### Short n' Simple \_

... yeah i'm talking abt "<mark>life</mark>"...

# Too short, too uncertain... If you can't stretch it longer, then expand it. Make it unique, make it beautiful.

#### Warning [or Rule No. 1]

I am sure there are at least 1000 more exciting and meaningful things that you can do than reading this...

...so if you are not bored to tears in class or imprisoned by your parents (or spouse or whoever) now...

Throw this book away and go get busy LIVING!

### Lessons...

from the heartland of life.

If you have difficulty finding time to work on your long term top-important-yet-bottom-urgent goal, project forward 10 years and see what a difference it'll make in your life... you'll find the time.

Sometimes we try too hard to blend in we actually fall out.

When everybody listens to alternative rock, it's no longer alternative rock.

Being alone is better than being someone you are not.

#### Accidents happen. Be prepared for them.

It feels good, no, great, doing what you love and do best... then what holds you back from going at it full-force?

The majority of people don't get to do the thing they're born to do, because they don't even care to find out what the thing is.

The majority of people don't get to do the thing they're born to do, and they like to make us believe we shouldn't.

What a teacher really should realize: we need less note-taking and more real-world practice.

Don't take notes... stop the lesson...

Practice. Now!

The game-changer are often like salt, not rice(staple)... with small quantity, and only with small quantity, it makes all the difference.

Experience is the double-edged sword: it saves us from time-and-energy-consuming mistakes; it deprives us of the game-changing opportunities that only uncharted territory can offer.

You have to say no to the "very good" if what you are after is greatness.

Success is about finding the switch that triggers the explosion of your talents and passion.

Many things are what they are today simply because of historical reasons that don't make sense... so the status quo really shouldn't be a consideration when you're designing the future.

Monitor how yourself behave in extremely stressful and frustrating moments.

Dare to be remarkable.

We are the product of our environment... only if we choose to.

What you create eventually takes on a life of its own.

Sometimes life's like a desert travel, you may have gone a long way without realizing it... a good traveller will log his adventure well, never discouraged despite the lack of cheers and prizes.

The world is full of crooks and bullies... but instead of closing up, we should reach out more to increase the chance of connecting with those really lovely souls.

Beware of the difference between idealism and opportunism.

There is no ending to this story son...
"the ending" is just an illusion to keep you moving...

You can be anything you want...
but are you ready to pay the price?

"I don't model people, i model behavior."

The loud and the vocal are not right more often, but they do get what they want more often.

Two kinds of good advice: those by people who practice it; and those by people who aspire it.

The way to prevent from battling too many fronts at the same time, is to start a project only when you're ready to lean in all the way and never stop until you finish it.

"Everything i do is part of a project."

Ask urself everyday: what is the UNIQUE Offering that i CONSISTENTLY bring to the table?

We always look outside, the answer always lies inside.

The way to get many things done at the same time, ironically, is to do one thing at a time.

Trying to figure out the meaning of your life/job?

Stop thinking and start living/working. Harder

It doesn't matter if 90% of what flows through our minds are trivial/stupid/valueless, so long as the 10% jewel are turned into reality.

We easily, dangerously, confuse pleasure with happiness.

Often, we don't need evolutionary ideas or a saint's wisdom, we just need a moderately good advice offered at the right time.

Don't expect fairness, it never happens.

Dedicate yourself totally to your top priority until it's done... simplify life... decide what are the things to give up... what are the things that you like but will never do again... then only are you able to focus on the thing that you MUST accomplish...

Think Subtract.

It's tempting to be like everybody else, but hold yourself well, especially under stressful situation.

Act and behave like what you want to be.

The uncomfortable & the scary are the must-dos, they become pieces of cake once you stop thinking and just go do 'em.

At any moment, You can start afresh.

The game changer is not how much you know, learn or read, but how much you create out of it.

Forget your feeling, zoom in on your goals and mission.

How to deal with info overload?

How to filter the info?

Assume the attack mindset, and constantly running a simple model in your mind.

## Think Chrisopher Michael Langan. Constantly in search of stories that show you possibilities in life.

Make the rules, then Lean In Fully.

(you evaluate & adjust strategy during break,
not in the midst of action)

To appreciate contemporary arts, overwhelm your senses with the classicals first.

How do you make an UNiQUE impact?

