

YEAR TO SUCCESS

The complete course on success including articles, quotes, success biographies, and action steps, designed to help you achieve the level of success you deserve.

When it comes to success, there are no shortcuts.

Written By

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*To my mother, who always knew I would
make it, but didn't live long enough to see
that she was right. I love you mom.*

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Most of all, I would like to thank my wife, Kimberly Bennett, and my two children, Annabelle and Trebor, for their support, encouragement, and inspiration. Thank you.

Introduction

The meaning of this book.

Have you been promised success if you follow a few quick and dirty “rules” or “secrets” of success? Are you tired of irrelevant analogies that do nothing for you but make you feel inadequate? Have you had enough of highly metaphysical concepts and not enough practical solutions? Have you had your fill of grossly exaggerated claims that try to trick you into thinking success is easy? Are you all “affirmationed” out? You are not alone.

Think of success as a game of chance in which you have control over the odds. As you begin to master concepts in personal achievement, you are increasing your odds of achieving success. *Year To Success* is a full year course in success, designed to be a practical guide to achieving your definition of success. Each day of this course will, through practical application, increase your odds of achieving success. It has been said that one line of wisdom can change your life more than volumes of books. Imagine what hundreds of pages of wisdom can do.

Why this book is different.

Year To Success is perhaps the most complete book on success ever written. It uses my “formula” for success: **education + inspiration + action = success**. *Education*: each week starts off with two educational articles and ends with two more educational articles. *Inspiration*: the third day of the week is a success biography on someone I believe is one of the most successful people in history. These success biographies are full of inspiration to help keep your flame for success burning on high. *Action*: each of the educational articles has one or more action steps associated with it. Taking action is what this book is all about. It is doing the action steps that bring you closer to success.

How to use this book.

This book can be read from cover to cover, or by jumping around from topic to topic, depending on what interests you most on a particular day. However, *Year To Success* was created as a one-year course in success with a total of 366 days (just to make sure we are covered with leap year). Most people start Day 1 on a Monday, so the two days of “R&R” (review and reflection) fall on the weekend. However, you can start on any day of the year you wish. You may choose to read through the book the first time as you would any other book, skipping the action steps, then beginning the course by reading one article a day and completing the action steps. To get the most out of this book, just be sure to actually do the action steps associated with each educational article.

I suggest you get yourself a “success journal” for this course. This can be any notebook where you keep all of your written action steps organized and centralized.

Why I wrote this book.

Since age 10, I have been fascinated with success and personal achievement. What makes some people achieve so much and others so little? This question continued to burn inside of me until I decided to commit my full attention to organizing my 20 years of research and experience into one complete collection that offered individuals a realistic approach to achieving success.

As a father, I wanted to put what I have learned in writing for my kids, for a time when they are old enough to understand the meaning behind the words. We never know when our time is up on this earth and I may not be around to share this essential information with them.

Why I waited 21 years to write this book.

The last thing I wanted to be was a successful author who became successful by selling books on success. Although I achieved financial success many years ago, it was not until recently that I began to discover how important personal development and personal achievement is in true success. I needed to first put my theories to the test before I shared these ideas with others.

My writing style.

When it comes to the English language, perfection is in the eye of the beholder, and it also depends on what century you're living in. I don't use words like "thither" and I don't mind ending a sentence with a preposition now and then (I paraphrase Sir Winston Churchill when I say that not ending a sentence with a preposition "is a rule up with which I will not put"). Even God ends sentences with prepositions: "Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" Genesis 3:10–12.

I have a casual style of writing that is meant to be more like I am speaking directly to you. My goal is to reach as many people as possible, not to impress a select few with my perfect grammar (which I don't have anyway). My professionalism should be apparent in the content itself. Communication is about being effective, not always about being proper.

Religion / God.

