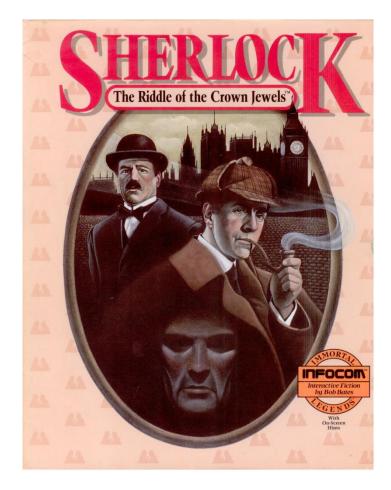
LEADING A CREATIVE LIFE IN THE LAND OF "NO"

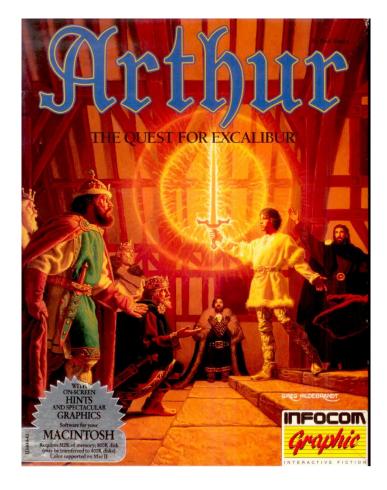
GDC 2016

March 17, 2016

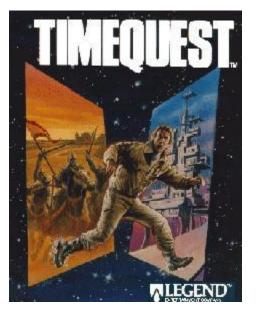
Bob Bates

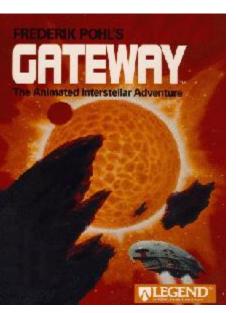
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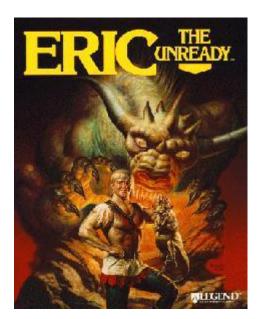


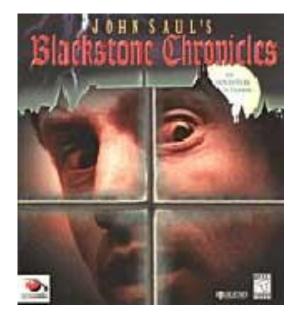




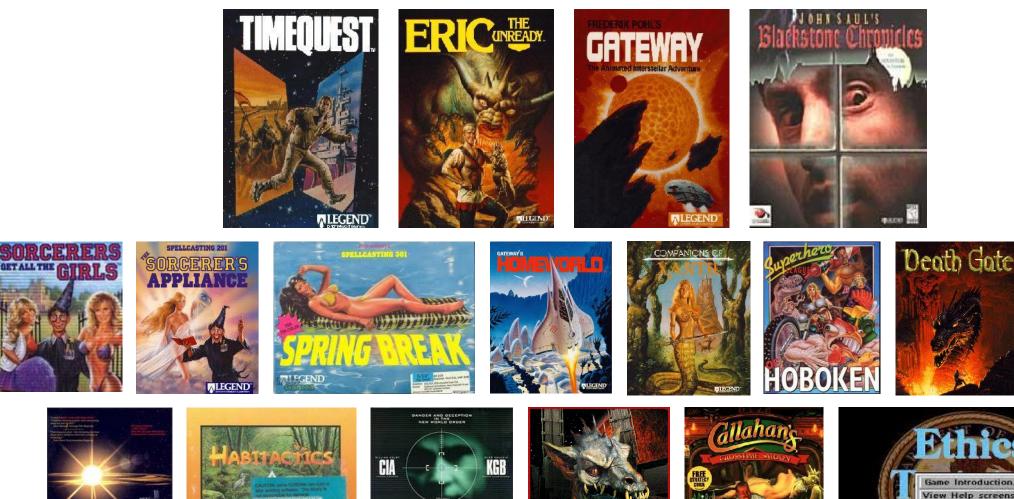












STAR CONTROL 3

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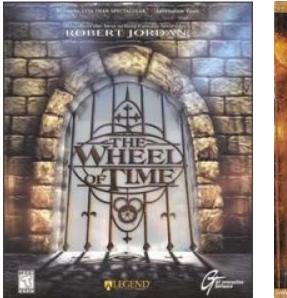
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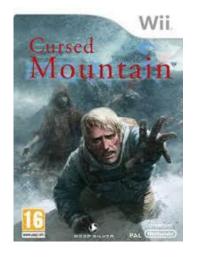




