



Quote, Questions and Comments (QQC) on

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*An Ethic of Excellence*  
*By Ron Berger*

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-Bhavita Bhatt

CF- Poorvi Doshi

I started reading the book, with a frame of mind that it's just an assignment and is to be completed. But the first paragraph of the introduction itself awakened my mind and made me sit straight on my chair –

*“If you're going to do something, I believe, you should do it well. You should sweat over it and make sure it's strong and accurate and beautiful and you should be proud of it.”*

Of course, this book does have something interesting to offer. I was engrossed into it completely.

Just as a patriotic song ignites compassion towards one's country in the same way this book has ignited in me a fire of becoming a 'craftsman' same as said in the book.

Another paragraph that touched me the most ...

*Work of excellence is transformational. Once a student sees that he or she is capable of quality, of excellence, that student is never quite the same. There is a new self-image, a new notion of possibility. There is an appetite for excellence. After students have had a taste of excellence, they're never quite satisfied with less. Pg.8*

I want my students to taste this excellence. Actually the very next day of reading it I read these lines before my students and did see their eyes sparkle. I understood at that very moment that I can really make a difference in their lives which also corresponds to another line from the book. *(Text to Self)*

*It recognises that school plays a major role in shaping values in children.*

Another line that actually matches my state of mind is

*Much of the country seems seduced at the moment with visions of teacher proof curriculum, where teachers are seen as little more than semi-skilled gas station attendants delivering curriculum into student brains. Pg.11*

I really feel very sad when students and parents opt for schools where the curriculum is treated as gas and is delivered into minds of students. What these students are going to become in their life, I wonder. Society at large needs to understand the curriculum is the information that one stores. One should learn the art of living. *(Text to world)*

Ron Berger in his book tries to bring about a change in the way we learn. Through his line “I think it's more useful to consider schooling not as a delivery system but as an experience.” (pg .44) ...he explains the gist of whole book.

It was a great experience reading this book. I agree to all his suggestions and ways of teaching and everything that he tries to convey (*Building literacy through work*) to all educators around the globe. But what I fear is its implementation. I really hope that at the end of this training I could overcome my fear. *(Text to text)*