I believe that having faith in anything that **you believe will help you succeed**, is another way of increasing one's odds of success. However, I also believe that one's dependence on an outside force (God, the universe, lady luck, etc.) to bring one success will ultimately lead to failure. It reminds me of the story of the priest that prayed everyday to the Lord to win the lottery, then after 10 years the priest lost faith and starting cursing the Lord saying,

"Why God? I have devoted my life to serving you. Why will you not grant me this one wish?" Then, a loud booming voice came from the sky and said, "Priest, meet me half way - buy a ticket!"

The whole he/she/his/hers issue.

I really wish someone of authority, like Mr. Webster or one of his offspring, would come up with a singular pronoun that was gender independent like “shis” for his or her. Until that time, we writers must play the “do not offend anyone” game and use crappy grammar by writing “they”, play switch-aroo and change genders, and/or use the “s/he” slash thing which you will never see me do.

I resort to both the poor grammar solution and the switching of genders just because this is what helps my writing flow. So I apologize in advance for offending the males when I use a feminine pronoun, the females when I use a masculine pronoun, and my fifth grade English teacher when using plural pronouns when a singular should be used.

Why I chose the people I did for the success biographies.

The 52 success biographies in this course were chosen based on a number of factors.

- they all have very inspiring stories
- they are/were all tremendously successful at what they set out to do
- information could be confirmed by several sources
- they are people who have touched the lives of the majority of Y2S readers in some way
- they are “heroes” of mine

I would be the first to admit, that none of these people are perfect. After all, who is? I am sure anyone can dig up dirt on any one of these people. My success biographies focus on the positive

contributions the person made to the world, not their faults. Get inspiration from how they mastered principles of success, and leave the dirt behind.

Offending material.

With over 250 articles, I would be surprised if you didn't get offended by at least something I've written! If I attempted to make each article neutral and not offend anyone, I would have to leave out all humor, and I would not be able to communicate the true message. Trying to please everyone all the time is a recipe for failure. I apologize if you are offended in any way by one of my ideas, beliefs, or attempts at humor. Please accept my apology, and continue with the next day. I certainly do not ask that you accept all of my beliefs, but I ask that you accept my opinion (I hope that didn't offend you!).

Day 1: Why Success?

As humans, we are all driven by an inner desire to feel important. That is, we all want to know that our lives make a difference in a positive way. We want to know that in some way, the world is a better place because we are part of it. Success is another way of saying that we are doing just that.

Many people aspire to nothing more than going through a day's work and catching the game on the sports channel before passing out on the couch, while others spend 18 hour days in the emergency room saving lives, create works of art that touch the lives of millions, or donate hospitals to cities. Those who do not desire success will never get it. You must be ready for it and pursue it with a passion.

The definition of success is personal to each one of us. However, most people include the following in their definition of success:

- living your dream
- living every day with passion
- having true wealth; that is, knowing you have more than you need
- learning appreciation and gratitude
- positively influencing the lives of others in some way
- true happiness
- having loved ones with whom to share it all

If you are only interested in financial gain, and that alone is your definition of success, that is fine. No matter what your definition and ultimate goal, if you pursue it with passion and determination you will ultimately get what you want. However, with the pursuit of money alone you will find that once you have it, there is still very much missing in your life.

Today is the first day of the rest of your life and more important, day one of a series of 366 days that will have a significantly positive influence on your life. Mark this day as the day you made a commitment to change your life for the better and start living your dreams.

ACTION STEP(S):

1) Take time to write down your definition of success. Be specific. Do not use phrases like “lots of money”... instead say “annual income of X and total net worth of Y”. You must be able to know for certain when you reach your definition of success, at least your definition at the start of this program. Write this down and save it somewhere where you can access it one year from now.

“Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful people with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.”

- Calvin Coolidge (1872–1933)

Day 2: Remembering and Using People's Names

It has been said that a person's name is the most important word in the world to that person. Using a person's name in conversation is one of the best ways to build rapport. Sounds good, but if you are like most people, the names of people you meet go in one ear and out the other. So step one is remembering the name.

Many memory experts believe that we all have perfect memories. We are capable of remembering just about any detail from our lives no matter how far back and how specific. The challenge is **recalling** the information from our memory.

