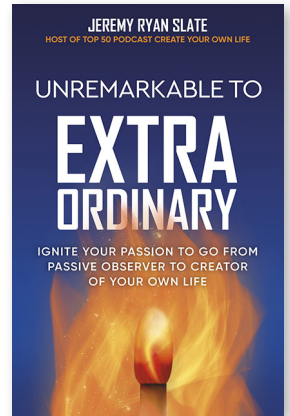


Unremarkable To Extraordinary

Ignite Your Passion To Go From Passive
Observer to Creator Of Your Own Life

by **Jeremy Ryan Slate**



Contents

Introduction

Page 2

Learning from Failure

Page 2

Done Is Better Than Perfect

Page 3

Past, Present, and Future
Vision

Page 3

Be the One to Tell Your
Story

Page 4

Conclusion: Finding Your
Extraordinary

Page 4

THE SUMMARY IN BRIEF

What does it mean to be extraordinary? Why are successful people often the most extraordinary of the lot? How can you harness your own extraordinary power?

By taking us through the kaleidoscope of inspirational life lessons, *Unremarkable To Extraordinary: Ignite Your Passion To Go From Passive Observer to Creator Of Your Own Life*, teaches us how to be truly extraordinary. You learn about why courage makes all the difference, how each failure brings a new experience, why opportunities must be created, what having a vision means, what we don't know about responsibility, and how leadership is the duty of every extraordinary individual.

Author Jeremy Ryan Slate presents extraordinary stories, facts, and takeaways to break down exactly what the journey toward becoming extraordinary looks like. Most of us haven't yet tapped into "the extraordinary" inside us and the author gently pushes us to find our own extraordinary.

IN THIS SUMMARY, YOU WILL LEARN:

- What makes someone extraordinary.
- The core elements to become an extraordinary.
- How to harness your courage and create your opportunities.
- How to have a vision and be a leader.

Introduction

This book comes from research I've carried out in addition to nearly one thousand interviews I've conducted with world-class performers and newsmakers. A lot of what the book unfolds comes from my direct conversations with these individuals.

Although this book is meant to be read straight through, it is structured in a way that you can jump to a specific chapter if you're looking for help in a single area. Here, you'll encounter four things to aid your journey – extraordinary takeaways, extraordinary facts, extraordinary stories, and extraordinary reads.

This work is not just meant to inspire but to show you what is possible and help you see your path for yourself. It is meant to be an adventure. We'll dive into the important details that the lives of extraordinary people include and help you draw parallels in your own life. Here's to your adventure into the extraordinary.

It Takes Courage

The single greatest component of being an extraordinary human being is courage. We all are born with the same elements – talent, looks, and more. Some have a little more, some have a little less. But we all have an equal shot to reach our greatness. Up to this point in your life, you may not have been courageous. But this is, in fact, the perfect time to start.

JJ Virgin, the New York Times bestselling author and one of the most famous names in the fitness industry, knew that failure could not be an option for her. She knew that she could pay for her son's medical care only if she was successful.

Maybe you take courage for your loved ones in life as JJ Virgin did for her son. Or maybe you become courageous for your own success. However, you define what is courageous for you. It took me 32 years to make the decision to be courageous. Courage for me was more about speaking my mind and not speaking to please others. For you, it may be starting with a schedule to reach a goal. Whatever age you are in life, now is the perfect time to start.

Your Mo Lewis Moment

You must understand that there will always be adversity in your life. You cannot control adversities or opportunities. They will happen.

Though I've never been a Boy Scout, the goal is for the Boy Scout motto, "always be prepared," to become your motto. It is critical to be prepared for every eventuality when the time comes. When an opportunity comes, you cannot say, "I wasn't ready." Instead, be ready for the day opportunity presents itself, because it will.

The story of Tom Brady, arguably the best quarterback ever to play in the NFL, is the greatest example of preparation meeting circumstances. Brady's position was never solid as he was competing with New York Yankees' prospect Drew Hensen for playing time.

