

THE CIRCLE OF GIANTS

THE WORLD'S WISDOM

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PREFACE

Welcome, be my guest and attend to an interview like no one ever before. Today I have the great honour to host a meet-up of three extraordinary people. Together we will turn the world on its head and find out which tactics, strategies and philosophies are needed to make one owns luck.

INTERVIEW

FIRST ROUND

Topic:

SUCCESS

Interviewer: Dear reader, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to this approx. thirty sites long interview to which I've invited three incredible characters. The world-travelling adventure and author, Tom Lee Baker. The exquisite and elegant billionaire, William Tailor. And last, but not least — the blind, but talented MMA champion, Raymond Bennet Parker. Together they will help us to make the world and its complex problems a little more understandable. But now join me for the first topic: the definition of the term 'success'. Let's start with you, Raymond. Thank you for being here and congratulation to the — through and through deserved — title. Maybe you tell us something about yourself and your definition of success?

Raymond: Thanks. It's good to be here. Although I didn't know the most of you, I'm sure that my name rings a bell for everyone here?

William: The Iron Beast. Yes, I've bet a chunk of change on you and it seemed to be just right.

Tom: I saw your fight during my stay in Tokio. A helluva comeback!

Raymond: Alright, so we're clear about that, but for all of you, who didn't know me. My name is Raymond Bennet Parker. I'm thirty-six, acting UFC champion and like some of you already noticed, completely blind since half a year. The half year in which I set new benchmarks regarding the point success. I don't know what you're looking for, but I can tell you following: success can't be balance out with green bills, neither with a chic car in front of your house or a chic title in front of your name. I'm blind, everything material lost its meaning for me. I will never be able again to see my wife, observe the birth of my child or the engraving on my title belt. This and a lot more aren't able anymore. What is able and

always was is the fight against my alter ego. The voice in me that sets me limits, criticises me and tries to force me to give up. My definition of success is simple: Success is the daily victory against your alter ego. Success is like shovelling in a pit. You shovelling out the flaws, doubts and negative thoughts to reveal the fundament for a happy life. The dirt that slides back into the pit needs to be shovelled out again. Daily. The pit will do all it can to not reveal the ground to self-fulfillment and always let negative thoughts slide back into it again. Additionally, will envious stay up on the edge and shovel negative thoughts into the pit. Success is to keep on, although there's not a change of success in sight. Success is to stick on a vision, although it appears inaccessible. Success is the destruction of your alter ego for the birth of a new, self-confident and strong me. And this daily. From the first till the last gasp. I will fight till the doc put the white sheet over me and declares that it is done.

William: Ladys and Gentlemen, that's Raymond Parker to a T.

Raymond: Exactly.

Interviewer: Fascinating. Thank you a lot Ray for the epic entry into our session and your fundamental picture of the term 'success'. As I heard is there a movie coming about your success in mixed martial arts. 'Iron Will', right?

Raymond: Yeah! The production is already running.

Interviewer: Fantastic. We stay tuned, until then, may you, Tom, like to tell us something about your notion of success?

Tom: Of course, put me on stage right after his 'Denzel-Washington-speech'. Just kidding, but for sure: my fullest respect and deepest admiration, Mr. Parker. I'm a huge fan, but more about that after the interview.

For everyone who doesn't know me, I'm Tom Lee Baker. I'm fifty-one, native American, former paper pusher, and now — after an elaborating and yeasty journey around the globe — an author.

My notion of success was for a long time the completion of the company's targets, the payment of the bills and to be able to nurture my family. Before I've noticed it my days turned into a circle of endless days in which one equalled the next

one. My work turned to my life and my life to my work. My family backed away till to the point where my wife left me and my kids turned into memories. I'd hated my monotonous and routinely performed life. I won't lie, the thought about suicide was well known to me, but something rescued me. I was there, sitting in a café, grieving about the present, as two women behind me started to speak about journeys around the globe. Places far any imaginations, moments of pure humanity and experiences as one only read of.