There are dozens of techniques for remembering names; some work for some people and some do not. For this reason, I am listing many of them for you to choose the one that works best for you. You may want to adapt a few techniques rather than just one. For example, use a visual technique for those you meet face to face, and when they tell you the names of their children, use an association technique to associate the person you met with their children's names. The key again is to use what works best for you.

Here are some steps that should all be followed each time you meet someone:

1) **LISTEN AND PAY ATTENTION TO THE NAME.** This may seem so obvious, yet it is so overlooked. Pay attention to the name when it is given to you and make sure you can recall it 5 seconds later. If you can, you are halfway to putting this name in your long-term memory.

2) **Repeat immediately.** The first sentence out of your mouth after hearing a name should include that name. "It is a pleasure to meet you, Jennie". Use this instead of "Jennie, it is nice to meet you" because saying the person's name right after they say it is often a

mindless automated response that does very little, if anything, toward helping you remember the name.

3) **Repeat often.** Be careful with this one. You do not want to sound like a psycho, or worse a pushy salesperson, by overdoing it. However, people love to hear their own name and this technique will keep your listener interested in what you have to say.

4) **End the conversation with their name.** This is the best way to end any conversation. “Jennie, it was great meeting you”. This not only once more sinks their name into your memory, but says to the person that you have cared enough to remember their name.

5) **Comment on and/or ask questions about the name.** “Jennie, have you always been called Jennie or do people call you Jen as well?” or “Do you spell Jennie with a ‘y’ or ‘ie’?” If it is a unique name, ask about its origin or say that it is a beautiful name (if you really think it is).

6) **Review.** After the conversation is over with the person, review their name and face in your mind several times. Do this frequently over the next 24 hours. As you get better with steps 1-5, this step will become less important.

Memory is linked to your senses and emotions. As you incorporate more emotion and more of your senses into remembering a name, the name will become more difficult to forget.

Now here are some techniques used to remember names:

1) **Face association.** Examine a person’s face discreetly when you are introduced. Try to find an unusual feature, whether ears, hairline, forehead, eyebrows, eyes, nose, mouth, chin, complexion, etc. Create an association between that characteristic, the face, and the name in your mind. The association may be to associate the person with someone you know with the same name, or may be to associate a rhyme or image from the name with the person’s face or defining feature.

2) **Substitution.** Take a person's name and substitute objects that you can visualize with that name. Then associate those objects with the person somehow. For example, "Murphy" can be substituted with "Murphy's oil soap". Visualize the person pouring the soap all over himself while dancing the jig. Why dancing the jig? The more outrageous you make the visualization, the better it will stick to memory. Just try not to laugh when making the association, especially if the person is in the process of telling you they have just been fired.

3) **Paint their name on their forehead.** OK, not literally, but in your imagination. Use your favorite color paint and clearly see each letter as you paint it. If you are standing closer than a few feet from the person, do not look directly at their forehead but rather between their eyes.

4) **Association with someone you know.** Associate the person you meet with someone you know or know of with the same name. Then visualize the person you know in the same situation as the person you have met. For example, if you meet a "Will" picture your Uncle Will (assuming you have an Uncle Will) standing there, in that same spot. To make the association stronger, visualize your uncle Will doing something that he is known for doing—like his loud drunken laugh.

If you forget the person's name at any time during the conversation, **THIS IS THE TIME TO ASK.** Do not be embarrassed to say something like, "Forgive me but I've forgotten your name..." or "I am sorry, what was your name again?" Remember that most people forget names. Those who make it a point to humble themselves and ask for a name again are seen as someone who cares about learning the name.

The more you practice these techniques, the more second nature they will become and remembering names will be an automatic process for you. Using names in conversation will take you a long way in building and maintaining rapport, as well as helping others to both remember you and like you. You will soon find that

remembering names becomes a game and it is really quite fun, not to mention one of the best skills that anyone can possess!

