

# **Create Your Dynasty**

**One Piece at a Time**



**Alex Czaban**



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Alex Czaban

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## Acknowledgments

# Acknowledgments

To all of my mentors, Tony, Frances, Vinny, Anthony, and many more, “Thank you from the depths of my heart! You have saved my life and impacted countless others. The ripple effect may never be known, but I assure you, you have created tsunamis. You have shown me how to change the world one person at a time—which was my largest dream and mantra.”

To my friends, family, writers, speakers, and everyone in between, “Thank you! You have made my life’s adventure what it is. Without you, I would not have had highs and lows, nor would I have had wonderful experiences.”

*“The mark of a great student, and the best gift a student can give is being able to surpass their mentor by going farther than they ever could. I have enormous shoes to fill; however, I am up to the challenge.”*

– Alex Czaban

## Preface

Why was Create Your Dynasty: One Piece at a Time chosen as the title of this book? Ten years ago, I ventured out into the unknown on a journey that drastically transformed my life. As adversity hit me, I was knocked down and got back up countless times; each time reaching a new level of mindset, wealth, and dream achievement. In the last few years, after becoming shattered beyond recognition, I thought my journey was meaningless, as I was a mere shell of my former self. Due to the mistakes and gambles I had made, I contemplated my options between leaving the country or ending it all.

Along my journey, I had met a man who would change my life forever. This man left his conventional job and established himself before the age of thirty. Through this man, I was introduced to many refined mentors; all of whom have had success in multiple areas. It was after I met these powerful players when I embarked on a journey to create my Dynasty to one day pass down to my successors, as he has done for me.

Walk with me through my journey, as I share with you the puzzle pieces you need to create your Dynasty. Some of the puzzle pieces I will

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share with you I already knew, but had to relearn, while others were fresh realizations. These realizations were delivered from mentors, those whom I met in person, those whom I had only heard their voices from stage, and some were passed down from older generations. The realizations that were not delivered from others were delivered through self-reflection, learning the hard way, and from coaching others.

## Foreword

As the Publisher of this book, I am pleased to bring you Create Your Dynasty: One Piece at a Time. If you have been beaten down by life circumstances, your choices, mistakes, or risks and are seeking inspiration, motivation, influence, or guidance, this book is for you. If you feel as though you have fought hard and traveled far, while overcoming physical and mental challenges, you will find much helpful wisdom on these pages. Perhaps you are tired of mind games, blown smoke, negative self-talk, and self-sabotage; if so, this book will provide you with clarity and peace of mind.

As you read Alex's words of truth and certainty, you will experience his thoughts, beliefs, and pieces of himself. As one who teaches others how to write books, I teach Authors it is not their job to write; rather, it is their job to bleed onto the pages. Alex, a profound student, bleeds onto these pages as he expresses the importance of believing in yourself and how he too believes in you. Moreover, he is proud of you for taking the time to invest in your well-being through the reading of this book.

Many people fail before they begin because they fail to begin. No matter your circumstances or how low you have fallen, you are not too far

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gone. You truly can accomplish anything you set your mind to; with proper work ethic, time, and consistency, of course.

As Alex pours his best wisdom into you, you will hear his voice saying, “I believe in you.” Listen carefully to his words and allow them to drown out the voices of self-doubt. When I read this book’s manuscript, I could hear the echoes of my memories. Even more, I could hear my loved ones’ encouraging words pulling me up to new heights of success.

While interviewing Alex about Create Your Dynasty, he stated, “Everyone I meet is a unique individual who has the perspective, personality, and ability that only they possess. They can truly accomplish anything they set their mind to. To those who have inner demons, I want them to know that no matter what wrong they have done, they are forgiven.” He went on to say, “Everyone can change his or her life at a moment's notice, as long as he or she has the will to change. I want people to know by changing their thoughts and beliefs, they can have the life they want. They may not be able to clearly see the *how to* quite yet, but they can hold tight to Mahatma Gandhi’s quote, “*I know a way out of hell.*”

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It is time to begin your journey, as you are shown you how to take the principles in this book to *Create Your Dynasty*.

## Introduction

According to INC Magazine, in an article written by John Rampton, an Entrepreneur, and Investor, “a mentor is a must.” In this article, he moves forward giving ten reasons why everyone who desires success should have a mentor. His ten reasons are quoted as follows.

