

:: Dana's Weekly Insight :: 03.31.08 – This Time...



It reads:

*To my children, who I hope become like Fletcher and go -
beyond.*

Love, Your Mother.

I have always been fascinated, to the point of near obsession, with those people who devote themselves unapologetically to the pursuit of -
realizing an impossible possibility.

I stand in awe of the few who endeavor to discover what reality might exist on the other side of predictable. Those restless souls, refusing to be contained, determined to escape the boundaries of normal, who set out to challenge the status quo and raise the bar, introducing a new truth that expands the world for us all.

Beyond the daily grind, beyond what we already know to be true, beyond "it just can't be done", there are the few who will choose to respond to that persistent whisper that beckons from within -

"What if".

As they accept the invitation to forsake probability for the chance to chase a dream, those few bear the pessimism of the discouraged, the optimism of the promising; the hopes of those who might never dare to try or dare to ever try again.

Once upon a time there was a man who had a dream. To dream, however, in his world where most were resigned to learn nothing more than the basics of surviving day to day - how to get from "A" to "B" and back to "A" again - was to invite ridicule and tempt the gods of failure. Practicality was the standard that everyone was expected to live up to. Just enough to get by but no more; no less either if you wanted to fit in, be safe and avoid making waves. In a world where dreaming was considered a waste of valuable time, this man felt small, confined and driven by a relentless desire to test the limits of his own potential.

So,

he set out to blaze a new trail across an already settled frontier, certain of where he wanted to end up, unclear about how in the world he would manage to get there.

How does one steer toward a reality that no one else has seen?

With his focus fixed forward on an imagined destination, he would have to endure uncertainty, resignation and doubt. He would have to rise above animosity, skepticism and fear to eventually triumph over defeat. Every time the man was knocked down, disregarded and counted out, he found a way to get back up again and press on, knowing that this would have to be an all or nothing proposition in direct response to "the fierce urgency of now".

Guided by his simple yet compelling belief that this was in fact his time, he defied reason and disregarded logic, ignoring any evidence that would suggest he was out of his league and way over his head, for the chance to inspire a generation.

Imagine.

When a man dares to go where few have gone, when he courageously pursues adversity in an effort to uncover his true self, the temperature shifts, the conversation is elevated and nothing stays the same. When any one of us is willing to run our own race out loud, willing, shamelessly to chase a possibility through the fire and in spite of the pain, other people get to come along for the ride.

I like to think of myself as "one of those few", but, I have failed many times to go the distance. I have at other times declined to stay the course, discouraged and yet pretending not to be. And, I have more often than I care to admit, toyed with the prospect of surrendering and admitting to defeat.

Still --

I want to know for myself, what there is to know about the reality that exists on the other side. I want to really try one day. I want one day to fly.

And you?

Once upon a time, you might have had a dream too; you might've even been one of "those", too, whose restless soul refused to be contained. Could it be you are determined still, to escape your boundaries, raise your bar and expand the world for us all? Could it be that you've tried and come up short a few times convinced that you might not ever want to try again.

But now --

someone, somewhere, being something and doing something big,

threatens to hijack your imagination, point the way forward and ignite in you again, the desire to live beyond the daily grind -

"What if?" ,

Possibility dictates that it must be pursued! You've got to pay a price for greatness. You've got to really chase a dream. And although there have been times when you've been clear "it just can't be done", decide this time to listen to the whisper that beckons from within:

"Yes I can. Yes you can. Yes we can".

It reads:

*To my children, who I hope become like Fletcher and go -
beyond.*

Love, Your Mother.

It was then and there for me, contained in that inscription on the inside flap of my very own copy of *Jonathan Livingston Seagull*, that the seed to rise above, in me, was planted. It is here and now for any one of us, the choice to start or to start all over again; to follow another man's example in the hopes that one day we might indeed -

take flight.

Dana

All content © 2007 Dana Roc Productions. All Rights Reserved. Reproduction of this content in any form is forbidden without the express consent of the author.