Brady wasn't the most athletic, didn't have the biggest arm, and thanks to his competition with Hensen, wasn't seen as a future star. Despite the odds, he continued to work on his craft until he got the opportunity to become the starter in the second game of the 2001 season. From there on, he led the Patriots to a Super Bowl championship that season, in addition to five more as the Patriots quarterback.

Don't Follow Your Passion

I mentioned with Mike Rowe, "Don't follow your passion, but do bring it with you." In other words, find something you're good at – this could be a skill or vocation that can produce something – then, continue to work at it until this skill becomes effortless.

Most successful people I've spoken to had multiple attempts at greatness. Sometimes it wasn't the first, sometimes it wasn't second or even the third. But eventually, they figured it out. To me, experience is the most valuable teacher.

Self-education is one of the most common things in every successful individual I've spoken to – from Grant Cardone to Kevin Harrington. Extraordinary individuals don't depend on the traditional education system but on the School of Hard Knocks.

Don't be afraid to get knocked around, like Grant Cardone, put in the work every day, learn from every single experience, and be willing to educate yourself. Don't be afraid to fail. But just make sure you're learning.

Learning from Failure

The fear of failure keeps many from even trying. However, those who are truly extraordinary have tried many things. They didn't hit a home run the moment they held the bat.

They had to put up with losses. And those times they lost turned out to be some of the greatest learning experiences

Baseball royalty Nick Swisher almost didn't get drafted. When he went on his first recruiting trip to West Virginia, the size of the players made him feel football would not be his sport. He went 50 rounds only to know he didn't get drafted. What more could he do? Well, he went from a non-drafted player out of high school to a first-rounder out of college. Eventually, and of course, after several failures along the way, he was finally a part of the New York Yankees, the winningest franchise in major league baseball.

For many, it is dwelling on the losses that actually ends their dreams. But losses are inevitable. Figure out what you can learn from them but don't live them. Use losses to plan for the future and as Nick Swisher says, "If it wasn't for losing, we wouldn't know how great winning is."

Done Is Better Than Perfect

Extraordinary people have the drive to just make it happen. One of the weaknesses we all share is wanting to make everything perfect. But how can you focus on getting something done when all your focus is snatched away by the illusion of perfection?

The speed with which Mike Lindell, the founder of MyPillow, grew his company is incredible. To go from 10 employees to nearly 500 in just 40 days doesn't seem human. But it shows what a little grit and someone that is truly self-made can do when they grasp an opportunity.

Sometimes we pour in too much attention on just how perfect something is, and that waiting keeps us from ever getting it out there. Had Mike worried about how perfect the first infomercial was, his product may have never gotten out!

Don't spend your time deciding if something is an opportunity or not. Just go for it. What's the worst that could happen? If you fail, you'll always have the opportunity to try again later.

Create Your Own Opportunities

Many of us expect an opportunity to show up at our front door. But many times, it doesn't work like that. Sometimes, you have to find an opening, grab the opening, widen it, and realize you are going to create the opportunity to fill that space.

It is something great athletes have done for years, but something great businesspeople have not always notoriety for. If you look at many of the extraordinary people that we have spoken to, when the door was closed to them, they didn't just wait for a new one to open. They built a new door. Moral of the story? To be extraordinary, you have to be willing to see opportunities everywhere.

Define Your Success. Don't Let Others Define It for You

Extraordinary people don't make decisions based on what others do. They don't select their life plan based on what others want.

The truth is, you're never going to have everything figured out in life. That's just not how it works. For someone to be extraordinary, they really must have the drive to keep working at it until they figure it out. They may not know exactly what they want to do but they know they have big goals for their life.

Not caring what other people think can perhaps be the most difficult thing to do. Doing what people say may bring you praise. However, if you truly want to be extraordinary, you cannot live on praise. On your journey to become extraordinary, there will not only be no praise, but you'll face true hatred for what you're doing.

