

BOOKS

Michaels strips tale down to essences

From page 13

London gagged, declaring it an "insidiously sentimental work."

In *The Winter Vault*, Michaels tells the story of lovers Avery and Jean. The story begins in Egypt, where the newlyweds live on a houseboat and Avery, an engineer, works tirelessly to move a sacred temple from the site of the Aswan Dam. It is at a similar moment

of impending loss that the lovers meet, in the soon to be flooded site of the Saint Lawrence Seaway. After the couple suffers an irreparable loss, they drift apart, returning to Canada on different paths, and Jean enters the world of Lucjan, an artist haunted by memories of a childhood in post-war Poland.

Michaels began simply, with the three historic events — the two man-made floods,

and the rebuilding of Warsaw following its destruction in the Second World War — and a sense that they were in some way connected, beyond the simple concepts of creation and destruction.

Forging those connections, she says, was careful work, beginning with a great deal of research — the scrupulous study of engineering blueprints, interviews, photographs and archives.

Then followed years of writing and rewriting, "taking out so much until you're left with real essences," explains Michaels, sitting down for an interview while in Vancouver for a reading at St. Andrew's-Wesley United Church (presented by the Vancouver International Writer's Festival and 32 Books) April 3. "It's part of the whole theme of the book, which is: what do we make of the things that are left behind?"

As she narrates the dislocation of not only people but entire unique cultures at the whims of the powerful, Michaels writes poignantly about destructive human acts that have no remedy.

The impulse to rebuild what's lost is understandable, says Michaels. But in *The Winter Vault*, these impulses are also deeply disturbing, and largely doomed to fail. In the case of the Old Town of Warsaw, which

was meticulously rebuilt to resemble its pre-war self after systematic destruction by the Nazis, says Michaels, "once it was replicated, it wasn't the same. It could never be the same, and instead, it's inconsolable."

Yet throughout her novel, Michaels also stubbornly insists on hope — albeit nuanced, and forged from struggle.

"I know I would never publish a book that did not have some sort of unassailable argument for hope. I could not do that," she says. "So whatever that hope is or whatever that redemption is, it has to be incredibly hard-won and real to me."

Michaels aimed to give each of her characters an intense and precise presence, she says, to fully understand

See Language page 27

advertorial



Robert Kiyosaki with Darren Weeks

You can either be a victim of the Recession or you can become RICH because of it. It's up to you. Find out what the Government and the Big Banks don't want you to know & what your accountant and your financial planner are not able to tell you...

"Alberta Man Goes From Dead-End \$30K Year Job to Multi-Millionaire by Age 35 Using Proven Rich Dad, Poor Dad Strategies. Now Teaches Thousands of British Columbians How to Get Rich in B.C. (in Any Economy – Up or Down) at this Amazing FREE Event."

Darren Weeks, "Canadian Rich Dad" (from Edmonton), is revealing the proven success strategies he learned personally from Robert Kiyosaki (Rich Dad, Poor Dad), and has perfected for our unique Canadian situation. Darren is offering an absolutely FREE event in North Vancouver on Wednesday, May 27th, 2009, to show how you too can become financially independent and be able to do whatever you want...in 5 years or less (No matter what is happening in the economy). He's also giving away an Amazing FREE gift to every attendee who brings a guest. His NEW audio CD "The 7 Keys to Creating Wealth in Canada" – a \$39.95 value – Free of charge just for bringing a friend (your guest gets one too)!

Dear Financially Frustrated Friend:

Are you tired of working your butt off and never getting ahead? Sick of sinking further into debt without any end in sight? Are you fed up with getting taxed to death while watching your tax dollars wasted? Do you see others getting wealthy through Real Estate, Business or Investing, and wonder how they do it? Had enough of those "late-night TV" Americans ramming their "Get Rich in Real Estate/Tax Leins/Stocks/ Internet" JUNK down our throats (you know, all those tactics that "don't quite work" here in Canada?). As the stock markets crash and the Big Banks get bailed out, do you wonder why you never seem to get ahead by "doing what you're told" and investing in stocks, mutual funds, RRSP's and GIC's?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, then you will definitely want to do whatever it takes to be at my upcoming "How to Get Rich in B.C." event.

But Why Should You Listen to Me?

Good question – you should only take advice from people who are successful, and hopefully more so than you are. (In fact, after you ask them about their "net worth", you might want to "fire" your financial planner and/or banker)

My name is Darren Weeks, and I am proud to say that many of my students across the country call me the "Canadian Rich Dad".

