Benjamin Franklin

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Flightiness

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A. Ignaz Semmelweis

B. William Harvey

2. Craft the appropriate persona

Teresita Fernández

3. See yourself as others see you

Temple Grandin

4. Suffer fools gladly

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe—Josef von Sternberg—Daniel Everett

REVERSAL

Paul Graham

V. AWAKEN THE DIMENSIONAL MIND: THE CREATIVE-ACTIVE

As you accumulate more skills and internalize the rules that govern your field, your mind will want to become more active, seeking to use this knowledge in ways that are more suited to your inclinations. Instead of feeling complacent about what you know, you must expand your knowledge to related fields, giving your mind fuel to make new associations between different ideas. In the end, you will turn against the very rules you have internalized, shaping and reforming them to suit your spirit. Such originality will bring you to the heights of power.

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Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

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Dependency

Impatience

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Inflexibility

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John Coltrane

2. The Fact of Great Yield

V. S. Ramachandran

3. Mechanical Intelligence

The Wright brothers

4. Natural Powers

Santiago Calatrava

5. The Open Field

Martha Graham

6. The High End

Yoky Matsuoka

7. The Evolutionary Hijack

Paul Graham

8. Dimensional Thinking

Jean-François Champollion

9. Alchemical Creativity and the Unconscious

Teresita Fernández

REVERSAL

John Coltrane—August Strindberg

VI.

FUSE THE INTUITIVE WITH THE RATIONAL: MASTERY

All of us have access to a higher form of intelligence, one that can allow us to see more of the world, to anticipate trends, to respond with speed and accuracy to any circumstance. This intelligence is cultivated by deeply immersing ourselves in a field of study and staying true to our inclinations, no matter how unconventional our approach might seem to others. This power is what our brains were designed to attain, and we will be naturally led to this type of intelligence if we follow our inclinations to their ultimate ends.

THE THIRD TRANSFORMATION