Treat everyday like an adventure, no matter where you are, no matter what you do... there's always something new for you.

There s a price to everything. Be ready to pay even if you are not asked to... yet.

Happiness does not equal to comfort.

The path to happiness is always uncomfortable.

Take the pain, just take it (sometimes it means saying no to best friends)! Your discipline will pay off.

Kids like soft drink because it gives 'em pleasure immediately; adults tend to prefer tea because it brings a more subtle, and lasting, stimulation.

It s not how much u learn, but how much u create out of it, that counts.

When there are rules, you decide which to follow and which to change; when there is no rule, you make your own.

It's tempting, to think & act & feel like the average...

Don't.

You deserve so much better.

Life's like trading...
fundamentals count, only in the long term.

"I know what i m doing & where i m going, i won't stop until i achieve,"

Do the right thing. It often seems silly because everybody else is NOT doing it. And they don't return material benefits now... The key is, it helps stretch your mental muscle, make you stronger and more disciplined... it shapes your character. It readies you to make a dent in the universe.

The goal is not to be better than your neighbours, but play out your full potential.

Sh\*t happens.

It always does. So always be prepared.

Embrace it with excitement, 'cos it gives you opportunity to shine.

Most people expect so little from themselves they forget how great they can be.

The less an organization asks of you, the less it's gonna realize what you can do.

Cut all your fidgety, now!

What is your intrinsic uniqueness?

If you rely on your organization, title, awards, etc. to build your self-esteem, then you may not have anything to be really proud of.

You dont hv to be anybody else, even if you re asked to.

Everyone has his area of interest, his own philosophy and views...

why should we listen to yours?

Allocate more time to think and create, less to repeat and react.

### Set up rules, and just follow. Make decisions based on rules & principles, not how u feel at the moment.

I would need fictional stories to show you the reality.

Decide fast, no matter how. It ends others' pain, and yours.

The hard thing to do is the right thing to do. Do it.

Whatever you do, always keep the purpose in mind.

If u dont know what to do then you are not doing what you should do.

whatever you want, whatever you think u deserve, ASK.

Take A Chance and Make An Impact!

+ Take Risks.

Align what's important to you with what's important to your audience.

"Don't choose your wife, don't choose your job, just decide how u are going to treat them"

"Weaknesses are beautified and labeled as 'human', That's why we are miserable"

Is it because people in high positions can afford to be jerks, that some people enjoy acting like jerks to make themselves feel like they are in high positions?

Ppl can give you shit, ppl do give you shit, but you can choose NOT to take it.

Love stories are most beautiful and romantic when they re inside your mind.

Strictly, give your love only to those who deserve it.

Success gurus are entertainers, they sell us what we want: motivation and hope. Yet success is not about feeling motivated, but what you do with it. If you think they changed your life (or not), think twice. They didn't, you did.

The first purpose of work is to survive; the second, to avoid boredom in life.

#### Budget, then operate strictly within it.

Shot-term excitement fades away, long-term excitement grows stronger by the day.

Expectation management. Setting a low one so you can exceed it easily? Or setting it high so you have to break through your comfort zone all the time?

You grow by testing and pushing your limits.

Focus on, think and talk and act and influence with positive stories.

How do you be calm?

Put off the "i'm busy" & "i've no time to mess with you" look even when you re rushing for a life-or-death deadline;

And keep up your pace even when you're free.

Train yourself to switch into excitement whenever negative surprises happen.

The (in)consistency in what others say shouldn't bother you; while the consistency of your work should be the top of your concern.

Others' praise shouldn't be an essential; others' humiliation shouldn't be a discouragement.

Do what you should, do what you could.

Use brutal honesty (not others' views) to determine whether you're cool.

An honorably invincible mind is your goal, others' acknowledgment is just a 2-cent bonus. An uniquely meaningful life is your goal, others' acknowledgment is just a 2-cent bonus. Constant breakthroughs & display of the best you should be de goal, others' views are just a 2-cent bonus/fine.

Whatever you do, your purpose shd be something way beyond others' acknowledgment. You're way too talented and unique to live by others' benchmarks.

Learn how to swtich your attention freely among different things, single-focus-multi-tasking, when u do A, lean in, forget B & C totally... same thing when u r doing B or C.