Why? Because the monthly Passive Income (i.e. money I don't have to work for) from my many businesses, real estate holdings and investing ventures is more than what most Canadians work hard for all year long.

I've made money during good economies and I've also made money during bad economies. (In fact, huge fortunes have been made during the worst of economic times).

Now don't get me wrong... I don't say this to brag. I am telling you this because I want you to know that I don't just talk a good talk – I actually do what I will teach you to do.

But I Haven't Always Been So Successful...

I am the first to admit it – I was a very poor student in high school and University (in fact it took me an extra year just to get through). And when I finally did graduate, my first job right out of the door was with the Alberta Government! I putzed around at a dead-end \$30K a year job for far too long before I couldn't stand it any more and I quit to start my own company. During the 90's I built up a considerable Real Estate portfolio, and I kept going with different businesses and investment opportunities as well. In fact, by the time I read Robert Kiyosaki's all time best selling book "Rich Dad, Poor Dad", I was already doing very well financially.

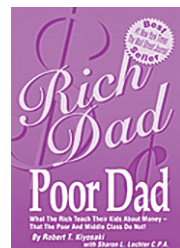
I was so impressed with Kiyosaki's message, in 2001 I became a "Rich Dad Facilitator" to help spread the Rich Dad message to Canadians. And now, after all of these years, I am very pleased to have been able to show tens of thousands of Canadians across the country how to take control of their own finances, and to live life on their own terms. I have spurred dozens and dozens of people to become multi-millionaires in 5 years or less. Now I do not take credit for their success – they took the action and actually did something – and I am just happy that I was able to inspire them in some way.

"...[Darren's] passion for helping others has been a great inspiration to me and I now truly understand about giving first with no expectations in return. Darren and his advisors/speakers have helped us in many other ways as well, too many to list."
KEN BEATON – OTTAWA, ON.

Why Should You Come to My FREE "How to Get Rich in B.C." Event?

This is an event you will want to attend in order to learn...

- ✓ How to "Recession-Proof" Yourself and your family.
- ✓ How to Make BIG money in any economy. Up or down – doesn't matter.
- ✓ The difference between the advice given to the Rich and the Middle Class.
- ✓ The fastest and most popular way to create millions of \$\$\$.
- ✓ How to buy Real Estate with "no" money down.
- ✓ Why personal associations are critical to your financial freedom.
- ✓ How the CASHFLOW quadrants explain the conspiracy to keep Canadians poor...



...and so much more.

In fact, many people come to my events time and time again because each one is always different, they want to have the messages re-inforced, and they like being around other positive, action-oriented people.

The Government and the Big BANKS are Conspiring to Keep YOU Poor.

Big Brother and the Big Banks want to keep you under their thumbs. But with the knowledge that I am going to share with you (and that your accountant/financial planner will not, or are not able to tell you) you will learn what you need to do to become truly financially free.

It is my mission to expose how the Big Banks and Financial companies always make money off average Canadians with their "Management Expense Ratios" and fees – even when their investors are losing their shirts by following their lousy advice. The game is stacked against the average investor – and is completely in their favor...unless you learn the strategies of the rich and "become the bank". I'll show you how at this FREE event.

You Will Learn More in These 3 Hours Than Most Speakers will teach you in 3 days!

I know that is a pretty steep claim, but it is absolutely TRUE. My teaching style is light-years ahead of the way you are used to learning in school. My sessions allow you to capture the information much faster and easier than at any seminar you have ever been to.

"...I never thought that I could learn so much and gain so much during a free seminar. I would recommend this Fast Track event to anyone who wants to learn to be financially free."
EVA YE, VANCOUVER BC
(WITH OVER \$10M IN REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS).

What Does Being Financially FREE Mean? It means you never have to:

- × Work for somebody else.
- × Limit your holidays to just 2 weeks a year.
- × Order the cheapest items on the menu at a nice restaurant.
- × Argue with your spouse about money.
- × Get taken advantage of with stupid financial advice from "broke" professional advisors.
- × Worry that you won't have enough money at the end of the month.

So How Long Will It Take You to Become Financially Free?

I firmly believe that EVERYONE can be wealthy within 5 years or sooner of attending this life changing FREE event. This is very possible. Thousands of people who have attended this very same event are well on their way to financial freedom. They not only learned the secrets of the Rich, they realized that taking ACTION will ensure their personal financial freedom – just like it will for you.

