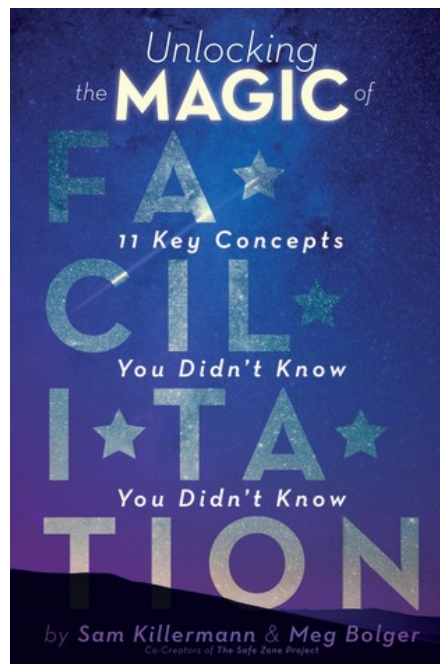




Unlocking the Magic of Facilitation: 11 Key Concepts You Didn't Know You Didn't Know

Sam Killermann , Meg Bolger

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""Meg and Sam have given us a gift; their book is smartly designed to invite new and seasoned facilitators to be intentional about having those tough group discussions. As an educator and facilitator, this book gives me a framework to understand my own facilitation style, and ways that I can continue to improve.""

"- Ava Holliday, Founding Partner of the Avarna Group"

Have you ever been in a training and marveled at how quickly the time flew by? Genuinely enjoyed a meeting you were expecting to dread? Learned something powerful about a topic you thought wouldn't engage you? Experienced an intimate, vulnerable, transformative moment with a group of total strangers?

Then you've witnessed the magic of facilitation.

Like all magic tricks though they seem to defy reason when you're spectating for the first time once the secrets of facilitation are unveiled to you, you'll look back with a bland obviousness. "Of course that's how it's done."

In this book, co-authors and social justice facilitators Sam Killermann and Meg Bolger teach you how to perform the favorite tricks they keep up their sleeve. It's the learning they've accumulated from thousands of hours of facilitating, debriefing, challenging, and failing; it's the lessons from their mentors, channeled through their experience; it's the magician's secrets, revealed to the public, because it's about time folks have the privilege of looking behind the curtain of facilitation and thinking of course that's how it's done.

Unlocking the Magic of Facilitation: 11 Key Concepts You Didn't Know You Didn't Know Details

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From Reader Review Unlocking the Magic of Facilitation: 11 Key Concepts You Didn't Know You Didn't Know for online ebook

Zandra says

I teach training the trainer workshops using Nick and Meg's book along with Nick's invaluable resources to help clinicians learn how to create safer spaces in their practices by looking at their own biases while discovering new ways to connect. The goal is that the trainers go back to their facilities and replicate their experiences. This book has been a FANTASTIC how to, and has helped many who are shy or uncomfortable teaching find their voice. I even found the info extremely useful as a seasoned lecturer and presenter. I feel like reiterating the basics took my game to another level and has made me come back to that magical place of curiosity. It helps me bond quickly in a room and I feel like interactions go deeper.

Amy Vey says

This book will be a great resource for me in the future as I test the facilitating waters with my toes again and again! Sam and Meg are two very wise people who have happened to author a great book on concepts some of you may or may not already know, but in a way that keeps you reading and shaking your head as in, "I get it, or great idea!" I love the sense of humor...aka the parenthesis and foot notes throughout the book! The And vs But chapter was a great reminder of how important our wording is in the facilitation process as well. I can't say enough, and how thankful I am for the opportunity to review this book as a Goodreads winner! Great job you two!

Dan Sampeck says

It was great!

Lindsey Mark says

Good way to easily wrap your head around facilitation, a very helpful life skill that's often not honed.

cat says

Really a 3.75, but rounding up because I really enjoyed the book. Many familiar concepts, a few new helpful processes, and an overall great reminder of the value in the work of facilitation.

Michael MacDonald says

Great refresher

This is a great book for those who are facilitating difficult topics and lack formal exposure to Critical Theory.

For professionals that have done formal work with social justice and critical theory, this is a good refresher that uses non-academic language to help you re-engage with the important principles of examining power structures within a training/workshop environment.

Ava says

Read this at work, was interesting to compare to my facilitation experience and training with Sustained Dialogue at school. Well written and pretty funny, and lots of valuable knowledge within!

Would recommend if you need tips, but exactly really a "for fun" read otherwise. :)

CJ Venable says

Unlocking the Magic of Facilitation by Sam Killermann and Meg Bolger is a great introduction to some of the key tips for social justice facilitation. The book is a quick and easy read, breaking down complex concepts (like Obear's work on the triggering event cycle) into digestible nuggets of knowledge. The authors present a number of concepts that were familiar to me already, but in ways that were compelling and useful as reminders of their importance. Reading these portions (like the importance of the "Yes, and..." rule) helped me to reflect on my own practice and how effectively I utilize those strategies to act as an effective facilitator rather than a hostile lecturer.

Other concepts were new to me, particularly the "roundabout" of strategies to step away from the triggering event cycle and the discussion of ways to question more effectively. These practices are definitely ones I will be incorporating into my work with facilitation, but also my one-on-one interactions with students.

Overall, this book was a useful and fun read that achieved its goals: not to be a comprehensive resource, but a valuable set of tools and tips that are accessible to any facilitator looking to improve their skills.

Jami Lynn Cook says

I learned a lot about facilitation practices from this book. I enjoyed the focus on vulnerability, probing questions and triggers. For those in education, I recommend this book to those looking to grow in their interactions with students, co-workers, and parents.

I will note that the book had a high number of grammatical errors. This was somewhat distracting and surprising.

Rachel says

Very helpful!

Aleš Roubířek says

K facilitaci jsem se dostal díky Coderetreatu a postupem času jsem začal chápat co dělám špatně a co se daří. Pak jsem poznal Vaška Lavičku a začal jsem za facilitací vidět mnohem náročnější disciplínu než jsem si zpočátku myslel. Každopádně je to skvělý způsob učení a vzdělávání.

Tahle kniha přináší spoustu postřehů a zkušeností z facilitativní praxe. Rozhodně doporučuji.

Meghan Burke says

I have a lot of experience facilitating, but I had some anxiety about an upcoming enhanced and more intensive role. I wasn't sure I would get much about this, but I really did. Plus, as others have noted, it's written with wit and a palpable social justice lens. I'm glad I read it! And I'll probably refer back to some sections as the new layer of this work for me begins. Thanks to the authors for such a valuable, humane, funny, and socially just book.
