

To try and fail is
better essay



We all have childhood dreams and ambitions about the person we would love to become and often vow as young people not to be like our parents and do a job that we don't care for. Yet few people get to live out those dreams. Of the people who do pluck up the courage, take the plunge and go after their heart's desire, many do not succeed at making a living from their new vocation.

Not all writers will be best sellers, not all artists will have exhibitions at the Tate Gallery and not all musicians will have a hit record. This begs the question: is it better to shoot for your dreams and fail than not try at all? After all, it is possible to spend a lot of time and money pursuing your passion only to end up very stressed, very tired and very broke. If you have managed to pursue your dreams, even if it doesn't work out, at least you have the knowledge that you gave it your best shot and if you died tomorrow you would have no regrets. On the other hand by doing nothing you will always wonder what might have been.

A feeling of regret can build up over the years and can become debilitating leaving you fixated on what you should have done in the past. In its worst form this can manifest as illness, deep seated anger or addiction. One of the major things that stops most people from ever moving forward on their goals and closer to their dreams is fear. One of the biggest fears is the fear of failure, of not knowing if you can actually accomplish the dreams you set out to achieve. We are afraid of what people will say or think if we don't achieve what we set out to do.

Theodore Roosevelt put it amazingly well: “ It’s not the critic who counts; Not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit goes to the one who is actually in the arena; Who strives valiantly; who errs and comes up short again and again; Who knows the great devotions, the great enthusiasms, and spends himself in a worthy cause. Who, at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and, at the worst, if he fails at least he fails while daring greatly; so that his place will never be among those timid and cold souls who know neither victory or defeat. ” Have you faced defeat in your endeavors? If not, I would contend that you are not putting yourself out there nearly enough.

Ask any successful person if they experienced defeat or setbacks along their road to success and you will get a 100% “ yes” response”. In fact, most successful people have experienced far more defeat than those who are not successful. Most get knocked down once or twice and give up. Successful people get knocked down over and over and over, but they keep bouncing back up and keep moving forward. In the end, what is worse? Failing, or not trying at all? Which is going to leave you with regret? Which is going to have you wishing you would have tried harder or kept going instead of giving up? Which is going to get you to where you want to go? If you never try, or try and give up quickly, you will have regret down the road. Now I’m not saying there is never a time to let something go so you can move on to something else, but we do it far too often, and bounce from one thing to the next in search of something that will get us to our desired result.

But most of the time it is not the “ vehicle” that is the issue, it is the “ driver” (you). Pick your vehicle that you want to use to get where you are going, and stick to it and make it happen. Don’t quit. Most importantly, make sure you are at least out there trying.

If you fail while trying, you can deal with it. Get up and get going and try again. Failure is our best teacher. It won’t kill you, it will only make you stronger.

Even if you fail, at least you know you gave it your all (you did, right?) and you don’t have to face the regret of not having tried at all. Even if it doesn’t work out as you planned, it is better than looking back and not knowing what you could have done or been but will never know because you didn’t try. So get out there and start failing! When you move past your failures, success is waiting for you on the other side. We often times get scared of situations before even getting into them. We fear getting heart broken and so stay away from relationships, we fear failing in business and so we end up not starting it at all.

As Sven Goran Eriksson once said “ The greatest barrier to success is the fear of failure. ” This is so true! As Les Brown, a best-selling author and renowned motivational speaker, stated in his book, Live Your Dreams, “ everyone of us was born with just two fears – the fear of loud noise, and the fear of being dropped. All other fears we learned! ” We’ve all in so many cases let our fears get the best of us. But that doesn’t have to be our stories forever! Even if it had been in the past, we have the power to make a change today! No great inventor or business man having let his fears get the

best of him would've been able to invent anything, or have the adjective "great" attached to them. Everyone today celebrates the achievements of successful men like Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, Jack Welch, Donald Trump, Warren Buffet, Julian Robertson, but no one ever considers what fears they must have had to conquer to make those investments that turned their lives around.