

Three Myths of Leadership: What Holds Us Back & How to Move Forward

Presented by Sarah Ciavarri

When this happens it's time to go to sleep.



# Is this ever you?





According to Accenture's Global Disruption Index, disruption grew by 4% from 2011-2016. In your estimate, what was the growth between 2017 and 2022?



200% more disrupted



#### What leadership used to be:

- Command and Control
- Top Down
- Happened in a more predictable environment
- Business cycles were longer
- Got ahead by being loyal to the company



- Employees have more diverse views and behaviors; 5 generations in the workforce
- Trust isn't automatically given, it needs to be earned
- Collaboration is more highly valued
- Uncertainty, instability, volatility have increased



#### **Uncertainty is the New Normal**

68% of leaders report reinvention happening by design or disaster (Zhexembayeva, 2022)



According to the World Health Association

Stress is the health epidemic of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Stress costs businesses \$300 billion dollars.



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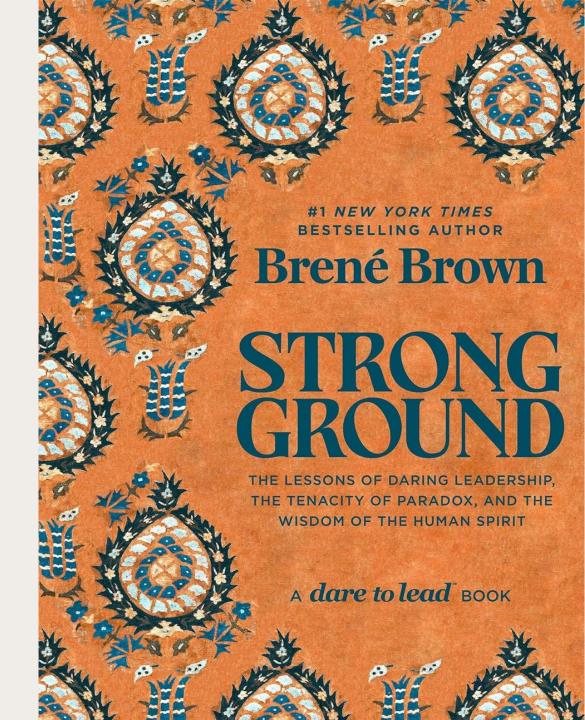
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**Every Year** 



Burnout is now the #1 reason high performers are quitting not pay, not culture, not management. (Talker Research, 2025)

"Collectively, I'd say we feel disconnected, distrustful, and emotionally dysregulated. By "emotionally dysregulated," I mean overwhelmed by big feelings that are hard to name and contain and can drive behaviors and thinking that are not always aligned with who we want to be."





## Leadership Myths

Myth #1: Leadership is about having all the answers.

Myth #2: Leadership is built on authority, not trust.

Myth #3: The person in the biggest chair can fix my organization.

What else would you add?

Leadership is about empowering other people as a result of your presence – and making sure that impact continues into your absence.

- Dr. Frances Frei and Anne Morriss, Authors of *Unleashed* 

Great leaders... Are able to inspire people to act. Those who are able to inspire give people a sense of purpose, belonging. . . Are able to create a following of people who act not because they were swayed, but because they were inspired.

- Simon Sinek, Author of *Start with Why* 



# Micro-Practices

Pause & Ask
Trust Deposits
Shared Ownership



# Micro-Practices

Sing

5 Senses Exercise

Catch It to Switch It

You are my sunshine, My only sunshine. You make me happy When skies are gray You'll never know dear, How much I love you. Please don't take My sunshine away.



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#### **Works Referenced**

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Strong Ground, Dr. Brené Brown

Emotional Intelligence Habits, Dr. Travis Bradberry

Trust & Inspire, Stephen M. R. Covey

Leadership and Self-Deception: Getting Out of the Box, Arbinger Institute