1. Mentors provide information and knowledge.
2. Mentors can see where we need to improve, where we often cannot.
3. Mentors find ways to stimulate our personal and professional growth.
4. Mentors offer encouragement and help keep us going.
5. Mentors are disciplinarians that create necessary boundaries that we cannot set for ourselves.
6. Mentors are sounding boards so that we can bounce ideas off them for an unfiltered opinion.
7. Mentors are trusted advisers.
8. Mentors can be connectors.
9. Mentors have the experiences you can learn from to prevent making the same mistakes beginners make.
10. Mentors are free, which makes they are priceless in more ways than one.

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Who I am today was shaped by many distinguished mentors. Tony was one of my mentors who had the largest impact on my life, and someone I would have never met had it not been for adversities, faith, friends, shots in the dark, and trust. Overall, Tony taught me how to create wealth through self-discovery. Moreover, he helped me to realize, although I was learning some hard lessons, I was not purposefully applying my discoveries.

The very book you are reading, right here, right now, began as journaling. Just as most people who journal, my immediate thoughts and plans were not to share my journal entries with anyone. However, the day came when I met Anthony, then by chance was introduced to Cami Baker, who then introduced me to my Publisher, Elena Rahrig. Through these three masterminds, what began as private entries, is now here to encourage, influence, motivate, and inspire you to create your own Dynasty.

I refuse to promise you that creating your Dynasty will be a soft, easy path. Instead, throughout traveling your rocky road filled with many sharp turns, hold tight to the adage “where there is a will, there is a way.” I know, without a shadow-of-a-doubt, you can accomplish anything you set your mind to achieving. Yes, just as I had to, you will have to

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learn difficult lessons and apply your discoveries; but, when you do, you will create your Dynasty.

In this book, you will learn the principles that saved my life and created my Dynasty. These principles are from my mentor who retired as a multi-millionaire at the age of 28 and other mentors who will be mentioned throughout this book. As you read, you will gain insights through self-reflection and success through self-discovery. At the completion of you reading my once best-kept secrets, I am certain you will no longer be looking through the fog; rather, you will be sharing your own lightbulb moments with those who you have gone before.

Are you ready to learn all you must to create your Dynasty? Are you ready to live the life you truly desire? Are you ready to make your life happen, instead of allowing life to happen to you? As I am certain you have answered “yes” to those three questions, it is time to turn the page and begin your Dynasty journey.

*Chapter 1*

## **Closing the Gaps**

**B**efore starting this book, I have had multiple catastrophic failures, along with hard-earned life successes. I have lived what few men have dared to dream and what some describe as a living nightmare. I came under the fire of certain paradigms and seemingly unbreakable habits. During the times of trouble, little did I realize, the walls that barricaded me in were my encumbering thoughts, nightmares, relationships, experiences, and past focal points.

After meeting Tony, my life transformed from a broken spirit to positive and powerful habits, mindset, and understanding. When approached to enroll in a program, although there were many reasons I needed to, the primary reason I enrolled in it is that, well, there was nothing left to lose.

While taking the program, I was surrounded by people of wealth and with respectable mentalities. They were the essence of whom I was longing to become. Watching and learning from them gave me a new path to follow, new goals to commit to, and an avenue to bring my ambitions to life.

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Many times, throughout life, we all come to understand that we know we are meant for more. Sometimes we are not certain what we are meant for, but we do know something is missing. This is what happened to me. I could not clearly see my end goal. I just knew there was one...a big one. As I became of sound mind through the leadership of my mentors, I realized what truly motivated me and made my heart smile. I began to feel my joy increase and tears welling from those who wrote me letters expressing gratitude. You see...me...yes, once seemingly messed up and twisted up me, was impacting the lives of others; and for that, they were grateful enough to send letters. It was this that opened my eyes to my purpose and everything that was missing in my life.

Given the fact that I am not Jewish, I will never forget the following unforeseen event. I met a Rabbi who was in need of marital salvation. I took on the challenge of helping him by building a relationship with him, listening, and offering wise counsel. As a result, I now hold his letter forever inside my heart. His letter expressed his joy of a saved marriage, a better life, and his children's overall well-being.