Don't let the opinions of others stop you from being extraordinary. Their own limits will try to limit you. Instead, remember to always reach for the stars, and once you've hit them, drive past the heavens.

Past, Present, and Future Vision

When you're stuck in surviving right now, you can't see three inches in front of your face, let alone seeing your future. This is why it's best to have a job while you're building something or to have your first business running before you build a second.

Sure, looking to the future when you're trying to survive today is a difficult skill to learn. But every successful entrepreneur believes in mastering this one skill. Powerful entrepreneurs like Jayson Waller have managed to figure out how to not get stuck in the past or the present so they can be the ones to put the future together for us.

Ordinary people fight their past and try to survive in the

present. Extraordinary people put the future first. So, be the one that builds the future.

Be the One to Tell Your Story

No one is going to tell your story for you. No, telling your story is not synonymous with “boasting” – something we were taught as kids.

When you really look at it, to live is to communicate. If you’re not communicating, then you’re not living, and if you’re not living, then there’s no way you’re going to grow. To be extraordinary is to understand you’re not boasting. You’re simply doing what you need to do to survive – telling a story.

Become responsible for your own story, get good at telling it, and tell it to those that matter. Alexander the Great conquered the known world before the age of 30. Did he wait for others to tell his story? He did not. In fact, he brought his own publicist or scribe, Arrian to all his campaigns.

Never hesitate from telling your story. Remember, those who tell you not to promote your own achievements are afraid of what you may achieve.

Radical Responsibility

Being fully responsible for your own life is both the scariest thing to learn and the most empowering thing to learn.

A great example of radical responsibility is motorsports. But when you truly dissect it, many of us deal with life and death every single day. If you don’t stop at the stop sign, you could cause an accident. If you don’t pay your taxes, you could go to jail. If you don’t take all the precautions, someone could get hurt.

Many things we complain about most often come down to responsibility. How responsible can you get when it comes to your own life? There is a big difference between what’s easy and what’s responsible. If you don’t like your current job, it’s easier to blame the opportunity than to have the ability to make the opportunity work for you.

Once you start understanding how you can be more responsible, not blame others, and stop playing the victim, only then can you kickstart an extraordinary life.

The Duty of Leadership

I have found far too often that people who insist on having the title of a leader are men and women that do not actually lead. It is those that have humbled themselves and worked on themselves every single day that have the right to lead others.

When it boils down to it, real leadership is about having others respect you so much that they will follow you and listen to your authority. A real leader does not lead out of fear, because eventually, fear-driven leadership will consume the leader herself.

A true leader, on the other hand, puts the interest of those she leads above her own. Leaders have a responsibility for leading those who follow them to a better future than the one they currently have – not one of less freedom, not one of control, but a future for the betterment of mankind. If you want to lead, figure out for yourself what leading this planet to be a better place looks like. Whatever you choose to do, do it with courage. Lead now to make the future your own.

Conclusion: Finding Your Extraordinary

At the end of the day, being extraordinary is like a kaleidoscope. Better yet, it’s like a mosaic. It takes small pieces of a large collection of skills that we work on every single day.

To be extraordinary is to be able to look into the future when others are stuck in the moments of today. The core elements of an extraordinary life include: courage, your moment, don’t follow your passion, learn from failure, done is better than perfect, creating your own opportunities, define your own success, have a future vision, have a duty to lead, tell your story, be radically responsible.

All I want for you is greatness and an extraordinary life. Make these lessons the change you need to move forward to become extraordinary.



Jeremy Ryan Slate is the founder of the Create Your Own Life Podcast, which studies the highest performers in the world. He specializes in using podcasting and new media to create trust and increasing leader status. Jeremy was named one of the top 26 podcasts for entrepreneurs to listen to in 2017 and 2018 by CIO Magazine, top podcast to listen to by INC Magazine in 2019. His podcast has been downloaded over 2.5 million times. He's also a contributing editor of New Theory Magazine and Grit Daily.

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