Book Review

Think like a Rocket Scientist: Simple Strategies for Giant Leaps in Work and Life

By Ozan Varol

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Authors' profile

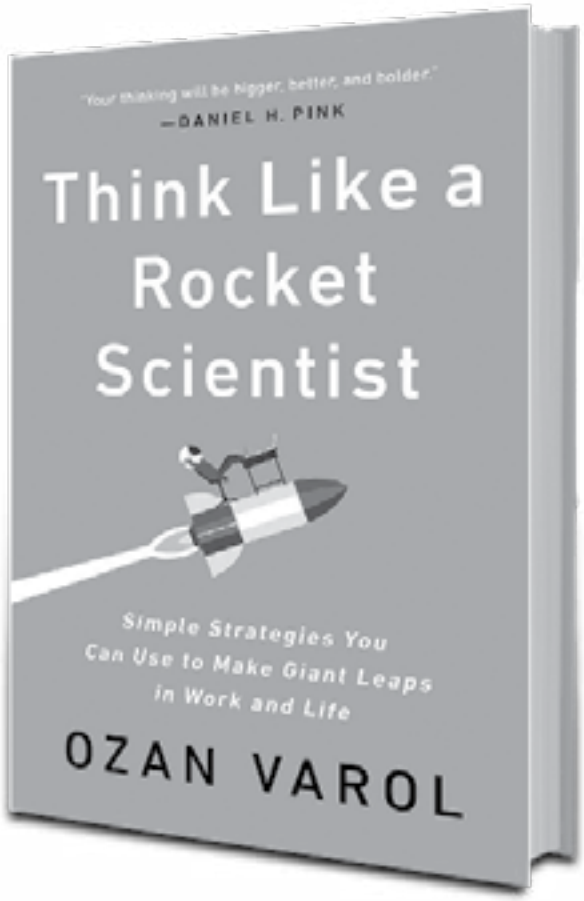
Ozan Varol is a rocket scientist by profession also an author of the best seller book –Think like a Rocket Scientist: Simple Strategies for Giant Leaps in Work and Life. Ozan Varol a native of Istanbul began as a student of astro physics at American Cornell University, with a graduate degree began his astro physicist career as part of the operations team of Rover Mars Exploration project in 2003. Post this assignment Mr. Varol joined as a Professor of law at Lewis and Clark College, during this period he began his writing with the book –Democratic Coup d'trat-published by Oxford Press : subsequently, several articles of his were published in Slate, Washington Post, Foreign Policy. Mr.Ozan Varol's current writing is the best seller – *'Think like a Rocket Scientist: Simple Strategies for Giant Leaps in Work and Life'.*

Appreciation and Critique

Ozan Varol –a former rocket scientist, in this practical book on thinking reveals the habits, ideas, and strategies that will empower an individual to turn the seemingly impossible into the possible and solve the unsolvable.

This book adopts the self-help books style. Its content is organized in nine chapters, grouped under three stages. Each of these stage is referring to the rocket launch stages- stage one- Launch, stage two: Accelerate and stage three: Achieve. Through this style the author's constant reference to rocket scientist is both metaphorical and literal.

The book proposes nine simple strategies that are based on the tried and tested principles from the area of rocket science. According to the author these



strategies can be used to make giant leaps in work and life -- whether it's landing a dream job, accelerating business, learning a new skill, or creating the next breakthrough product. Author liberally uses instances encountered by rocket scientists and their way of thinking through the problem and ways of solving it; this forms the basic narrative of all the chapters. Relating to such instance the author brings out the learning points as strategies to the readers. Some of the note-able take away from the book are:

- How one can use the single principle Elon Musk used to revolutionize the aerospace industry.
- Learn and get to know on the unstoppable astronaut training strategy that one can use to bring out their best in their next presentation or product launch
- Invisible rules that constrain one's thinking – means to know and work around it.
- The one word one can use to boost creativity.
- Qualities that rocket scientists have , what one can learn from them before taking on any new project

- What should one first do before tackling an audacious goal?
- Steps for squashing fear of uncertainty and failure before it stops from taking action
- Einstein's biggest blunder can teach about how not to make mistakes before launching on any new projects.
- The fascinating story of the billion-dollar author and her eight-year-old secret weapon.
- Why doing "nothing" is more valuable than one can think.

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