



# The Little Spark - 30 Ways to Ignite Your Creativity

*Carrie Bloomston*

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## **The Little Spark - 30 Ways to Ignite Your Creativity** Carrie Bloomston

You were born with a creative spark inside. Do you look at yourself now and wonder if the spark has gone out? Ignite that inner fire with the 30 engaging exercises, fun activities, inspirational images, and motivating ideas in this book. Learn what your Little Spark of creative passion looks like, how to capture it, and how to make room for it in your life. Read the book cover-to-cover and use it as a month-long creative roadmap, or just dip into the exercises as your time and inclination allow. Either way, you will change your life.

## **The Little Spark - 30 Ways to Ignite Your Creativity Details**

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## From Reader Review The Little Spark - 30 Ways to Ignite Your Creativity for online ebook

### Ietrio says

This is a sad, sad, sad book.

"Creativity" from this book has NOTHING to do with creativity as used by the general public. It is about pathetic useless people who are too rich to have to do anything, who are too egotistic to have to do anything for anyone, and who are too lazy to think of anything to do themselves. And probably 12 hours a day, 7 days a week, 51 weeks a year television gets boring even to this kind of mind and they remark that humans are repetitive, so the news are repetitive, the movies are repetitive, and they need some sort of other kind of repetitive action, than walking the dog or making breakfast for the same individuals.

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### Deborah Martinez says

This book was supposed to help me step into a creative life through engaging exercises, fun activities, inspirational images, and motivating ideas. I was supposed to learn what my little Spark of Passion of creativity looks like and how to capture it, and how to make space for it in my life. Although I don't feel as if the book did all of that for me, it had some valid points, and great reminders, along with some quotes I really enjoyed reading. So I still got some good out of reading this book, just not what I had thought I would gain.

I liked how the book is set up that there are 30 chapters, so you could do one a day, for the month, one a week for 30 weeks, and you can do them in any order you choose, so the chapters don't have to be read in order.

Some Websites I have checked out because of the book are:

creativebug.com  
escoffieronline.com  
kingarthurflour.com  
marthastewart.com  
nicolesclasses.com  
skillshare.com

The King Arthur Flour website one has some free recipes on it, so I will maybe try some of those. Unfortunately most of the craft sites have a charge to go along with them, and that is always my biggest beef as why I don't craft, or try doing more, as everything costs so much, and my entertainment budget is super small as is, so I choose to do something with my friends or go out to eat or to a movie, instead of trying to buy some items to craft. Being an adult is hard!

Some great quotes throughout the book:

"Don't compare your beginning to someone else's middle." Jon Acuff

"Forever is compared to nows." Emily Dickinson

"Let the beauty of what you love be what you do." Rumi

"The grass is greenest where you water it." Neil Barringham

We all need reminders:

I will take one risk.

I will make a mess.

I will make a cake.

I will try something new.

I will fail at something.

Make a goal for yourself every week on a Post-It note, or write it directly on the wall. That is what the author said, not me! :)

I liked this line as I have done this before:

Go to an international market: an Indian spice shop, a Japanese grocery store, or a Mexican market. Look at how different cultures approach package design. Look at how the natural world shows up in markets from different countries. This is an exercise in seeing creatively and seeing creativity.

I liked this line as well: See that kiddo with all that passion? All those ideas and dreams? That's you. See yourself as that child. Be as gentle with yourself as you would be with that young person.

Do something alone, just for you, by yourself, in the middle of nowhere, in a hidden place or out in the world - with no one else around. You can make a piece of art, do a performance or action, dance, write something, or make a site-specific installation. Whatever it is, it is your secret. Don't tell anyone about it or talk about it to anyone ever - . The teacher who told the students to do this was teaching them to work for yourself, not for some external reward. The reward is inside us. I do this more often than I give myself credit for, but I will share, I tend to dance a lot in my living room, often times when I am cleaning.

"Creativity generally yields something that we share with others - a piece of music, a piece of jewelry, a painting, or a photo. Creative people tend to want to share their work and yet tend to be shy about that sharing. your own creative voice can get a bit clouded by all the other voices you hear from peers and teachers. It can become confusing and difficult to listen to your own voice."

Although, I don't think the book helped me get my creative juices going any more than they already were (not very creative) it reminds me to do what I have a passion for and love. For me I do love to cook and try new recipes, I also really enjoy photography and making photo books, everyone seems to enjoy seeing them, so I will continue to concentrate on those things, along with being outside in Mother Nature. I don't think I will ever get the craft bug, my mom is not a crafty type of person, we didn't grow up doing crafts, I almost failed art and shop class, and it's just not in me. I like to try new things, but again, it always boils down to money for me. If I had an unlimited budget, I think I would be willing to try more things more often than not!!! But, with that said, I don't have an unlimited budget, so my entertainment per week will have to just keep me entertained the best it can...

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## **Judy says**

I enjoyed the ideas, design and exercise options in this book about living a creative life. Each of the 30 sparks gets its own short chapter with an explanation and things to try. The layout is colorful and easy to use. Though I read through it quickly this time, I would return to it again and work through more of the sparks.

