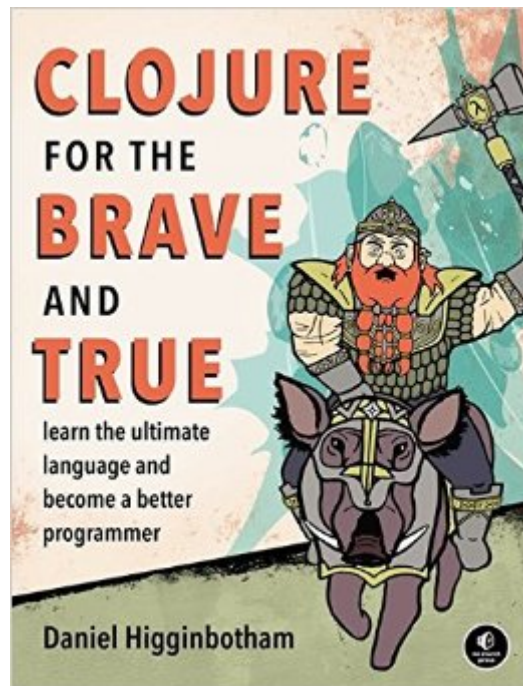# Clojure For The Brave And True: Learn The Ultimate Language And Become A Better Programmer

Synopsis

For weeks, months?â ”nay!â ”from the very moment you were born, you've felt it calling to you. At long last you'll be united with the programming language you've been longing for: Clojure!As a Lisp-style functional programming language, Clojure lets you write robust and elegant code, and because it runs on the Java Virtual Machine, you can take advantage of the vast Java ecosystem. Clojure for the Brave and True offers a "dessert-first" approach: you'll start playing with real programs immediately, as you steadily acclimate to the abstract but powerful features of Lisp and functional programming. Inside you'll find an offbeat, practical guide to Clojure, filled with quirky sample programs that catch cheese thieves and track glittery vampires.Learn how to:Wield Clojure's core functionsUse Emacs for Clojure developmentWrite macros to modify Clojure itselfUse Clojure's tools to simplify concurrency and parallel programmingClojure for the Brave and True assumes no prior experience with Clojure, the Java Virtual Machine, or functional programming. Are you ready, brave reader, to meet your true destiny? Grab your best pair of parenthesesâ ”you're about to embark on an epic journey into the world of Clojure!Covers Clojure 1.7Requires Java 1.6 or later

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is the book that every programming language needs. It is more than just a technical write up about features and style, it is a thoroughly pleasant and engaging read that sucked me into Clojure faster than an airplane toilet flush.You could give this to a non programmer and they'd still finish it just for the pleasure of it.The lessons are carefully thought out and unique. From learning

asynchronicity to the lyrics of Lady Gaga, to learning about thread lock in the context of drunken dwarves, every chapter is fresh and (in all honesty) beautiful.The technical content is also just fantastic. I had some previous lisp experience, but this book was my very first contact with Clojure and it took me from knowing nothing to being able to tackle the first 70 or so 4Clojure exercises like a pro.

I am not the target audience for this book as I not a new Clojure developer, however it was so much fun to read that I read it anyways. :) If you're looking for a way to start Clojure with fun examples and engaging explanations, I heartily recommend that you check out Clojure for the Brave and True.

Daniel H is Clojure's answer to the famous "Why the Lucky Stiff" of the Ruby programming language.You see, Ruby is well known as a friendly and fun programming community, and one of the reasons for that was the whimsical and beginner-friendly "Why's (poignant) guide to Ruby". The Clojure community (similarly made up of very friendly and helpful programmers) is very lucky to have a stellar writer like Daniel Higginbotham writing for us. A book like this plays a crucial role in onboarding new programmers and creating the vibrant and cutting-edge community that is Clojure.I used "Clojure for the Brave and True" to get started with Clojure, and I can't imagine starting any other way. I've also read through "The Joy of Clojure" and others, but those are a little tougher to get through. Brave and True walks through everything from getting your text editor and environment set up, to language basics, to more advanced concepts, in a sensible and steady progression. The book is filled with clear and colorful examples, as well as some very bad puns - and when you're tackling a new language, you need something to break up the learning routine!I've been programming Clojure almost daily for coming on a year now, and I still find myself referring to Brave and True to brush on more advanced concepts like multimethods and async programming and macros. If Clojure is your first or second language, the book will teach important concepts as it teaches the language; if Clojure is your n+1 language, it's a competent and lively walk-through of all Clojure's highlights.I still marvel at the sheer inventiveness of the writing style, cast of characters, and analogies. Daniel, if we ever meet, I'll buy you and your war-axe-wielding dwarves a beer.

As a reformed PHP programmer largely working with Python, I've been trying to get into Clojure for a while. I started with SICP (Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs), which is mind-blowing and excellent, then moved on to O'Reilly's Clojure Programming, which I also highly recommend.However, after moving to the other side of the world (literally) with no room for

programming books, I found this book's website (where its content is available for free), and went through the first four chapters before pre-ordering. After finally receiving it -- I got in a bit too early and did a couple months of hand-wringing -- I've spent the last couple days going through it, and I am absolutely glad I paid the international shipping charge.In case it's not obvious from the cover and title, this is not a particularly dry text. The humor is quirky and irreverent; as at least one review here will attest, it's likely not for everyone, but in my opinion it's a great, light-hearted approach that's likely to grab and keep your attention, which is particularly helpful for those of us working a lot of hours already. When a book like this helps you not just absorb facts but keep yourself involved and interested, it can be a major bonus.I'll also mention that the emacs introduction is excellent. It'd be impossible to cover all of emacs in even a single entire book, let alone a chapter, but the information provided here gives you a whole lot to start with but stops before it becomes overwhelming. This is one area where I've found using the website text (nice and searchable!) when I need quick reminders on emacs shortcuts while typing up the book's examples.tl;dr: Be brave, little teapot; start reading it on the website, and if you agree that this sort of thing is worth supporting, buy the analog version!

This is the best book to learn clojure.I tried with living clojure first. Though good, that book lacks the depth of clojure for the brave and true.This book finally made me understand macros!I am now in a position that I can write small applications in clojure as well as carry the concepts of functional programming to my day to day coding. Thanks Daniel!

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