ACTION STEP(S):

1) Go through a magazine and learn the names of all the people for which there are photos and names. It is best to use a magazine that does not have many movie stars or famous people whose names you already know. Or if you prefer go through your friend's/ spouse's high school yearbook and do the same. Remember the names (first name only is fine) of at least 50 people.

2) Commit yourself to remembering the names of all the characters introduced in movies you watch.

3) Make your best effort to remember the name of every new person you meet, simply because it makes the other person feel special and important.

“The secret of a good memory is attention, and attention to a subject depends upon our interest in it. We rarely forget that which has made a deep impression on our minds.”

- Tryon Edwards (1809–1894)

Day 3: Inspiration from Henry Ford



Henry Ford (1863–1947) was the founder, vice-president, and chief engineer of the Ford Motor Company.

Success is age independent. Henry Ford constructed his first steam engine at the age of 15.

Success is not formal education. Ford's formal education was limited to what is rumored to be about three years.

Success is fueled by failure. After two unsuccessful attempts to establish a company to manufacture automobiles, the Ford Motor Company was incorporated in 1903 with Henry Ford as vice-president and chief engineer.

Success is problem solving. By early 1914, Ford's innovative assembly line had resulted in a monthly labor turnover of 40 to 60 percent in his factory, largely because of the unpleasant monotony of assembly-line work and repeated increases in the production quotas assigned to workers. Ford met this difficulty by doubling the daily wage to \$5 and shaving one hour off the workday.

Success is overcoming competition. In 1905, there were 50 start-up companies a year trying to get into the auto business, and Ford succeeded.

Success is doing what you feel in your gut is right, despite public opinion. The Wall Street Journal called Ford's daily wage increase plan "an economic crime," and critics everywhere heaped "Fordism" with equal scorn.

Success is seeking out those who can help you with your goals. In 1903, Ford found twelve people willing to invest a total of \$28,000 in another motor company. Ford was then able to begin production of the Model A car. The car sold well and the company flourished and by 1907 the profits reached \$1,100,000. In 1909, Ford made the decision to manufacture only one type of car, the Model T, which changed automotive history forever.

[Sources: <http://www.hfmgv.org>, <http://www.biography.com>]

“If you think you can do a thing or think you can't do a thing, you're right.”

- Henry Ford (1863–1947)

Day 4: General Life Purpose

What is your general purpose here on the earth? Does your existence make the world a better place? Consider the statements below and think about where you currently fit in. There is no right or wrong answer.

1) I am here to live the highest quality life I can. This includes working toward constant self-improvement and engaging in leisure activities such as golf and fishing. My time on this earth is limited and I will do what I can to get the most self-gratification possible.

2) It is my purpose to provide for my family and give my family the highest quality of life possible. My “free” time should be spent with my family, for my family.

3) My purpose on this earth is to do as much good for as many people as possible within my lifetime. I realize that there is a world beyond myself and my family that needs something that I can provide.

Don't confuse general life purpose with just “life purpose”. General life purpose is a starting point for determining your life purpose that helps you decide who and what is most important in your life right now.

See this as a scale with your typical self-centered individual on one end and someone like Mother Teresa or Gandhi on the other end. Where do you now see yourself on this scale? Would you like to be somewhere else on the scale? Before you blurt out an answer somewhere near a Gandhi, be realistic and consider the sacrifices and lifestyle of each step in the scale. Consider what is “socially acceptable” and if you are willing to defy social boundaries by living your life differently than most. If you are a family-oriented person and you wish to shift more to #1 or #3, how will your family react? Will they support you? What if they don't?

This exercise in finding your general life purpose is one of the many very important first steps to success. You must be at peace with yourself and feel no guilt as to what you desire from life. Once you have this confidence, the pursuit of your goals becomes easier and more enjoyable.

ACTION STEP(S):

1) Decide what people or groups of people you want to spend your life (or at least this part of your life) benefiting. Be honest with yourself. Write down in a paragraph who will benefit from your life purpose.

