

# Introduction

*Life is like a jigsaw puzzle but you don't have the picture on the front of the box to know what it's supposed to look like. Sometimes, you're not even sure if you have all the pieces.*

ROGER VON OECH

I grew up in an environment where my family and schools did not appreciate my outgoing Personal Style. Frequently, I was told to behave in a different way than I preferred or was comfortable with. I was not accepted the way I was.

You may be old enough to remember the saying “Kids are to be seen and not heard.” That was said to me often. I was not encouraged when my Grade 9 English teacher told me I would not amount to much, given my lack of discipline and poor language skills.

As a result of all the negative input, I became insecure in my teens, questioning whether I was okay as a person—even doubting if I was worthy of being alive.

Has that happened to you or to people you love?

Sadly, many people wander through life without direction, not knowing that powerful wisdom is available to help them lead happier and more satisfying lives.

My goal is to have each and every person who reads this book acknowledge, appreciate, and most of all honor the uniqueness we each bring to this life.

It does not matter if you are 15 or 75. You have been created with a life *purpose* and a unique Personal Style and values—preferences that frame the way you interact with the world.

**Only through the awareness of our own distinctiveness can we live our lives intentionally and purposefully and take the appropriate action.**

We are all distinctive and different. I will show you how to see the best in what others have to offer and how to live and work harmoniously with

people who think and behave differently than you do. That includes your partner, your kids, boss, co-workers, clients, family, and friends.

This book will actively guide you to build better relationships with others, while helping you increase your overall success.

I will outline important benchmarks and development models to equip you to live the rest of your life *on purpose*, while honoring the differences in others.

Thank you for the privilege of assisting you. May you find the insight and knowledge that will transform your life.