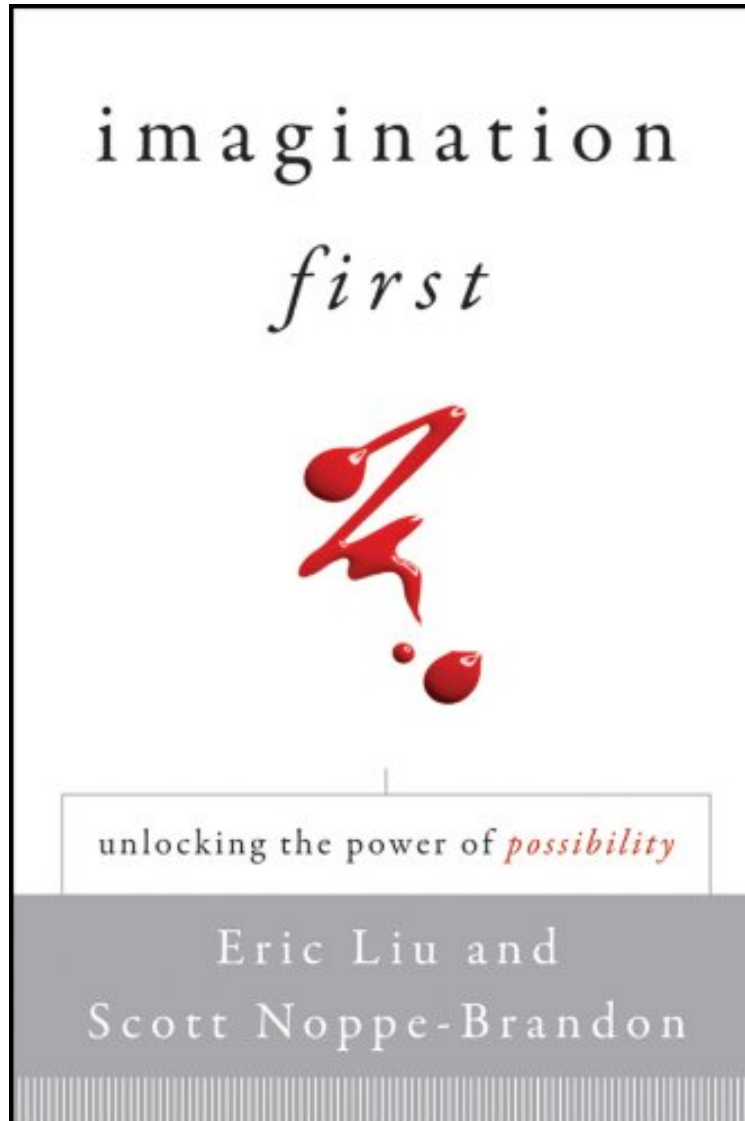


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Imagination First: Unlocking the Power of Possibility

*Eric Liu, Scott Noppe-Brandon, Lincoln Center Institute
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Eric Liu, Scott Noppe-Brandon, Lincoln Center Institute : Imagination First: Unlocking the Power of Possibility before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Imagination First: Unlocking the Power of Possibility:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Essential reading - twice so far!By Sometime CriticAfter I read "Imagination First" once I immediately went back and read it again. This is not an easy concept: the authors in a way ask you to be aware of the workings your imagination before you use it. You can read their very valuable practices and think, yes, I did that with project X, or, I should try that with project Y, but how do you self-consciously make yourself practice their recommendations in a way that leads you to a new approach, or even enlightenment? That is up

to you. What Liu and Noppe-Brandon have done is lead you to the threshold and made you aware of what you are capable of. The rest is up to you. This is not a "self-help" book that pretends to have "answers." Instead it has challenges. It is also not a book for managers, though business people will find it helpful. It is a book for anyone that answers to the title "human being." 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. *Imagining the World in a Whole New Way* By Rourke O'Brien Not surprisingly, the title tells it all. *Imagination First*. Conventional thinkers will find this book quite uncomfortable if they're looking for validation to continue being 'normal'. If imagination isn't first then where else would it be? Second? Tenth? Plain and simple the book makes a strong case that it's possible to develop and cultivate imagination, and that we actually have no choice but to do so. The authors present their case in an easy to follow simple writing style that leaves the reader energized and ready to see ordinary things in a whole new light. In fact after reading *Imagination First*, you may question if there truly ARE any ordinary things! The book gives the reader permission to see things and think without boundaries. To see 'what is' but to also ask 'what if'? The back of the book is content rich, filled with references and articles. There's something in *Imagination First* for everyone so be sure and include this book in this year's reading. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. *Read this book!* By Jim Hull Very inspiring book that took me back to what is the most important feature of humanity!