2) Now write down the reasons why you are focusing where you are on the scale. For example, if you are 16 years old and your current life purpose is to have fun and do all you can while you are young, then add that as a reason. If you are just starting a family and your focus is on your family, you might put down that your family needs you most at this time in your life. Or if you have been there, done that, and feel it is time to give back to the world, list that as a reason. The goal is to remove any guilt you might otherwise feel by not focusing on your own needs, your family's, or those less fortunate.

3) If you have a significant other in your life, be sure to discuss this with them. A relationship is a partnership and both parties must be in agreement on expectations. After your discussion, alter your purpose if necessary and/or your relationship.

“Many persons have a wrong idea of what constitutes true happiness. It is not attained through self-gratification but through fidelity to a worthy purpose.”

- Helen Keller (1880–1968)

Day 5: Positive Mental Attitude

One of the few things we have complete control over is our attitude. When faced with adversity, we can choose to focus on the negative in the situation or the positive. A positive mental attitude, or PMA, is something everyone can adopt with a little practice. The benefits of a PMA are beyond comprehension, and according to many achievers, the number one reason for their success.

A positive mental attitude is seeing the benefits, opportunities, and good in situations rather than the setbacks, problems, and bad. More important, it is focusing on this positive and using it to your advantage. Having a PMA is asking how something can be done rather than saying it can't be done. It is the driving force behind persistence and perseverance.

There is a belief that nothing in this world is “good” or “bad”, but rather everything is balanced and it is only our perception that makes good and bad. Whether you believe that to be true or not, it is hard to debate that perception and attitude have much to do with how we view the world.

Shortly after adopting a positive mental attitude you will find more opportunities, successes, and “good luck” in your life than ever before. The main reason for this is the universal principle that like attracts like. PMA is a snowball effect that, once begun, builds and grows stronger with each positive event in your life. Conversely, negative thought does the same, which is why it can be very difficult for negative people to change.

The list of benefits of adopting a positive mental attitude goes on, however, one of the most compelling reasons for adopting a PMA is that it is the major part of having an attractive personality. Most people do not like to be around negative people. A positive mental attitude shows in everything you say and do from casual conversation to your performance at work. A PMA will help you in just about anything you do including increasing your income,

being promoted at work, getting a new job, and in strengthening your relationships. With these kinds of benefits, why would anyone choose negativity?

Developing a positive mental attitude, like everything else, takes practice to master. Here are some suggestions to help you build your PMA.

- Scrutinize every event in your life that appears negative and look for the positive. Make a written list if you have to of all the good that resulted from the negative event or situation. Do NOT give up until your list of positives is equal to or greater than the negative. After forcing yourself to do this for a while, this thought process will happen instantaneously. It really is almost miraculous the difference it will make in your life.
- Surround yourself with positive people. Negativity is even more contagious than the common cold. It spreads like a wildfire that is out of control and the best way to avoid it is to stay out of its path. However, I am not a believer in ditching those you spend time with, unless necessary. Instead, be extra positive when around these people and watch it “rub off” onto them. You can also start spending more time with positive people and less time with those whom you find negative. The right on-line communities, such as the YearToSuccess.com discussion board and chat room are excellent places to meet those who share the same positive mental attitude goals.
- Read and listen to positive, motivational and inspirational material. Bookstores and libraries have a wide selection; you just need to know where to look.
- Avoid the morning news and news before bedtime. It is almost always morbid and depressing. Instead start and end your day with inspirational music or just good conversation (even if with yourself!)

- If you catch yourself thinking negatively or especially projecting a negative attitude STOP IMMEDIATELY, take a deep breath, and do everything in the first suggestion.

With a positive mental attitude on your side you will find yourself a magnet to a never-ending stream of positive events that will improve your quality of life and the lives of those around you. A PMA will certainly bring you one giant leap closer to success.

ACTION STEP(S):

1) Write down all the negative events surrounding your life right now, one negative event at the top of each page. Then do your best to fill the page with positives that come from the negative.

2) Commit to making an effort not to give in to the negativity of others. Do not feed their negativity with negativity of your own. When you are around a negative person, use your PMA and watch hope and inspiration begin to show on that person. If you find they are in too deep and you cannot help them, excuse yourself and walk away.