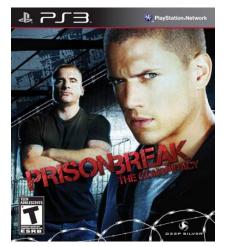
































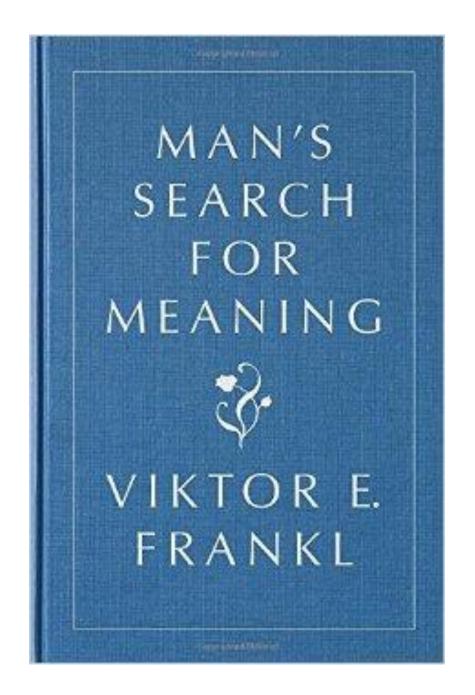
CONSULTANT, FREELANCER... & INDIE

WHO GETS TO BE CREATIVE?