Couldn't figure out the answer? Change your state before coming back to the same question.

Are you happy with who you are? Can you be who you are?

> A little pepper works like magic; too much pepper ruins the meal. It's what skills are all about.

You can delay dealing with a problem, and keep the pain, infinitely; or you can kill it on the spot and get over it.

When facing an overwhelming task, break it into parts, and take them down one by one.

It's all about pushing through boundaries and going beyond limits.

u need to be a specialist, in sth, in anything.

Is it a blessed story? Is it a doomed story?

Doesn't matter. Ask: is it worth telling?

it's not what you got, it's what you create. great artists make masterpieces out of garbage.

You need to pay the price, you need to feel the pain.

If you are not feeling the pain,
you are not being the best you can be.

Where there's blood, there's profit; where there's pain, there's happiness.

**Exercise double standard: be cruel to yourself,** forgiving to others.

Train urself to relax and focus simultaneously.

#### Make a decision. Move on.

Realize that it's ok to be wrong, it's better to be wrong than to be scared/static.

There are truly important things in life that we all know we should do but never really discipline ourselves to persist... and if you do, you are exceptional.

(clear your mind) just go do the work.

Enjoy dealing with ppl who give you shit... they (are the one who really) help you grow. Be nice, be polite, be friendly.

- + be firm, be confident.
- => never compromise your principles.

Everthing is Inter-CONNECTED.

=> whatever analysis you are doing,
keep the PURPOSE and Big Picture in mind
(don't get tangled up in the fixed framework).

Relax, focus on the most important things.

Keep your emotion in check, and just go do what you should do.

Dont try to please anybody.

Live. Build your own life story, make it a great one. You'll then attract the right kind of ppl into your life.

Sobriety is a choice.

Sometimes, a choice between immediate pleasure and long-term happiness.

If you reach high, you may amaze yourself.

If you decide, you may realize many things are actually within your control.

Uncertainty is A Blessing.

It helps you explore your strength & creativity.

Improvised arts and impulsive action are two Very Different things.

Align your rationally determined goals with emotion triggers (Design it man!).

Sometimes you find out the real why only after you started doing it.

Great pain makes great men.

We tend to pay too much attention to what others think we forget what success/happiness truly is. Change your logo, features, design... only after changing your mindset.

If you ever have a choice, choose the tough path.

Focus makes you happy.

Money can't buy you happiness, just like a loaded gun doesn't make you a hunter/murderer...

It just makes it easier.

Rubbish, however well and sophisticatedly packaged, is still just rubbish... but there is still a difference: well-packaged rubbish sells.

Focus, keep pushing until you finish.

Push down the walls one by one, it's how you play the game of life... one by one, totally committed and enjoy the process!

Take charge of your life. Dont lose yourself (or seek false comfort or avoid responsibity) in the flows and tides, consciously build everyday of your life into your masterpieces.

It doesn't matter whether you say "good morning" or "damn you", what matters is if you say it like a festive beast or a cold machine...

It's really hard to tell where we'll be in 5 or 10 yrs, but you need to have a vision and strive towards it...

Everyday, look in the mirror and see where you are in 5, 10 and 20 years.

Profits or losses, love or hatred, happiness or pain, they shouldn't make any difference to your inner peace and clarity.

Spectacular mountain-top view is the reward for long torturous hike; glorious fancy successes are built on unsexy boring hard work.

To be really confident, you have to truly believe in what you say.

It's useless counting & recording how many books you read, how many courses you attended... instead focus on how many ideas you picked up and how many times you applied 'em in the real world.

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Whatever you learn/realize/come up with, put it into practice Right Away!

Only do things that you believe in.

Better yet, only things that will make you proud.

## Don't tell lies, not even the white ones.

All the mistakes u made, all the wrong things u did, all the frustrating & heart-breaking & regretful experiences... they're just lessons/feedbacks to help you better shape your life.

...do what you believe in, and give 100% in whatever you do.

What do you want to spend the next 30 yrs doing?

You must be outstanding at your trade/profession... then, what exactly is your trade?

Whatever gift you are blessed with, whichever path you choose... success comes from hard, hard, hard work.

Do what you should, avoid what you shouldn't, perform your duties. Earn the right to be yourself, proudly.

Put yourself into a system.

Better yet, set up a system yourself.