Another achievement I will never forget is a time when I was on my way to becoming the world ranked esports player. Let me assure you,

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this notable achievement is not about me. Rather, I met a man who wanted to learn how to play video games, so I taught him. After teaching him, it was not long before he took his esports team to the #1 spot in the world.

These are only two shortened stories of victories I will share at this time. It was through these achievements, and others like these, I have discovered that my purpose in life is to help others dream. Some I teach to dream for the first time, others I teach to start dreaming again, and others I teach to dream bigger.

I hypothesize that you are in one of those three categories. Do you need to learn to dream? Do you need to learn to dream again? Do you need to learn to dream bigger than you ever have before? Whatever your answer may be, rest assured I have written this book to help you. It is my motivation and my vision to transform one heart, soul, and mind at a time. I know that when I help you transform your life, you will then be able to pay it forward. As we all begin to heal, rise above adversity, and impact the lives of others, the world will fall into a peaceful and triumphant state.

There are many self-help and personal-development books on the market. Most of the books in these genres are written by those who are famous with deep pockets. Am I famous? Do

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I have deep pockets? My confirmative answer to you is, *not yet!* I want to author this book at this time in my life, not only to bring you its principles but so you can relate better to the author of the book you are reading. It can be inspiring yet defeating when we learn from those who are out of our reach and whose world is a long distance from ours. For you and me, we are nearly on the same playing field. Yes, I know my purpose and have learned to dream big, while remaining motivated and dedicated to my dreams. However, I am not rolling in stacks of cash or living in a mansion. The truth is, our worlds, more than likely, coincide, or at the very least are rubbing elbows.

If you decide not to read this book because I am not yet a millionaire financially, allow me to mentally and heartfully leave you with the following lessons before you go. First, everything in this book has been passed down to me or verified with the fruits on the tree that I wish to achieve, multiple mentors and people who have created great success in their given arena. Second, refusing to learn from someone who is not financially where you want to be is a characteristic that will impede your success. When one views those without financial success as having nothing to offer, they miss out on profound information because we, just like you, have learned from those who are financially

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successful. So, I know things you do not know, just as you know things I do not know. Therefore, I encourage you not to be judgmental, and perhaps, even arrogant, and open your mind, sit back, relax, and take in the offerings of Create Your Dynasty.

Now that you better understand me and my heart, it is vital for you to know that I have already made it. I have made it bigger than I had let on, thus far. Through my hard work, perseverance, and willingness to be a student, I have mentally made it. My mind is thousands of lightyears ahead, as others tell me I am *wiser beyond my years*. So wise in fact, I have applied my knowledge to achieve my goal of turning my monthly income into my weekly income, writing this book, having a life that is triumphant, and a mind that is serene.

Think back to one of your memories. As time passes, memories begin to fade. Details of the memories can typically only be found by some nudging. There are many principles that I have learned that are a distant memory; but, I have never forgotten the gaps that exist in life and business. These gaps, when undealt with, will hold you back and captivate you in discomfort. It is up to you to discover the gaps that exist in your life, then work to close them. I know, as you continue to read this book, your eyes will hear,

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and your heart will open to what gaps you must fill. As you fill your gaps, I assure you, your business and life will find a connection with success.

For me, the gaps were never in the same place, but the results were identical. Some of my most pertinent gaps were inconsistency, frustration, and self-doubt. I cannot guarantee this book will fill all your gaps because this is your unique journey. However, as you begin being propelled closer to your dreams, as a result of applying what you learn in this book, you will be a walking, talking, breathing success.

Chapter 2

## When Glory Rises From Ashes

In the last chapter, you learned about how my life was filled with brokenness, and how it transformed into a powerful, successful life. In this chapter, I will share some childhood and adolescent stories with you so that you can peek into my tribulations. You must know, everything you are about to read, I have made peace with—both people and events. Through forgiveness of all parties, to include myself, I no longer carry the heavy weight of turmoil. Each story you will hear has enabled me to be who I am today and allows me to share these stories with you, the reader.

*“Every adversity, every failure, and every heartache carries with it the seed of an equal or greater benefit.”*

– Napoleon Hill

Adding to Napoleon Hill’s quote, it is up to you to either cultivate your seeds to create your forest or to let your seeds wither and die.