The Challenges of Being Creative

• All Creative People Have Challenges We Must Face



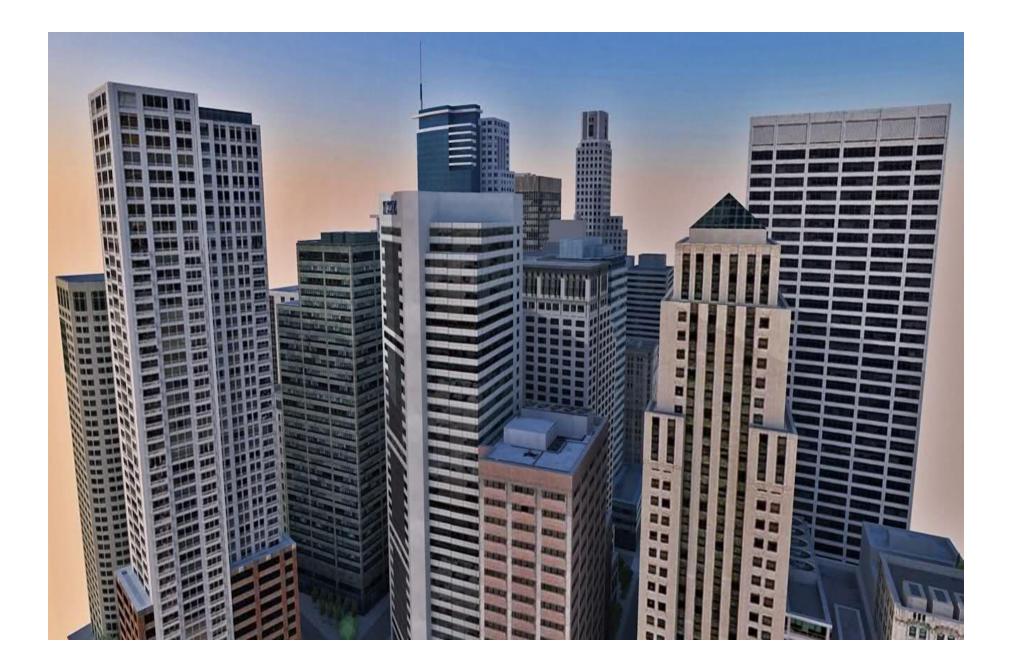




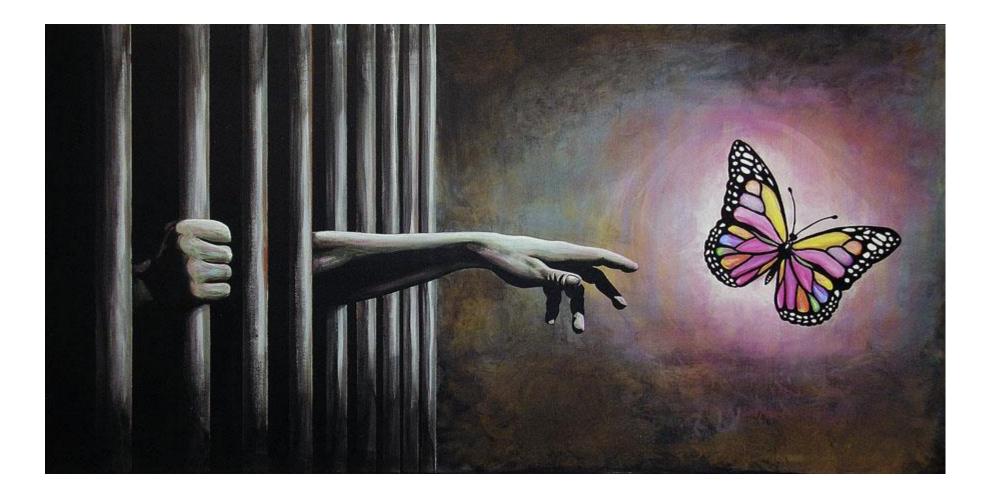


The Challenges of Being Creative

- All Creative People Have Challenges We Must Face
- Creatives in the Game Industry Face Additional Challenges









The Challenges of Being Creative

- All Creative People Have Challenges We Must Face
- Creatives in the Game AAA Game Industry Face Additional Challenges
- And Indies face even MORE Challenges







Nausea The Side Effects

Insomnia Gray Hair Dry Mouth Headaches Hyperventilation Anxiety Hot Flashes or Chills High Blood Pressure Trembling or Shaking **Uncontrollable Crying** Trouble Concentrating Anticipating the Worst Feeling Tense and Jumpy Excessive and Ongoing Worry Feelings of Apprehension or Dread

Rashes Fatigue Dizziness Sweating Feeling Faint Muscle Aches Muscle Tension Pounding Heart Digestive Disorders Shortness Of Breath Tremors and Twitches Feeling Detached or Unreal Surge of overwhelming panic Numbness in Hands and Feet Feeling of losing control or going crazy

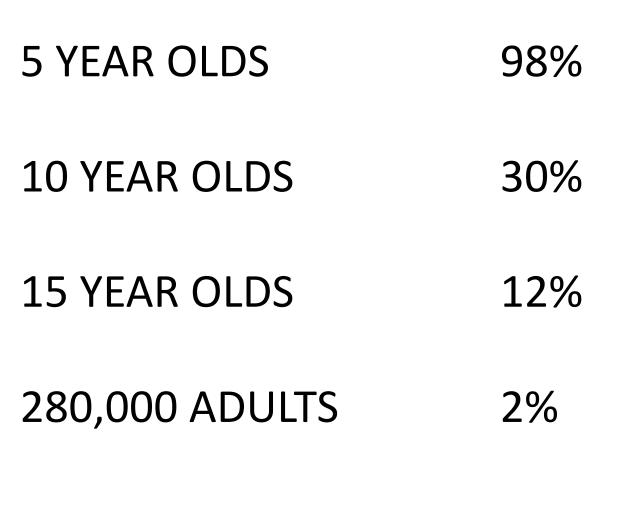
Mental Health is a serious matter. If you or someone you know is suffering please seek professional help. Treatments are available and recovery can happen but the longer you put it off, the harder it is. Don't waste time it doesn't have to be a life long illness.

HighAnXieties.org fb/HighAnXieties HighAnXieties.tumblr @HighAnXieties

So How Do We Stay Creative In The Face Of All That???

What Creativity is <u>NOT</u>





"What we have concluded is that NON-CREATIVE behavior is learned."







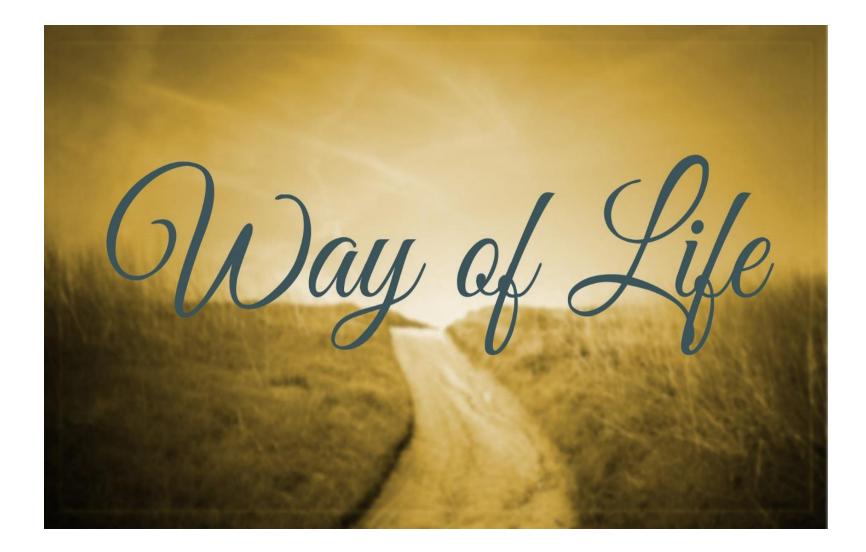
"You can't wait for inspiration, you have to go after it with a club"