Days 6 and 7 are for “R&R”—review and reflection. Spend these days reviewing the last five articles and reflecting on the information and how it relates to your life. Now is also a good time to make sure all the action steps for the previous days have been completed.

“The Journey”

by Bo Bennett

There was once this young man who dreamed about becoming a great wizard. He decided to visit one of the kingdom’s greatest and most powerful wizards. This wizard was known not only for his own magic abilities, but his ability and willingness to help others become wizards. As the young man approached the wizard’s dwelling, he was in awe over both its enormity and beauty. The young man knocked on the large, beautifully crafted door, expecting a servant to answer his call. Instead, a very modest-looking elderly gentleman answered and said in a warm and friendly voice, “Hello, you must be the young man seeking advice on wizardry. I am the wizard. Please come in.”

The young man anxiously said, “Yes, I too want to master wizardry and one day own a beautiful dwelling like this and ride the latest model horse.”

The wizard smiled and said, “First, you must forget everything you think you know about wizardry. Forget about ‘becoming a wizard’; that is nothing more than a subjective label. Too many villagers focus on ‘becoming a wizard’ and are misled by charlatans. From this point forward think of wizardry in terms of achievement. When you begin pursuing achievement, you begin to see the magic.”

“So how does one pursue achievement?” asked the young man, listening intently to every word the wizard said.

“By learning and using the knowledge and skills of achievement,” said the wizard. “On your journey to wizardry you will find this knowledge and learn these skills in the form of writings, teachings, and your own adventures. The more you learn and the more you put into action, the greater your chances of creating magic.”

“I see,” said the young man, “But I still have doubts that I am capable of such greatness.”

“Oh? And why would that be?” asked the wizard, as if he were actually expecting the young man to say those words.

“I am a mere peasant. I am physically weaker than most men my age and I’ll admit it – I am a few sheep short a herd if you know what I mean. How do my chances look now?” said the young man in a disappointing tone.

The wizard smiled and reassured the young man, “This only means that you get to learn more.”

Just as the young man began to get a look of confidence on his face, the wizard cautioned, “Did I mention the dragons you will have to battle?”

“D...d..d..dragons?” gulped the young man.

“On your journey, you will most definitely encounter three fierce dragons; Iggy, Dizzy, and Connie. Iggy is the dragon of instant gratification. He will try to tempt you with the easy way or the ‘feels good now’ approach, and lure you down the wrong path. To battle Iggy, keep your focus on the big picture in life.” Then there is Dizzy,” the wizard continued, “the dragon of discouragement. He will appear whenever you run into failure – and you will run into failure. To battle Dizzy, remember this: true failure is falling down and not getting back up.”

“And the last dragon? Connie?” the young man asked anxiously.

“Connie is the most dangerous and stealthy of all the dragons. You can be defeated by Connie and not even realize it until years later. You see, Connie is the dragon of contentment. One day you may wake up and wonder what happened to your dream of becoming a great wizard. You realize that although you are breathing, you are more like a living corpse rather than someone who realizes what an amazing gift life really is. Somehow you had forgotten about all those lives you were going to improve and people you were going to help along the way. This, is how you know you have been defeated by Connie.”

The young man was speechless for a moment after being handed this unexpected dash of reality. “I don’t suppose you have

any tips on battling this last dragon, do you?" asked the young man in a whimsical tone.

Pleased to see the young man maintaining his sense of humor, the wizard smiled, nodded his head, and walked over to a magnificent sword hanging on the wall. As the wizard took the sword down it began to glow brilliantly. The wizard placed the sword on the table in front of the young man and it ceased to glow. He motioned to the young man to pick the up sword. As the young man picked up the sword, it began to glow just as brilliantly as if the wizard were holding it.

"Very good," said the wizard. "As you may have guessed, this is no ordinary sword. This sword gets its power from your determination and desire. Remember the feeling you now have, and don't let that feeling go."