It is exemplified that I came from nothing but was still able to propel my life. The adversity I had experienced made me stronger, as it gave me the seeds I needed to thrive when more challenges struck. You may have had worse, or

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you may not even be able to imagine what I went through; either way is perfectly okay. Please know, I give you this information so you may gain insight and perspective into how I was able to adopt a positive mindset to overcome my trials.

*“With every adversity lies the seeds  
to a greater or equal comeback.”*

– *Napoleon Hill*

I grew up in Hicksville, New York with a broken family home. Alcoholism, physical abuse, cheating, and absenteeism were among some of the things I was forced to endure. One of my earliest memories is a time my father raped my mother in a drunken stupor. Screaming and yelling was considered normal, and, unless I misbehaved, I was ignored.

Both of my parents spoke Polish and were not eager to teach me English; therefore, I learned English through watching cartoons. Whether it was learning English or tying my shoes, my parents often failed to teach me what my peers knew, which resulted in me getting teased at school. As children, and sometimes even as adults, we take simple capabilities for granted. For example, knowing how to wipe properly after a bowel movement. Again, this is something I was not taught and became a struggle for me as a little boy. Not knowing how much toilet

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paper to use caused me to clog toilets by the roll and leave soils in my underwear.

It was rather difficult for me to know what to do, as one day my actions were considered bad, when on other days, it was not. Consistency and patience were lacking characteristics in my home growing up. For example, I remember being choked by my uncle for playing with a calculator. Also missing from my home were proper values. For example, playing with a calculator was considered bad, while my mother cheating on my father, with him and me as a witness, was not bad.

With my father having two heart attacks (one which I was present for), the day came when I arrived home after baseball to find my mother in the hospital, my father in jail, and my half-brother (my mother's son) going back to his apartment. (My brother is fifteen years my senior, so when things got tough, he could escape. Me, on the other hand, I was stuck.) Everyone was displaced that day because my dad attempted to murder my mother. However, by the grace of God, my brother happened to come inside and save my black and blue-faced mother.

In my life, there are thin threads in many places. Many times, situations could have tilted towards death in a split second. These split-

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second experiences were so prevalent that I must consider their outcomes as miracles from a higher power. I encourage you to examine your life to recall your miraculous moments. Some of your miracles may be well-hidden, while some blatantly obvious. So, whether you believe in God or another powerful force that guides you through life, it is important for you to know that I believe in God. However, no matter your beliefs in higher powers, please know that I respect you and hope you can respect me when God is mentioned in this book.

After the attempt on my mother's life, I found myself locked in a custody battle, living alone with my mother. The stress was high, and it was often released through beating me. One day, after being beaten, again, with an electrical cord, I took the cord, slammed it on the table, and said, "No more!" It was then I realized, I no longer had to be afraid. From that moment on, a rebellious spirit crept into me, and I immersed myself in video games. Video games became my escape from the Hell I was living in.

Throughout this time, I lost interest in school and homework. I became a master of myself, finding every avenue to escape punishments. As my life continued to spiral farther out of control, I began throwing parties, drinking, and smoking

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pot. This resulted in my mother calling the cops on me multiple times.

Aside from the parting, I became a world-ranked gamer in Halo and Halo 2. (This was before twitch and MLG for you video game fans.) Even more, I had a band that was headed for a label. Unfortunately, we never received a label because our guitarist hit two and a half tabs of acid on stage; and this, of course, did not end well.

Despite all of my trials and tribulations, my heart remained big, and I longed for love more than anything else. Being a hopeless romantic would soon get me into unforeseen troubles ...twice.

Given my upbringing, I am sure you can imagine the hard-learned lessons I endured in love, friendship, and other relationships. I believed the friends I had back then were true and honorable. To me, they felt like the family I never had. Unfortunately, I would later learn their hidden, and less desirable, characters.

With college approaching, it was my goal to be a pilot in the marine core. Again, with another unfortunate turn of events, I discovered I could not achieve this goal because my eyesight was not up to code. Furthermore, only officers can become pilots. Knowing my other options for a

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career would have me trading time for dollars, I neglected to enroll in college. It was my mindset that trading time for dollars did not end well for my parents and I wanted more for myself. After years of trading time for dollars at a j-o-b (**just-over-broke**), my father lost everything. As for my mother, she was stuck working day in and day out with no escape in sight. So, here I sat with big dreams and eccentric ideas, but an orphan with no direction.