She talked about a life of which existence I wouldn't dare to hope for. I just sat there and dived into her words. For the first time again I've felt like the world has more to offer than the office desk. Fifty-one years I didn't know what to do with myself and there all of a sudden I knew what to do, so I quit my job, left my apartment, packed my stuff, stepped into the plane and flew all alone around the world. A world that shocked, surprised, fascinated and taught me a lot. Not to left out, enriched me with the love of my life. After my opinion is success the courage to face the unknown. Success is to follow a trail that isn't drawn into the map or even erased, cause others assumed it for impossible and too time wasting. Dear reader, if I can give you just one advise, then it would be the

following one: the world is too big to think small. There are so many things you don't know. So many people who can enrich your life. So many places that could steal your breath and so many stories, waiting to be experienced. The possibility to grow is always there, but the will to pursue it is left to you. Success is like growing teeth. The pain is necessary to enrich your life with something wonderful and fundamental important. So are the obstacles in your life a necessary bother to improve your life. Have the courage to take the first step.

Interviewer: The step that is waiting for all of us. Excellent contribution, Tom. In your book "The Beautiful World" one can enjoy twenty-seven short stories from twenty-seven places all around the world. Twenty-seven places that obviously helped you to personal success. The success of an world-open and world-educated mind. And mind is what brings us to our next guest. William Taylor. We didn't forget about you and are delighted to hear something about success from a man who earned more money than the gross domestic product of some countries. Please, William.

William: Thank you. It is fascinating with what empathy and emotion my seat neighbours talk about the term success. But lets stick to the system. My name is William Tailor. Billionaire, Author, CS mogul, CEO and in my eBook 'The Billionaire's Bible' your very own mentor. Success is after my opinion, the moment where fiction touches reality and the goal is to let them touch as many times as possible till both grow together as one. You'll get nothing in life for free and a vision of a better future will be restrained from till you invest every single breath to destroy all alternatives until the only one remains. I've bleed for every single Penny and worked my eighty to ninety hours weeks to get where I am right now. I know it sounds like slavery, but I tell you that there is a huge difference to work forty hours for someone else or ninety for yourself. Work for someone who didn't share your values, your principles and your dreams and you'll feel robbed and the time slipping away, and with every chance of a remarkable life. Work for yourself and pursue your own goals and notions, you'll feel how your life gains all of a sudden a meaning and how every day gets more important and better by time. I won't lie about it, self-employment and entrepreneurship are helluva work. Not for nothing lies the

odd of failing start-ups by ninety percent. That makes nine out of ten. But that's how it is, when you try to achieve something where no recipe, no formula or no instruction exists for. Entrepreneurship is the jump into the unknown with the desire to land in the bucket full liquid gold. Many jump, only a few hit it, but I swear one thing: Every one who jumped, felt enriched, cause they had the courage to face the unknown and no experience is sweeter and more precious than the courage to the risky jump. Success is measured by the amount of times you are willing to hurt yourself before hitting the bucket. It's like my dear friend Kiyosaki says: 'Every one wants to heaven, but no one wants to die for it.'. You don't get the cake without investing in the ingredients and the process beforehand. If the cake tastes or not is depending on how careful you've been during the process and the selection of your ingredients.

Interviewer: I bet that a lot of people would love to have a bite of your cake.

William: Surely.

Raymond: Keep your cake. It's nasty how only one person can have that amount of money, while others sleep on the boardwalk and have to push cockroaches from their meals.

William: If I'm remembering correctly are these conditions that you neither had to experience?

Raymond: You're asking me if I know how it is to be unable to pay the bills and ask myself when the drought on the plate is over? Yes, I've been through this. I hadn't parents, only a drug addicted aunt and friends, who visit the bench in the cell after school. I know exactly how it is like to fear the cold winter and being grateful for every single penny. God was so kind and brought Jess and fighting into my life. I didn't know where or what I would be without them. Money shouldn't be parked by a few privileged white people. It has to be available to everyone.

Interviewer: I think we get...

William: ... I'm totally with you, Ray. If I'm allowed to call you 'Ray'. Money is a neutral and world-open good that should be

available to everyone, what it theoretically does. But is money the product of strategic actions, and strategy the product of constantly learning and planning. A gift, that many ignore or even mock at. Sure, there are many incompetent and egoistic people with too much power, who inhibits the fair distribution of money, but is money not a natural right or claim, but a merit. Work effectively and hard and earn effectively and good. Everything else is a joke.

Raymond: A joke? Are starving children and jobless mothers a joke to you?

William: Is the paid hurting of people and with it the glorifying of violence funny to you?

Raymond: MMA is about the possibility to let two people test their own limits and overcome those. Not more, not less.

William: Sure.

END OF THE EXCERPT
I'M CURIOUS ABOUT YOUR OPINION. PLEASE LET ME
KNOW ABOUT IT.