Collapse of your office, breakdown of your car or ipod, plane clashes... these are no accidents, only statistically low-probability events, for which you should also prepare.

Operate strictly within budget & project scope.

More important than putting yourself into a system, maybe, is just setting aside budget (time, resource, energy), and consistently execute... just like gym hitting... and over time you'll see the results. It's especially true when u haven't found your tribe and need to work solo...

However dull & boring a task is, once you zoom in with focus & creativity, inject passion and explore possibilities... it immediately becomes a fun, fruitful and meaningful activity.

Passion isn't triggered emotion...
anything worthy requires conscious nurture.

In the face of adversity, what you feel like doing is usually what you shouldn't do.

No matter how bad the situation is, act as if everything is solved and forgiven, do what you should, not what you feel like to... knowing that you'll sooner or later fix things out, you should never allow the initial, emotional, irrational reaction scar your memory/relationship/whatever...

Timing is as important as, maybe more important than, anything else.

There s no fixed rule... some people win by hating to lose; some people win by not caring abt winning or losing.

Every aspect of life (health,career,family,etc) is a game with a never-ending series of challenges, you win by Consistently Followin' Your Game plan & Doing Your Best (no matter how tired or bored or discouraged)... the moment you let your guard down you expose yourself to failure...

You need to take risks if you want to play the game.

The clock's ticking, the window's closing... stop thinking and just move. Seize It.

A chance lost is gone forever... focus on the next catch.

Many problems, many challenges, can actually be simplified.

Misunderstandings are inevitable...
the question isn't so much about "how to avoid them"
as "what you do if and when they happen?".

"There's no point planting gigantic amount of seeds if you don't harvest them..."

Happiness is real only when shared; confidence is real only when earned.

All the things you learned and experienced in life, all the lessons and presents... harvest them, use what you learned to help youself live better, enframe those meaningful moments to make your life story beautiful... we don't really need all the things we don't have, we do need to appreciate what we have... savor 'em to the fullest.

Do not "give" others confidence and then feel good about yourself; instead help push them earn their confidence and be humble about your role. Measure success not by how much you score, but how much you stretch.

Embrace adversity, let it test your will, let it filter out the unnecessary and show you the true priorities.

Can you stick to the highest standards when nobody's watching?

The reason we admire noble people like Gandhi, i suspect, is because they survive in the system despite all the odds against them; ...and the reason we don't ask our kids to live a life like theirs, is because we know the chance of survival is ridiculously low...

We don't need more Mother Teresa's in the world, we need more ordinary people following their hearts and making all the little ethical decisions everyday...

Sometimes it takes a boring life to help you focus, and accomplish something worthy.

You know how good you are by observing how you behave under the worst of all circumstances.

The classy way to win the game is to look beyond the game.

How to make your story remarkable and unique? Live your way, not others' assumptions/expectations.

Being remarkable is more about character and courage, not creativity and gimmicks.

The innate urge for recognition is one of the major reasons that lead people onto the wrong paths.

Why is success always about going against human nature? Why aren't we born to succeed?

Because success by definition means the rare breed, not the majority.

There is always abundant support for both sides of the argument... there will never be conclusion.

The path to meaning and beauty then, is to Take A Stand and stick it out.

The majority are made to believe in following rules so the rule-setting-then-rigging elite can maximize their gains.

They say doing the right things is more important than doing things right... i believe doing the wrong things (even those that cause you great pain) is always better than doing nothing...

Do the difficult, do the uncomfortable.

You need to go thru sh\*t to become strong, and even more sh\*t to become calm and wise.

Human nature makes us continue to rely on the wrong people, wrong procedures, false promises and assumptions... until we figure out a better alternative.

Have a plan B, plan C, plan D...

Life provides lessons, but it doesnt give 'em to you...
you need to go take the lessons yourself.

Being yourself is, essentially, not abt ignoring what others think, but adjusting how you yourself think. Focus on getting the things done.
You feel what u choose to feel.

Inspirations are everywhere, you don't need to find, you just need to pay attention.

Whatever you do, it will look right to some and wrong to the others... It doesnt simply mean you should do whatever you want... it means you should choose which people you care the most.

The reason we're so obsessed with sports, or any game with clear-cut win-lose results, is because we live in a complicated world where ability itself doesn't guarantee victory.