During this stagnant year, I fell in love with a young lady whom I had met online. She was pretty, smart, had a sexy accent, and everything I thought I was looking for in a woman. Soon enough, my naïve state of being would sneak up on me. After a few months of communicating via social media and endless phone calls (without the novelty of online cameras), I decided to visit her. I drove to Sikeston, Missouri from Long Island, New York in my 1993 Dodge Dynasty with 280,000 miles on the gauge and a rusted racing stripe down the center.

Upon arriving in Missouri, I received a phone call that she did not want to meet me. Although I was heartbroken, I decided I would not return home defeated. Instead, I went on a short-lived adventure of self-discovery.

I would love to tell you that my self-discovery adventure was a cure-all; however, it was not.

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As I returned home, it was apparent that my mother had locked me out of the house refusing to give me the new security code for entry. To this day, I am not sure if it was a result of her psychosis or a host of anti-depressants, but she truly had lost her mind. Grabbing a knife from the kitchen, she came after me with the intent to kill. Her efforts were futile, but none-the-less, to protect my own mental health I packed my belongings and left.

Finding myself living in my car, I was thankful that I had saved some money since beginning to work at the age of twelve. (I know, twelve years of age is much too young to work legally; but, lying about my age allowed me to do so.) Although I had money saved, I did not have enough for a leasing agent, nor a deposit and first and last month's rent.

I ventured out to find my half-brother to see if he would allow me to stay with him until I could catch a break. However, he turned me away, refusing to help me. My next option was my father who lived in a shoebox apartment. Well, that was also a dead-end road. Contacting anyone and everyone I could think of, all roads led to nowhere. Finally, after working three jobs to make ends meet, and three months later, a friend offered up his couch for me to sleep on. So, here I was, sleeping on a couch, living on an

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affordable Ramen Noodle diet, earning too much for government assistance, and just enough to survive. Had I not been mindful, hopelessness would have consumed me as my difficulties seemed endless.

Eager to make something of my life, once again, I sought after enrolling in college. Speaking with the Financial Aid Counselor, I quickly learned that if I was going to obtain funding for college, I needed my parent's financial history and personal information. Since receiving those documents was not going to happen, I filed the proper paperwork to be emancipated. Oh, yes, did I not mention that I was under the age of eighteen throughout all that I have shared with you thus far.

Sadly, and unwarranted, I was denied emancipation. However, my strong will to rise above adversity caused me not to give up. The day I filed an appeal, I realized my paperwork was added to the already large and forever growing stack of appeals. So, with my Dodge Dynasty running on fumes, with no direction, and no clue what to do next, I drove to the beach, sat in my car, and cried.

I am not certain how long I cried, but I remember feeling extremely helpless, overwhelmed, and numb, to the point the bone-chilling coldness actually felt good. Even as

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apathy began to set in, no matter what I had endured up until this point, there is one thing I was certain of; there was still a fight left in me. As the sun set in the distance, I pleaded for a sign, for something, for anything to help me.

As I drove away from the beach, I received a phone call from the Financial Aid Counselor who worked at the community college. I was approved and would just need to sign the paperwork. This was the first time I acknowledged a miracle in my life. I was grateful beyond belief. Somehow, after believing there were no more tears left to cry, I managed to cry tears of joy as I gave thanks.

Still working three jobs, I was now attending college as a full-time student. After several years of studying, and instead of sitting in my car crying, I found myself graduating from college having earned my associate's and bachelor's degree while remaining on the Dean's list.

After everything I had endured throughout my life, one must believe easier times were ahead. However, that would not be the case. As I began job seeking, it was brought to my attention that I did not have enough experience or high enough credentials. Finally, catching my break, thanks to my half-brother, I obtained a job as a Tech Support, earning more than I ever had. This

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allowed me to return to college to earn my master's degree. Obtaining my master's degree brought about new achievements as I was able to double my income with a better job.

Even though my life was on the upswing, my world around me was not. My mother was evicted from her house, she was unemployed with an enormous amount of debt, and her psychosis was getting worse. As for my dad, well, we had managed to maintain a loose, but stable relationship. My attempt to get my brother and father to team up with me to help my mother was of no success. Mother started living out of her car, as I did what I could to help her. It was my plan to obtain power of attorney over her, so she could get the medical attention she needed and an apartment. Meantime, I paid for a storage unit for her belongings until she was back up on her feet.

