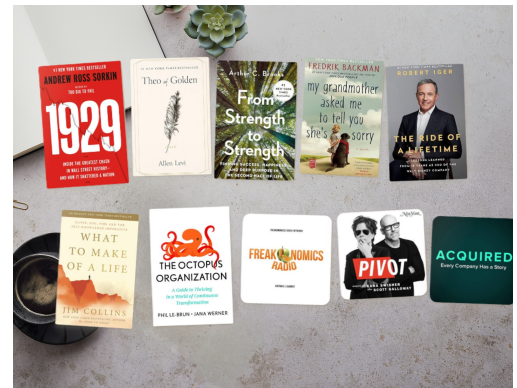




DOWNTIME M1 Insight

10 Books and Podcasts Your Peers Are Recommending This Summer



3 Min Read

June 28, 2026

As summer gets underway and holidays approach, we asked members of the M1 community what they are reading, listening to, and recommending right now.

The first set of recommendations came from our Atlanta CHRO participants, and it is a fitting summer list: part leadership, part reflection, part story, and part business curiosity. Their recommendations included:

1929: Inside the Greatest Crash in Wall Street History by Andrew Ross Sorkin

Theo of Golden by Allen Levi

From Strength to Strength by Arthur Brooks

My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry by Fredrik Backman

What to Make of a Life by Jim Collins

The Ride of a Lifetime by Bob Iger

The group also shared a few podcast recommendations for members looking for something to listen to between meetings, flights, walks, or long drives: **Pivot**, **Freakonomics**, and **Acquired**.

In addition, Amelia Irion from Air Liquide recommended **The Octopus Organization**, a timely pick for leaders thinking about adaptability, distributed intelligence, and how organizations keep learning amid constant change.

Taken together, the list says something about what is on leaders' minds right now. There is interest in history and pattern recognition, in personal reinvention, in resilient organizations, and in the quieter human themes of connection, generosity, meaning, and perspective. That feels like the right mix for a summer reading list: useful enough to bring back into work, but broad enough to make space for reflection.

If you are looking for a book or podcast to take into the long weekend, consider starting with what your peers are reading now. And if you have a recommendation of your own, we would love to hear it.