Live simple.

Beware of the external demands/obligations that erode our ability to act/focus on our internal motivations.

Being aware of your weakness is the first step to overcome it.

Be aware of how the environment or others are (by design, policies, or accident, etc.) "luring" you to mediocrity... and still go be the great person you are meant to be.

Live simple. Focus and consistently execute the few things that really matter. Nurture and nourish the few relationships that really matter.

Everything can change, everything changes.

If something doesn't, it's not some supernatural universal rule at work, it's your choice.

There s no logic and reason to politics... that's why we have dramas...

The reality of law: agreed upon by the majority, creatively & legally avoided by the elite.

A trader takes many losses to succeed; a caring soul braces for lots of unfriendly (even frustrating) treatment to find and create genuine relationships.

What's the winners' discipline? When feeling the impulsive push, hold back; when feeling the hesitant pull-back, go forward anyway.

Handle adversity and frustrating experience with peace, pleasance, and elegance.

Act quick yet relaxed.

Consistency in execution is all that matters.

Clear all the feelings, good or bad, out of your mind and simply focus on getting where you want to be.

Be calm. Be steady.

Hold your own ground under all circumstances.

Control\*

not others.

You decide your own state.
You decide how you think and talk and move,

Be the best you in everything you do.

Try to see, appreciate, and get the best out of every person.

You can get whatever you want, the question is whether you're willing to pay the price.

The urge for acknowledgment and acceptance is a dangerous poison that kills your independence and greatness.

Go for anything uncomfortable, embrace the uncomfortable with laughters.

Face and handle sh\*t with pleasance and elegance.

Brace for face-losing mistakes...
it's how you grow strong and smart.

Avoid sarcasm... what s fun may not be healthy.

If you have no choice but to do something stupid, try to do it in a smart way... you will be amazed by your own creativity!

It's so easy to settle for what you have than to go pursue what you want...

It's so so freaking easy to settle... Don't.

Question all assumptions, others' and your own.

To be a good conversationalist, don't talk about the weather, but your original observation, thoughts, and questions.

You decide how you talk and act. You choose the role you play.

Produce & Perform, without the slightest desperation for acknowledgment.

Produce & Perform, be very clear where your value lies. You don't need newer or wiser advices, you just need to consistently follow those good old basic princples like hard work and positive thinking.

It's all repetition. The value of 'successology' works (books, audio, seminars) lies not in providing you with the most sophisticated & cutting-edged methodology to success, but in *reminding* you of those good old principles & practice to make a good life. Those that you should resume, right now.

Originality is sometimes overrated, what's practical and useful is often widely known already... just that we are lazy... it's easier to follow the latest fad of 'original' and 'sophisticated' ideas, than to put in the solid hard work to make things happen.

Sacrifice is a choice, you don't always need it to get what you want.

Relationships in life: acknowledge the existence of negative emotion, but don't react to it impulsively... remember, everything will be alright once it's gone.

When you don't know what to do, just go connect with people.

When you don't know what to do, just go exercise.

You heart knows what you should do... you just hy to calm down and listen to it.

Fans are great, fans are inspirations, fans are transformational...
but a real artist must know how to keep creating arts even without them.

Ask yourself every weekend: what have i initiated? Or have i spent the whole week reacting...?

Do not confuse projects with goals.

Completion of many many projects lead to achievement of a goal.

Some keep changing themselves in the hope that someday the world will give a damn. Some try being themselves in the hope that one day they can find the ones who do give a damn.

Do you see the difference?

If you hesitate because of what others may think or say about you, you shall just miss the most precious opportunities in life.

We tend to ignore what we don't like to see happen, but they won't just go away... so we'd better face it: there is a price to everything you get in life. It takes extra effort to think bigger and look further... to be the best you can be. But it's worth it.

Make every step of your life count.

(you either achieve something or learn a lesson in any experience)

Create, keep creating, make your care and passion tangible (brilliant, crazy, cocky, whatever).

Define or "brand" only later.

be less serious, hv more fun, anything you face, even a tough challenge, is a gift that takes extraordinary eyes to see.

Deal with any situation, any person, in a positive & calm manner.

Encouragement and motivation from others, even loved ones, are just bonus... they are sweet, they are precious, but they are just bonus... you need to be able to consistently self-motivate.

