

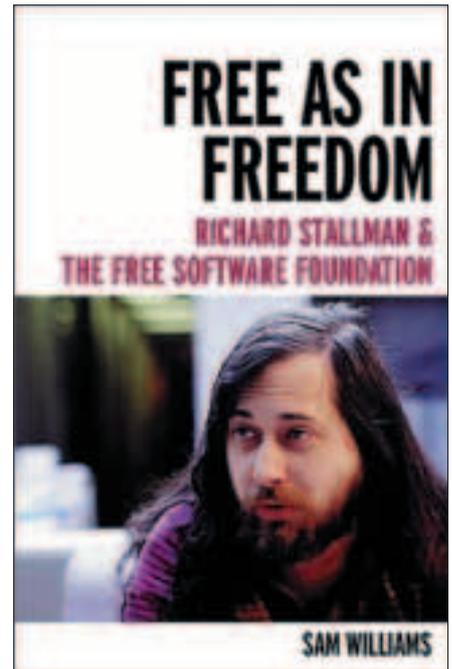
FREE AS IN FREEDOM: RICHARD STALLMAN & THE FREE SOFTWARE FOUNDATION

Richard Stallman is one of the personalities that every user of Free Software should know about, for without him there might not even be such a thing as Free Software. It was the GNU project, which he started some 20 years ago, that made it possible for Free kernels like Linux to become the Free operating system that we know and love, or at least read about.

The 240 pages in this book go a long way to uncovering details about the man, giving answers to the question "what makes the man tick", as well as giving an

insight into the ethics of the 'hacking culture' of the 1970s from which the GNU project grew.

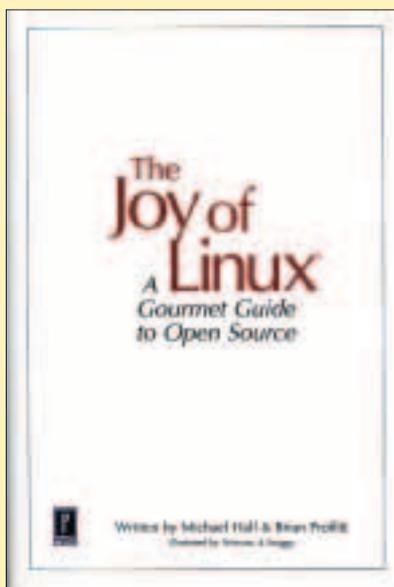
There is a nine page index allowing you to revisit the passages you've found most interesting and, even more usefully, the 13 chapters in this book have footnotes detailing reference material used by the author, enabling the committed Stallman researcher to follow up if they wish. The book also explains, and is published under, the GNU Free Documentation Licence, which is only fitting for a book about freedom.



Author Sam Williams
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THE JOY OF LINUX

This is one book that really is a joy to read. It's amusingly written and well



illustrated with cartoons, some of which are just begging to be copied and pinned to the fridge to be read over a morning coffee. What better way to start the day than with the warm fuzzy feeling that you are among the righteous and chosen ones in your belief of Linux?

Despite its obvious American bias (the chapter on the pros and cons of major distributions did not even touch on SuSE) the book gives a very fair overview of the current situation of Linux. An obligatory chapter covers the history and development of the operating system followed by more interesting anecdotes on using Linux for the first time, and how to cope. Other chapters cover the internal arguments in the Linux community, security, games, hardware, how to dual boot a machine and women in computing (yes really, this book is very PC in a non-

computing sense).

A very comprehensive list of resource sites and books would be useful to anyone researching Linux or needing help in starting to use it and the final appendix contains the full GNU Public Licence should you have a burning desire to read it at any time. The authors do have certain prejudices but they are upfront about them, (If you are a vi user you should skip parts of chapter four) and they are prepared to admit that people hold other views. If you want some enjoyable bedtime reading to make you feel good about using Linux then this is the book for you.

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