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MY JOB: More People at Work Around the World, Book 2

By
Suzanne Skees

ANTICIPATED SEQUEL SHARES THE HEART-FILLED JOURNEY OF HUMAN CONNECTION THROUGH OUR CAREERS

"No matter your station in life, you'll find a piece of yourself in the stories Suzanne has captured. Each of the stories reveals the humanity, humility, caring and desire to make the world a better place each of those profiled shares."

- Henry L. Berman, Ed. D, CEO, Exponent Philanthropy

It's one of the first things you ask when trying to start a conversation or form a connection with a stranger: "So, what do you do?" By developing a deep understanding to those who answer this question, you may find yourself driven to support those who toil long hours to support their families and create a better world. This was the inspiration for Suzanne Skees to create the *MY JOB* book series. As the founder of the Skees Family Foundation—which was built on the principle that all human beings deserve the chance to build a life of choice, which often entails earning a paycheck—she found that profiling those with various jobs can bring together a community where people of all religions, races, genders, and socioeconomic levels can find common ground in their shared experience of work.

Skees continues her passion by following up her critically-acclaimed book, *MY JOB:* Real People at Work Around the World, with another series of intimate stories: MY JOB: More People at Work Around the World, Book 2. Skees profiles 15 professionals from all corners of the world, seeking to understand how our work shapes our lives. These subjects work in all kinds of industries, but all share a similar goal of bridging our society together: in areas of diplomacy, health and education, agriculture, tourism culture, and more.

"Our jobs are our lifeline to the salary that feeds and sustain our families," says Skees. "We spend the majority of our life, second to only sleep, on the clock. More than five billion

people currently work jobs too varied to count. It takes each of us fulfilling those roles to keep the machine of society functioning."

MY JOB explores the dignity, identity, economic viability, and inherent challenges of each occupation, asking such provoking questions as: How has the definition and notion of a job shifted in recent years? How does one land in a particular job, and what causes one to flourish or flounder in it? How does our job shape our sense of identity? As Skees explores how our experiences, interests, and views help determine the career we pursue and how the career, in turn, continues to shape our identity, readers discover that while the occupations and cultures we work in are different, the intricate ways in which our work affects our lives are universal.

In a personal style that takes you to the heart of each narrator's life, these jobs tell a story of dedication, determination, crossroads and challenges. From a rice microfinancier in Cambodia to a Mideast peace diplomat in New York City, readers will learn what we do during our work hours is not what defines us. It's sharing a similar work ethic/consciousness that drives us to do better for ourselves and the ones we love. It's giving back to society in some way through our jobs that turns a job into a vocation.

"Having written about people in their jobs for the past 15 years, what I know for sure is that the stories of our jobs become the stories of our lives," adds Skees. "They have the power to connect us, narrator to reader, and readers to each other. We all know what it's like to work until midnight while our family sleeps, to strive to bring humor into stressful situations, and to fuel ourselves with coffee as our daily schedule swells."

In this sequel, Skees covers not only the journey of these jobs, but also shares:

- How one's class and economic status can help or hurt them when landing the job
 of their dreams.
- The impact of one's job on one's overall health, wellbeing, and self-confidence.
- Creating a work/life balance that benefits everyone in your life and maintaining healthy relationships with your career and co-workers.
- An analysis on understanding the global workforce, and how this can be the key in ending poverty around the world.

All author proceeds from the *MY JOB* book series benefit job-creation programs through the Skees Family Foundation, which hopes these stories bring attention to this international issue of

poverty. Since its launch in 2004, the Skees Family Foundation has donated over \$2 million to U.S. and global schools and jobs to end poverty through equal opportunity.

SUZANNE SKEES serves as founder/board chair of the Skees Family Foundation, which supports innovative self-help programs in the U.S. and developing countries in education and job creation. She studied English literature at Boston College and world religions at Harvard Divinity School. Writing for online and print media, she travels from schools to slums, prisons to farms, serving as a storyteller for nonprofit workers, social entrepreneurs, and their courageous clients, who toil every day to end poverty and create equality.

MY JOB, Book 2 will be released in March 2019, and is available for pre-order on Amazon. Connect with My Job on its website, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Learn more about the Skees Family Foundation by visiting their website.

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