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## Jessica says

This book on creativity inspires creatives of all sorts to get out there and do.

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## Mandy Leins says

I won this book while at Quilt Market, and read it through twice in three weeks. I am a professional quilter (patterns and longarm) and I guess you could say I live a creative life. Sometimes, though, I feel as if I get stuck in a rut, or get bogged down by doubts and worries about my work, which I think we can all identify with. This book is a means to help you get into a creative space within yourself, and to tap into that creativity, even if it's feeling a little hidden. Each chapter can work as a standalone unit, making it easy to find something that works for you right now, or you can start from the beginning and work through it to the end. The suggestions and practices are encouraging and supportive, and cover a wide variety of topics, including but not limited to: how to get started; how to get over doubt; how to visualize your goals, and much more.

So many of us are visual learners, or are in some form of visual art, and looking for something to be equally as visually inspiring, and the layout and design of this book provide that as well. Sometimes you see a book that is just satisfying and solidly what you need, even though you didn't know you were looking for it. That's what this book is, for me. Well, that and a definite boost to get reconnected with my own creative spark.

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## Katrina Sark says

p.4 – Living a creative life means more than being an artist, writer, quilter, crafter, or chef. It is a way of living life with curiosity and openness.

p.11 – Take baby steps. It may help you to have little tiny goals – achievable, quick steps you can take every day until you are less intimidated by starting.

p.33 – “The best teachers are those who show you where to look, but don't tell you what to see.” (Alexandra K. Trenfor)

p.85 – “The grass is greenest where you water it.” (Neil Barringham)

p.89 – Fear is the boiler room in the basement of your creativity.  
“You can't be creative without being vulnerable. I believe that Creativity and Fear are basically conjoined twins; they share all the same major organs, and cannot be separated, one from the other, without killing them both.” (Elizabeth Gilbert)

p.93 – “You have to leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition. What you'll discover will be wonderful. What you'll discover is yourself.” (Alan Alda)

p.117 – “Find love, then give it all away.” (Clem Snide)

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### **Apryl Anderson says**

I've read so many books on creativity...enough that I recognize the standard inspirational triggers. They're effective, so I'm not knocking this version. Bloomston's style will appeal more to YAs and those with more light-hearted aspirations. I found it a bit condescending.

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### **Lori Seppala says**

This isn't just a book, it's a workbook that helps you get off your butt to jumpstart your creative juices. But the activities the book suggests also help not only with your creative juices but offer ways to help define who you are. For instance there is an activity that has you define a mission statement for yourself, which I found enlightening. You are encouraged to write and draw in the book as you go through, and there are plenty of pictures to help inspire you. This book helped me to just try stuff without having to feel that my project must be perfect, it is okay to fail and try new things.

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### **Traci says**

I was hoping this book would give me more ideas on how to actually be creative. What I found was all sorts of ideas to nurture existing creativity - and I don't have that.

Bummer.

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### **Melissa says**

Back in December, this book was reviewed by various sewing blogs and gushed over. I took a leap of faith and ordered it and I'm so glad I did. While the ideas aren't all new and surprising, I really liked the balance of writing and images, the snippets about various artists. I know it is a book I will be using this year with great relish!

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### **Dina says**

I read this book hoping for some ideas to bring more creativity into my world, however, the book did not inspire me. Some of the ideas were ideas that I have read about previously and I have found some of the others to be quite "young" for an adult audience. At one point Ms. Bloomston speaks about her friend making a soul box to better communicate with her partner. Somehow, I cannot imagine an emotionally mature man wanting to participate in the exercise. That being said, the book is well laid out and an easy read.

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### **Claire Wilson says**

One of the best reads I've read in a long time! Great tips to really make your creativity explode! Can't wait to

share!

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### **Kris says**

Upon reading an advanced copy, I feel that The Little Spark has impacted the way I relate to the notion and reality of creativity. Bloomston's message of inspiration is crafted in a manner that allows the reader to discover and experience their creative process. Through exercises aimed at connecting the reader to themselves or what she terms their spark, she not only inspires creativity but understanding of self. Bloomston's message is authentic and one that any person looking to reconnect to what motivated them to freely create as a child should read.

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### **Leigh Ann says**

I really appreciate the sentiments of this book, but for many creatives like me who have found themselves squashing their creativity or having left it behind when life got in the way, most of these are things we already know. It doesn't mean we do them though, so in that respect, it provides a lot of good reminders. Some of the style was a little too...blissful and enlightening? I prefer a more "tell it like it is" tone. BUT this book was a great way to dive into my own research on creativity and I can see how working through the exercises could help someone kickstart their own creativity.

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### **Amy says**

I think everyone should read this book... it's so inspiring! It talks about all the ways you can bring creativity back into your life. All sorts of creativity is encouraged and supported. There are so many things that I will use over and over. Even though I read it at the library, I plan on buying my own copy- especially as it is part inspiration book, part workbook. There are so many opportunities to dive into her words and suggestions!

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