



How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying

By David Swift in 1967

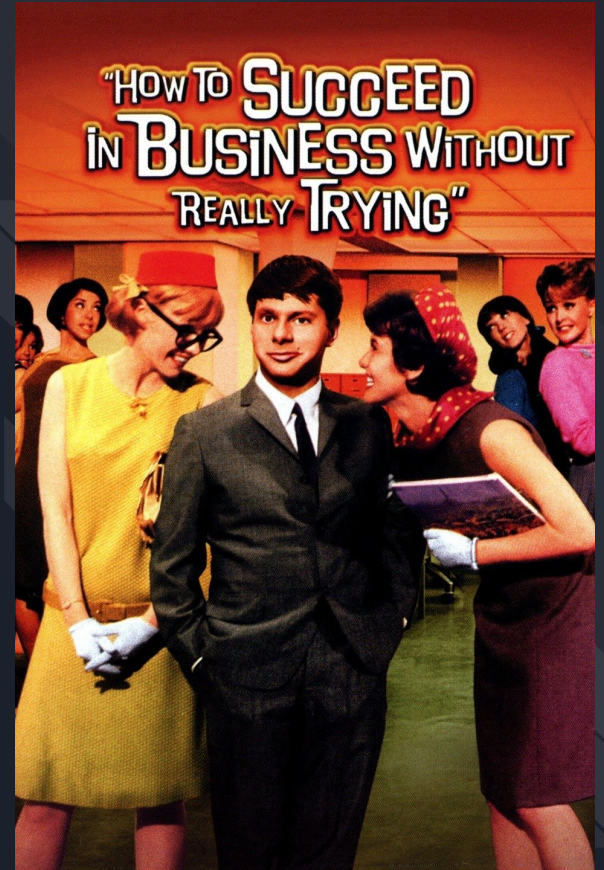




My preferred genre: **Comedy**

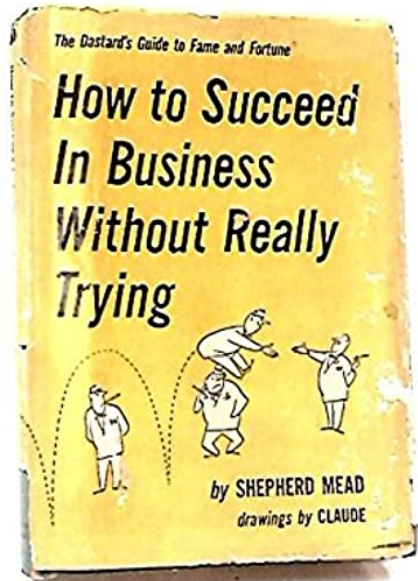
According to Aristotle, comedy is “an imitation of characters of a lower type [and features] some defect or ugliness which is not painful or destructive.” While tragedy focuses on earth-shattering actions performed by important people, comedy is about common people with common problems. (Theatrical Worlds, Pg 155) So I feel like it is more relatable, and don't we all need a good laugh, especially in the world today.

I chose to watch *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. This musical comedy was published in 1967 and is based in the same time frame. J. Pierport Finch, a young window washer at a big corporate company, comes across a self-help book that claims it will teach him everything he needs to know about how to climb to the top of the corporate world as long as he memorizes each step outlined in the book.





“Pardon me miss, you should be wearing this, it goes with your hair.”



He immediately starts implementing the tips in the book and he gets a job in the mail room of the company he used to wash windows at, and just keeps climbing. He meets a woman at his new job named Rosemary and as he is working towards the top of the corporate world, he realizes that his love for Rosemary may be worth more than getting to the top; and its probably not worth stepping on so many people on the way.



“A secretary is NOT a toy!”



But is it comedy?

I feel like *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* is a great example of comedy, even by Aristotle's standards. This play is so relatable which makes it hilarious. Everyone wants to figure out how to become more successful in life, and most of the time we figure out that there are far more important things than how far you get in your career.