Once again, a look of confidence came over the young man's face as he held the brightly glowing sword. "So with this sword I can defeat the dragon of contentment!" announced the young man with abundant energy.

Hesitant to disappoint the young man, the wizard scratched his head and said reluctantly, "Well, no."

"What?" mumbled the young man.

"You can never defeat Connie, or any of the other dragons, you can only prevent them from defeating you. You must realize that they will always be present on your journey and you must always be ready to battle them."

The young man accepted this fact quite quickly and partially-stated, partially-asked, "So when my journey is complete I will be a great wizard?"

Not wanting to be the bearer of bad news again, the wizard took a moment to carefully construct his response... "No," eloquently replied the wizard. The wizard continued, "Wizardry is found in the journey, not in the destination. This journey on which you are about to embark is a never-ending journey. It is a journey with no guarantees."

Both the young man and the wizard were silent for what seemed like several minutes. The young man finally realized the

seriousness of the commitment he was about to make. Sensing the meeting with the wizard was over, the young man thanked the wizard by giving him a respectable nod, and started to walk towards the door with his eyes open wide, as if still absorbing the meaning of the wizard's words.

Before the young man reached the doorway, the wizard said, "There is one last piece of advice that I must give you – the most important of all I have given you today." The young man stopped, and turned towards the wizard, awaiting his final words of wisdom. The wizard then turned to a room that the young man had not noticed before. In this room was what appeared to be the wizard's wife and two grown children, talking, laughing, and enjoying each other's company. The woman in the room looked to the wizard and the two exchanged warm smiles – smiles that reflected a lifetime of both love and happiness. The wizard, struggling to hold back tears of joy, slowly turned to the young man and said, "Enjoy the journey."

***Epilogue:** The two men parted ways; one wiser, and one with a feeling that his life had come full circle by passing on his wisdom gained from a lifetime of education and experiences. The young man did eventually become a wizard by taking action. Although the journey was not an easy one as cautioned by the wizard, it was a journey that gave the young man's life meaning. And thanks to the wizard's education and inspiration, the young man used his magic to create a better world.*



More About The Author

Robert (Bo) Bennett is a business man, author, programmer, philanthropist, martial artist, motivational speaker, amateur comedian, and most of all a husband and a father devoted to improving the lives of others. He is a graduate of Bryant College with a Bachelors degree in Marketing.

By age 10, Bo started listening to and reading personal development tapes and books. Twenty years and hundreds of books later he is considered by many to be one of the leading experts on success. Before beginning his lifelong quest to shape the lives of others, he had to prove to himself that his theories, beliefs and convictions worked.

At age 10, Bo started in business by creating and selling wooden key racks in his father's workshop. Since then, he has started several companies and sold them anywhere from \$1 to \$20,000,000.00. Today, Bo remains active President of Archieboy Holdings, LLC.

After selling his first company of significant value, Bo began writing *Year To Success*, the most comprehensive book ever written on success, based on his experiences, thoughts, and timeless success principles. *Year to Success* is a book Donald Trump calls, “an inspiration to every person who reads it.”

Bo's passion for programming started with the commercialism of the World Wide Web back in 1995 when he submerged himself in programming books. With no former programming education, he has created one of the first Web Hosting user interfaces as well as modern day Web-based affiliate programs. Today he continues to program in his spare time for Archieboy.

At age 13, Bo started studying the martial arts. By Age 18, he earned his first degree black belt in Shaolin Kempo Karate. Since his first black belt, he has also earned a second degree black belt in Tae-Kwon Do and continues to study several different styles, as well as teach. When starting the martial arts, Bo also began a lifelong commitment to fitness and health, realizing the importance of the mind-body connection.

Bo is also a major supporter of Toastmasters (toastmasters.org), an organization established in 1924 to promote communication and leadership through public speaking.

More recently, Bo has begun to realize a childhood dream of being a stand-up comedian, performing at several local comedy clubs in the Boston area. Bo is committed to keep his material clean and as non-offensive as possible.

Bo and his wife Kim reside in Massachusetts with their two young children and their faithful dog.