90% of us need a system to keep us disciplined and take action consistently.

You already knew enough, stop hiding behind the learning, go out into the real world and make things happen.

## It's an essential skill: ability to relax, anytime, anywhere.

The best way to get love is to give it first, and keep giving even if you get hurt.

The lazy do the easy, the visionaries do what make 'em genuinely happy.

(and yeah sometimes it means extra efforts)

Look left and right before crossing the road, no matter how familiar you are with it. Routine work is no longer dull boring routine work if you know the purpose and meaning behind it.

Consider chaotic (not systematic) learning, for supercharged utility (satisfaction) & practicability.

Most books you don't need to finish, you just need to take an idea and go practice.

Most non-fiction books contain a big idea and lots of supporting materials... instead of studying all those justification, just take the idea and experiment it in your own battlefield or playground or lab or whatever environment you operate in... Useful or not? Test it yourself, it's more efficient.

How to be unique? Stop seeking others' views on this and go do whatever you care whatever you believe.

If you are genuinely proud of what you do and who you are, you don't need external material stuff to prop up your self-esteem.

Stand up for what you believe. Make the splash, it's better being hated than muted.

When you get out of school you will realize the game is not fair. You'll feel cheated and betrayed. It's fine it's natural, just don't complain, argue, rationalize, or explode. Focus on winning it.

Start writing your memoir as early as you can...
as you don't know when the day ends...
and you want your friends and kids to remember the
real you... not the faceless "nice person" that nobody
really remembers...

Choose your audience and focus on 'em.

Look at all experiences with a fresh eye... you will see what you ve never seen before... and very likely what you see will be beautiful.

"You are the choices you make,"

-- inspired by Jeff Bezos

What are the things that excite you, that you enjoy doing the most, that keep you up until 4am in the morning? Make sure you go do 'em on a regular basis, even if it seems pointless and a waste of time now ... like what Steve Jobs said, you'll be able to connect the dots some time in the future... so now, force yourself out of comfort zone, out of someone else's life, and build your own story.

Is there cloud in the sky today?

If yes what is its shape?

Pay attention to the simple pleasure life offers...

Make as many mistakes as you can, just to explore the possibilities... but once you settle on one, allow no error in your execution.

Many horrible things can happen, and they are happening everyday around the world... and yet we are safe and well (and boring, perhaps), isn't it something to be thankful for?

Your mistakes should be the result of daring attempts to challenge the boundaries and possibilities, not laziness or negligence.

The only thing you should expect from being sincere is the self-respect from knowing that you're being a decent human being.

Everything has a price. Whatever you pursue, be ready to pay for it.

Treat every experience as a blessing. In fact many of them are, though sometimes they come in the guise of misfortune or frustrating happenings.

What do you want to be famous for? What do you want to be remembered for?

What do you want to be an expert at?
What is going to be your lifelong dedication?

What do you want to spend the best of your precious days doing?

What do you want to spend every single day of your life thinking, living, mastering, creating?

Live like a top-notch bench player.

Put aside your ego, cheer for your teammates' glory. Train hard, attempt perfection. Give 110% for a moment that may or may not come. If and when it does, (you know you re ready to) go out there n make all the difference.

Keep yourself motivated by visualizing the purpose in your mind all the time.

Keep yourself on track with clearly stated project goals and deadlines.

Your first reaction, your first thought, is often a reflection of who you are and/or what you want... but NOT what you should.

Everything that makes you feel bad/angry/upset is a blessing in the guise of a fucked-up reality. Realize this, make good use of this, and you will be invincible.

Be nice, make people's lives better, but never compromise your principles.

Make sure you have the risk control mechanism in place, but also remember, actively exercised preventive measure is less painful.

Be crystal clear with your purpose and duty, ernestly pursue your purpose and fulfill your duty. That way you become mentally invincible.

Push your limit everyday.

It's hard, it's painful, it's embrassing, it's scary...
it's the key to your dream.

Dont wish for opportunities, dont wait for opportunities, dont whine over the lack of opportunities, dont lament the missed opportunities...

Just Go Hunt Them Down.

Eventually i realized, it doesn't matter when the world is gonna end. Anyone could have her/his own end of the world, it might just happen anytime. So instead of worrying & wondering & debating about the end of the world, live and love and strive with all your heart and soul everyday, leave no regret behind should the end come in an unexpected fashion/timing.

