

PARTHA DESARKAR
 Wholetime
 Executive Director
 and Global CEO,
 HGS



THE KINDLE READER

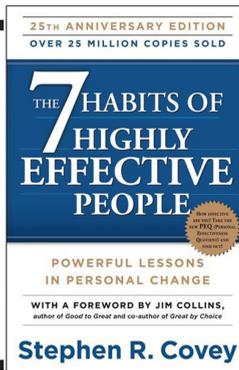
An avid reader since childhood, Partha DeSarkar, Wholetime Executive Director and Global CEO, HGS, has been devouring books through the years, irrespective of genre. However, of late, his reading has gone down quite a bit. He is now intent on getting his reading habit back. Kindle has helped, because he can buy books at will without having to step out. Partha believes that reading helps him switch off from work, which is so intrusive these days, in the era of smartphones. It is a great de-stresser for him.

THE 7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PEOPLE

by Stephen R. Covey

If you ask me to name the one motivational book that can inspire anyone, this is it.

Without a doubt, this book has had the greatest impact on me. I regard it as a 'work and life bible'. I first read it many years ago and keep going back whenever I want some clarity. Covey's book speaks



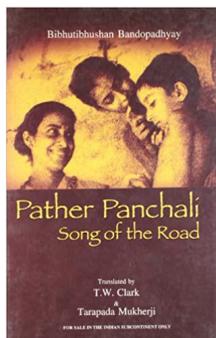
about attaining goals by aligning oneself to what he calls "true north" principles based on a character ethic. Its main message is the importance of finding a mission statement for your

life – be it work or personal life, and then working towards it. The how of changing any situation lies in changing ourselves and this can only come from changing our perceptions and beliefs.

PATHER PANCHALI

(Song of the Road)
 by Bibhutibhushan Bandopadhyay

It's one of those books that tend to always remain with you emotionally. This book was adapted into a film of the same name by Satyajit Ray. The first of the trilogy basically chronicles



the life of two children – Apu and Durga, growing up poor in a village

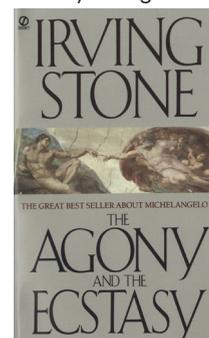
in rural Bengal. The novel speaks of their childhood experiences and innocent pursuits... it's pretty much a 'rites of passage' kind of story told very well. I identified with the main character Apu and his tale as if they were personal experiences... though his life story is way different from mine.

THE AGONY AND THE ECSTASY

by Irving Stone

The Agony and the Ecstasy is written like a novel that intertwines history and incidents from his life based on his personal letters and documents. It takes the reader through a journey

of twists and plots involving art, politics, religion, friendship and rivalry. Irving



Stone's powerful narrative style, his command over language makes the sculptor and Italy come alive. One can almost hear the chisel on marble as Michelangelo carves his statues. The book held me spellbound in a way few books have.