Despite my plans and efforts to help my mom, the stars had aligned against me once again. Remember how I mentioned earlier that I was a hopeless romantic? Remember how I mentioned before that I was romantically burned twice? Well, it was the hopeless romantic in me that would be the seeming demise of all my hard work.

Once again, I met a young lady online. Again, she was everything I had ever hoped for...or, so

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I thought. In the end, I would learn the hard way that I was this lady's scapegoat as part of her banking scam. Despite being assured by the banks that my money was protected, I was wiped out and found myself being sued for \$250,000.

Now remember, I am a fighter, so I did not take this lying down with my tail tucked between my legs. Instead, after extreme persistence for an attorney to take my case, I was ready and eager to clear my name. There have been many times in my life when I believed I could not handle one more battle. However, being faced with an obscene amount of college debt and a mother stuck living on the streets, I knew I had to find the lion from within. With depression trying desperately to consume me, this would be another fight that would push me to pray for a miracle.

Through the fight to win my life back, and my mother's life, I had to suck it up and trust untrustworthy friends from my past. Call me naïve if you will, but, yes, of course, the one friend took me for another \$10,000. However, the other, once untrusting friend, led me down a path to receive my miracle. This friend introduced me to someone who introduced me to a debt-free, cashflow millionaire. After speaking with the millionaire and establishing a relation-

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ship, he had his lawyer take a look at my case. His lawyer created a settlement which made the entire ordeal disappear.

After thanking him for giving me my life back, I asked him how I could one day pay it forward. He replied to me with one of the most memorable quotes I had ever heard. “Well, Alex, you must find someone whose life mirrors that in which you want for your own life. Then, you have them mentor you, and you do exactly what they did to get to where they are. Allow them to guide you through life’s challenges. When you do, there will be no reason why you shouldn’t have what they have.”

I am certain my jaw dropped in that exact moment. I remember telling him, “You have everything in life that I’ve ever wanted, how do I do what you do?” He smiled at me and told me about how he had mentored others with the program he had developed.

To give you a quick glimpse of his lifestyle, he brought his son to school every day and was often vacationing with his beautiful wife—beautiful both internally and externally. If I am to describe her qualities, personalities, and background, I will describe them of nothing less than perfection. Still being a hopeless romantic, she encompassed the exact type of woman I hope to someday build a family with. This couple has

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a marriage like I had never seen before. They gaze at each other with so much love in their eyes, you could mistake them for teenagers falling in love for the first time. Having never seen that kind of love before, it was and still is, absolutely beautiful. Here was a man who is wealthy in time, money, and marriage. Attributes I never saw but had always dreamed of obtaining.

From this one friend and this one man, I continued to meet many multi-millionaires. I met people who helped me in a variety of areas of my life. They not only changed my mindset, but they also unlocked the hidden reasons as to why I was stuck inside of a self-sabotaging paradigm. Through this, I was able to save myself and my mother.

Looking back at my life and pondering the times when I did not know where my life was headed, I had always known that I did not want to live the life my parents had chosen. Through my trials, I believe my will to survive came from my spirit knowing glory would rise out of the ashes. Transforming my mind from negativity and chaos was not an easy road to travel. The following words of my father often rang in my ears. "I love your brother more than you." "Your mother wanted to abort you."

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Moreover, the following words of my mother captivated my mind. “I wish you were a girl.” “You are a burden on me.” From these words, I became emotionally dead towards my parents, which resulted in a dream to find my one and only love and to have a family of my own—one that I would make my paradise. A family like the millionaire who saved me.

So, you see, I have had many challenges, failures, and heartbreaks, but I have also had many accomplishments. Either way, this is not my autobiography. Instead, this chapter and this book are about helping you with your challenges. If I can do it, there is no reason why you cannot do it. Though it is just a tiny glimpse through the looking glass, I am thankful for my life experiences, the good, the bad, and the ugly, for I have risen from the ashes and have been forged stronger than before. You see, I am thankful and wish to honor my parents for this experience, for without it I would not be who I am today, and I may not have had the persistence, the determination, wit, adaptability, nor the non-quitting spirit to know that I can accomplish anything I set my mind to. In the next chapter, I will share with you some of the profound insights I have learned through the hardships I shared with you in this chapter.