And Why is This Event FREE?

By now you are probably a little skeptical. You've probably been to other "free" events that promised you the world, gave you a little bit of information, and then did the old "bait-and-switch" on you. They probably tried to get you to buy some kind of super expensive Real Estate course (or other training). We do NOT do that at my events. We have some books and cashflow games available if you want them, and there is no pressure to purchase anything.

Now putting on FREE events is very expensive, so to help defray the costs I have a very few, select corporate sponsors. You get a fantastic education, I get to meet you and spread the Rich Dad message, and the corporate sponsors get a few minutes to show you what they do. The best thing is... we all win!

My goal with putting on these events is to start a relationship with you and get to know you a bit. Robert Kiyosaki taught me "Give first, and then you will get back." It has worked very well for me.

So leave your cheque book at home, bring a friend and just come out to the event with an open mind. Fair enough?

How About if I Give You Even MORE?

If I'm going to give away the farm, I might as well go even one step further...just for bringing a guest to this Free event, I want to give you another FREE gift... My "7 Keys to Creating Wealth in Canada" Audio CD (a \$39.95 value). On

this CD I show you exactly what I would do to become Financially Free in less than 5 years, starting from a homeless shelter with my family, in a new city, with no money, no friends, no job and being \$35K in credit card debt!

My events fill up fast. This one is only a few days away, so take a moment now to pre-register while it is on your mind. See you at the top! Darren Weeks.

You must register immediately to attend my upcoming FREE "How to Get Rich in B.C." event.
NORTH VANCOUVER
Wednesday, May 27th, 2009
12:00 - 3:00 pm and 7:00 - 10:00 pm
North Shore Winter Club
1325 East Keith Road, North Vancouver

Here are 2 ways to do it:
1. Register online at: www.VancouverFastTrack.com
2. or Call 1-877-RICH CDN (1-877-742-4236) with our 24hr. live operator.

CONGRATULATIONS!
You are on your way out of the Rat Race and onto the Canadian Fast Track to Success!

FREE Recession or Riches- It's Your Choice!
Canadian "Rich Dad" Shares his Strategies on...
How to Get Rich in BC!
(In Any Economy, Up or Down)
Learn how to "recession-proof" yourself.
Find Out What the Government and the Big Banks don't want you to know & What Your Accountant and Your Financial Planner Are Not Able to Tell You.

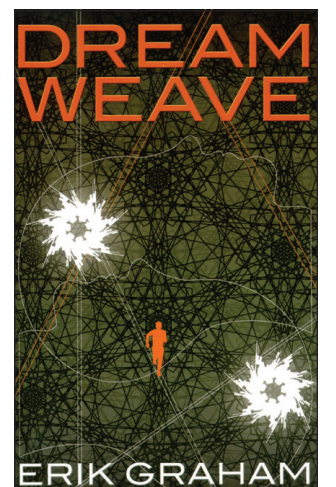
Rich Dad, Poor Dad Author Robert Kiyosaki*
Canadian "Rich Dad" Darren Weeks

Here's just some of what you will learn!
★ The fastest and best way to create millions of \$\$\$ (in a good or bad economy).
★ How to buy Real Estate with "no" money down.
★ The difference between the advice given to the Rich and the Middle Class.

FREE GIFT when you bring a friend (a \$39.95 Value)
*Mr. Kiyosaki will not be present.

www.VancouverFastTrack.com
or Call 1-877-RICH CDN (1-877-742-4236)

Official Sponsor of the Fast Track to Cash Flow Canadian Luge Team



Debut unveils nightmare scenario

■ *Dreamweave* by Erik Graham, Mill City Press, 269 pages, \$14.95, available on Amazon.ca.

As we dream a cast of characters parade through our minds but what if they weren't all created by our subconscious? What if those people we interact with while we sleep were also dreaming and their dreams were able to touch our own?

Into this dream world marches Peter Sutherland, a scientist who has broken through into a realm where dreams can be controlled. Sutherland soon discovers that there are others seeking to access that control for evil purposes.

Vancouver author Erik Graham provides an exciting storyline in his first novel that turns the unreal into the real. As the line between fantasy and fact disappears the threat of violence creeps forward and Sutherland finds out that dreams can kill and he may be next.

— Terry Peters