You can be a big person or a small one. One with a big picture in her mind and care for others, or one selfish, pathetic creature thinking only about surviving another day. It takes a second to decide.

The formula is very simple: do what you should\* = happiness.

\* not what others told u to, not what othes expect u to, not everybody else does, just sth you know u shd do. It is tempting to turn around and avoid facing the problem... don't. Face whatever challenge coming your way like a warrior, you pay temporary pain for lasting happiness.

Replace the consume/add mindset with the cutback/subtract mindset. Instead of asking, "what else do i want?" or "i like this, when and how shd i do it?", you shd ask "what else i can do without?", "it's interesting, now how do i take it out of my life without reducing my overall happiness?".

The world is not fair (and who said it should be?).

Once we accept it as a fact, we can focus on doing productive work instead of whining or fretting or exploding over the lie schools and churches told us.

The world is dangerous, bad and unfortunate things happen everyday. Pray and be grateful of what you are blessed with.

The mediocre majority does nothing but staying at the sideline and laughing at people who try...

It's weird if you think you shd give any shit about them losers.

It s so much easier to watch people play and fail than going out there to try ourselves... that's why so few people succeed in the game of life, they don't even have the balls to go play it.

## Be a teacher, bring out the best of everyone in your team.

Loyalty and other noble qualities are for really high level games.

All of us are liars in some way.

We lie to people and we lie to ourselves. The biggest sin is lying to ourselves with others' lies.

The best friends bring out the best of you.

The best friends help you live your life to the fullest.

Working hard for the retirement?
You should work on things you love so much you wouldn't want to retire at all.

The reason movies are popular, i believe, is that it provides us a temporary escape from the painfully boring and queitly desperate life, from which we are too scared to break away.

Social media mindset: always seek help, always seek collaboration.

Simplify, reduce, subtract, cut... keep only the very, very, very essential.

In most cases, you hv more choices than you realize.

In most cases, you have more control than you realize. You just need to reach out and grab it.

Always try to turn boring, stupid experience that you "have to" go through into exciting and meaningful ones.

You don't write, you don' speak, you don't teach, you don't train... you create a mind-blowing experience.

Be patient, but never stop.

You don't paint, you don't compose, you don't sculpt, you don't perform...
you create a heart-moving experience.

Will you be missed?

By who? For what?

Be yourself, no need to apologize.

Better be a weirdo than a clone.

Listen to your soul...

What is the thing that you hv no choice but to create?

When you find yourself parroting what everybody else is saying, shut up.

Expect being ignored. In fact, actively seek to be ignored or disliked or rejected, let 'em add to your enthusiasm.

Everyday, go out there and fail.

Everyday, go out there and live.

The easiest way to make people believe what you say is true is telling the truth.

Choose the simple over the complicated; take the difficult path not the easy one.

Help people open up possibilities in their lives; make their uniqueness shine & their greatness happen.

Focus on what you have. Focus on the positive. Be grateful.

If you have difficulty changing your emotional state, go exercise.

Be grateful for, but never satisfied with, what you've got.

Work smart.

The future is here. It is not going away because of your screaming and kicking.

Who are the people you care the most? How do you give 'em your best? How do you wow them?

Do the most ordinary thing in the most extraordinary way.

If you feel bad, go exercise.

Build your character, no matter where you are, what you do, or how life treats you.

Precious vs easy.

Are you reaching for something you really want, or something that happens to be put beside you?

You can cry foul, be ignored, and fade away in bitterness... or, you can get back into the game, and figure out how to win against all odds.

Be thankful for all the adversity.

They're the best teachers.

If you ask, you will get it.

If you find, you will see it.

Are you here for money? Are you here for fun? Or for your mission? Be very clear about your purpose. And you can only have one (top-priority) purpose.

Only one.

You don't take orders, you take ownership.

To be great or to be small, to be kind or to be mean, to initiate or to react... All it takes is a decision. Make it.

Commit to be the best you no matter what.

The moment you think you've created your best work, you kill your real best work: the next one.

Dream big. Do big.

The fiercest attacker of an ideal is usually the disillusioned who was once its most fervent supporter.

Even if no one seems to care, you keep working on your mission to make this world a better place.