When imagination becomes habit, it can transform your work and your life. The best corporations know that innovative thinking is the only competitive advantage that cannot be outsourced. The best schools are those that create cultures of imagination. Now in paperback, *Imagination First* introduces a wide-variety of individuals who make a habit of imaginative thinking and creative action, offering a set of universal practices that anyone can use to transform their life at work, home, and play. These 28.5 practices will enable anyone to become more imaginative and to teach others to do so as well? from corporate executive to educator to platoon sergeant. Bonus content includes Winning "practices" submitted by the public Guidelines for educators who want to cultivate creativity in their classrooms Expanded resource section The book is filled with illustrative stories of creative leaders, teachers, artists, and scientists that clearly illustrate the original practices and new material that shows how to bring imagination to life.

From the Inside Flap the best companies know that innovative thinking is the only competitive advantage that can't be outsourced. The best schools are those with deep cultures of creative problem-solving. But both innovation and creativity depend on imagination first: the ability and willingness to conceive of what is not. In times like these, imagination matters more than ever. And fortunately, it's something we all can cultivate—with practice. This powerful book shows us how. At the heart of *Imagination First* is a set of universal practices for opening minds at work, home, and play. These 28 (and a half) practices, with titles like *Think Inside the Box*, *Break the Hand*, and *Routinize Randomness*, are designed to enable anyone—from corporate executive to platoon sergeant to preschool teacher—to get unstuck, to reframe challenges, and to help others do the same. With stories drawn from the lives of leaders, teachers, scientists, artists, and other diverse professionals, *Imagination First* is an essential guide for practitioners of possibility at any scale and in any sector. Playful and provocative, useful and inspirational, this book transforms the way we see—so that we can change the way we live.

From the Back Cover praise for *Imagination First* "Drawing from literature, the latest science, and a wide array of real-world examples, *Imagination First* shines a much-needed lantern into the blackbox of the creative process. For anyone interested in succeeding in today's imagination economy, this timely book offers an expansive and accessible toolbox." —Daniel H. Pink, author, *A Whole New Mind* and *Drive* "Imagination is an indispensable quality in a dancer or choreographer, but it cannot flourish without arduous, passionate practice. And it is a joy to see it taken beyond the world of the arts, to an audience from all walks of life, demystified and accompanied not merely by vague advice on how to be imaginative but by concrete, amazing practices. A book of delightful surprises and assured discovery—just like good choreography." —Judith Jamison, artistic director, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater "Imagination First offers a blueprint for tapping into the power of imagination, which is the core of innovation. Every student should be in a classroom where investigating, questioning, and discovering are inherently part of the curriculum. In today's economy, these skills are essential for success and continued world leadership in the 21st century." —John I. Wilson, executive director, National Education Association "This is a wonderful book about opening our minds, by two writers who understand well what is likely to close them. Each chapter demonstrates how to break the bonds of unseen assumptions, by 'rinsing out expectations,' redesigning spaces to support generative conversations, creating new narratives, and much more. Each chapter is just long enough to deliver a mind-popping idea and just short enough to keep us from getting lost in our usual thoughts." —Rosamund Zander, coauthor, *The Art of Possibility*, family therapist, executive coach "Imagination First unlocks the secrets of the most important aspect of human consciousness and will be a valuable aid to anyone wishing to unfold their potential for creativity." —Deepak Chopra, author, *The Soul of Leadership*

About the Author Eric Liu is the founder of the Guiding Lights Network, dedicated to mindful and imaginative mentorship. His previous books include *Guiding Lights: How to Mentor and Find Life's Purpose*, the official book of National Mentoring Month; *The Accidental Asian: Notes of a Native Speaker*, a New York Times Notable Book; and the national bestseller *The True Patriot*, which he co-authored with Nick Hanauer. A former White

House speechwriter and senior advisor to President Bill Clinton, Eric is now an educator and civic entrepreneur in Seattle. Scott Noppe-Brandon is executive director of Lincoln Center Institute (LCI), the leading organization in developing skills of imagination through guided encounters with the arts. A noted speaker and author, Scott has helped start numerous public schools and is an ardent campaigner for arts and imagination in education.