



turning managers into leaders

Autobiography in Five Chapters is truly a reflection of the many communication and leadership challenges each of us face everyday, and is one of Merge's favourite poems that she reads out at keynotes and seminars. It is excerpted from a book titled *The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying* by Sogyal Rinpoche.

Autobiography in Five Chapters

Chapter 1

I walk down the street.
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk
I fall in.
I am lost ... I am hopeless.
It isn't my fault.
It takes forever to find a way out.

Chapter 2

I walk down the same street.
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.
I pretend I don't see it.
I fall in again.
I can't believe I am in the same place.
But it isn't my fault.
It still takes a long time to get out.

Chapter 3

I walk down the same street.
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk
I see it there.
I still fall in ... it's a habit.
My eyes are open
I know where I am
It is my fault.
I get out immediately

Chapter 4

I walk down the same street.
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk
I walk around it.

Chapter 5

I walk down another street.