The big picture gives you peace of mind.

You cease to be an 'alternative' once you go mainstream... and that's ok. It's just another label anyway.

Trust your instinct... you never know until you try.

At the end of the day, it's you, not whoever that gave you their kind advices, that will face the result of your choices.

At the end of the day, you are alone.

And it's a good thing.

You can't wear the artist's creative/productive hat and the marketer's branding hat at the same time.

What's cool about your work?
What's cool about the troupe/club/society you're in?
What's cool abt your life?

As long as you can survive, do what your heart tells you.

(That way your life will either be super great or super tough or both, but certainly not one of mediocrity filled with quiet desperation)

You should succeed or fail your own way, not replicating others'.

You should succeed or fail in a spectacular (!) manner.

Be one of a kind.

If you have to fail, fail early.

If you have to fail, fail in a way that even your opponents pay you their highest respect.

Be all positive and proactive no matter what.

The criteria to consider are not 'whether this will sell?" or "what are the required qualifications?" or "what is everybody else doing? how?"

... the only thing to consider is "whether it excites me & stretches me to the max?".

The	level	of p	artio	cipati	ion	dete	rmi	nes
			the	leve	l of	hap	pin	ess.

You need to take a step back to see the big picture.

The hard path promises no pleasure, but happiness.

Take your pick: take control, or drift with the flow.

Playing a lousy game is better than warming the bench.

It's an ongoing challenge. It is never ending and requires constant focused efforts.

Projects end, battles end, but the war doesn't.

Pay attention, and you'll find there are more things to be thankful for than you realized.

Be a student of life and share your learnings.

A fundamental shift of mindset is necessary: whatever you want, dont ask "what should i do?", ask "what should i stop doing?".

Your single most important goal on every single day:
Live like An Exception.

Ask stupid questions.

Change is happening.

Most people choose to close their eyes or face away.

It's just human nature. And that's why the survivors

are often the exception, not the norm.

It's not how many books you read, but how many ideas/work you get/create out of them, that matters.

Dig inside, dig deeper, shut out the noise, reach for ur soul... it's usually richer and wiser than u realized.

It's all about attitude.

Define your problem, clarify your purpose, put 'em into a box, make'em clear and manageable; unlock your mind, unleash your imagination, set your brainpower free into the infinite universe.

The ordinary is proud of the fact that he is in a great team; the extraordinary is proud of the fact that he made his team great.

"The present" turns into "the past" real fast... and memories don't last... so make all these moments count.

The mere fact that you are alive is already a good reason to celebrate.

Life sucks? Then your job is to make it better, not complain.

That which may bring gigantic reward, may also bring monstrous damage. Take the risk anyway.

Apply different strategy to different projects.

Keep reminding yourself of the project target and budget. Circumstances change, adjust along the way, but never lose your head.

Go the extra mile... only for those that really matter.

Once you stop watching and start doing, you find things are not as hard as they seem.

Don't force the trade.

Put in extra effort to help others see their strength (not weakness), and help them become even stronger.

## Some people lament the passing of those good old days, i celebrate the wonderful memory.

The sky is very blue today, but most ppl wouldn't have noticed it. What a pity.

Do what u believe, stop what u don't.

Sometimes, you need to talk.

More often than not, you need to shut up and listen.

Patience: sometimes, inaction is the best action.

There are so many sides in each human being that judging one by first impressin is ridiculous and stupid... well, maybe the stupidity is just built into human nature.

Stop bothering yourself with the biological age, it's your maturity, curiosity, and energy level that count.

A theory is an attempt to capture/reflect/approximate what happens in the reality. However brilliant it is, it is still NOT the reality.

Make it a habit to observe the reality with your own, fresh, curious eyes (and open minds, of course).

## Fail as much as you can.

Make failure and mistakes exciting.

(failure/mistakes from trying bold, new stuff, not negligence)

Don't hide your contempt, eliminate it.

What's the point of a smart plan without a clear goal?

What's the point of a brilliantly crafted plan without the fire and the hunger to reach the goal? Means vs ends.

Your focus should always be reaching the ends (goals!) instead of perfecting the means (plans).

Anytime, anywhere, you can start afresh.

Smile, and pray.

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## Short n' Simple \_

... yeah we're talking abt "life"...