- Jack London

TwistedSifter.com

What Creativity <u>IS</u>





HOW TO BUILD A CREATIVE LIFE

STEP 1: LEARN YOUR CRAFT

1. LEARN YOUR CRAFT



1. LEARN YOUR CRAFT

- Malcom Gladwell: It takes 10,000 hours.
 - <u>Outliers</u>: "...composers, basketball players, fiction writers, ice skaters, concert pianists, chess players, master criminals... No one has yet found a case in which true world-class expertise was accomplished in less time."

1. LEARN YOUR CRAFT



1. LEARN YOUR CRAFT



HOW TO BUILD A CREATIVE LIFE

STEP 1: LEARN YOUR CRAFT STEP 2: UNDERSTAND YOUR CREATIVE SELF

- Traits of the creative personality
 - Gregory Feist
 - Open to New Experiences
 - Non-conventional
 - Self Confident
 - Self Accepting
 - Driven
 - Ambitious

- Traits of the creative personality
 - Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi (FLOW)
 - Energetic, but restful

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 - Energetic, but restful
 - Smart, yet naïve
 - Use both Convergent and Divergent Thinking
 - Combine playfulness and discipline

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 - Alternate between wild imagination and practical realism
 - Tend to be both introverted and extroverted
 - Both rebellious and conservative

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 - Alternate between wild imagination and practical realism
 - Tend to be both introverted and extroverted
 - Both rebellious and conservative
 - Passionate, but objective
 - Are exposed to suffering and pain
 - "Many individuals inhabiting the same body."

- Traits of the creative personality
 - Roger Von Oech
 - Explorer
 - Artist
 - Judge
 - Warrior

- Traits of the creative personality
 - Brian Bates (No relation to me)
 - Creative People are Playful

- Traits of the creative personality
 - Brian Bates (No relation to me)
 - Creative People are Playful
 - Creative People Delay Decisions

HOW TO BUILD A CREATIVE LIFE

STEP 1: LEARN YOUR CRAFTSTEP 2: UNDERSTAND YOUR CREATIVE SELFSTEP 3: UNDERSTAND WHAT MOTIVATES YOU

- Malcolm Gladwell
 - Autonomy
 - Complexity (Mastery)
 - Purpose

"These are the three qualities that work has to have if it is to be satisfying. It is not how much money we make that ultimately makes us happy between nine and five. It's whether our work fulfills us...."

- Teresa Amabile "Creativity in Context"
 - Extrinsic rewards actually inhibit creativity
 - Creative people are intrinsically motivated





- Intrinsic rewards
 - Feeling appreciated, and feeling trusted
 - Permission to experiment
 - Rewards that let us do our jobs better
 - Being informed about what's going on
 - Being on a kick-ass team

• Become Autotelic

HOW TO BUILD A CREATIVE LIFE

STEP 1: LEARN YOUR CRAFT
STEP 2: LEARN MORE ABOUT WHO YOU ARE
STEP 3: UNDERSTAND WHAT MOTIVATES YOU
STEP 4: PICK A GOOD SPACE FOR THE JOB AT HAND





COURTESY: ZYNGA



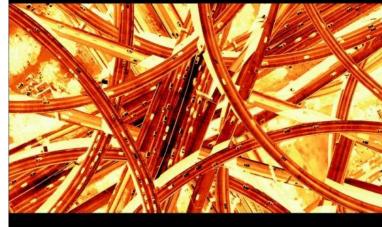
HOW TO BUILD A CREATIVE LIFE

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STEP 5: LEARN NEW THINGS

5. LEARN NEW THINGS



Breakthrough Insights at the Intersection of Ideas, Concepts & Cultures



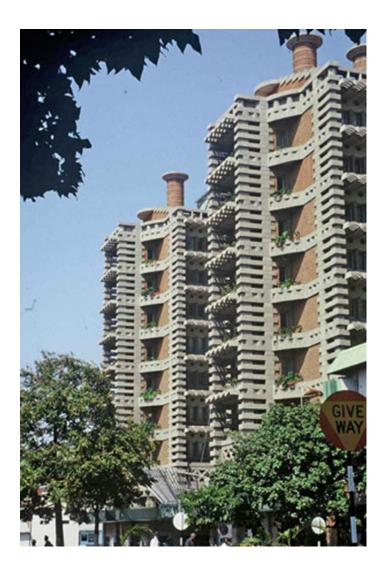
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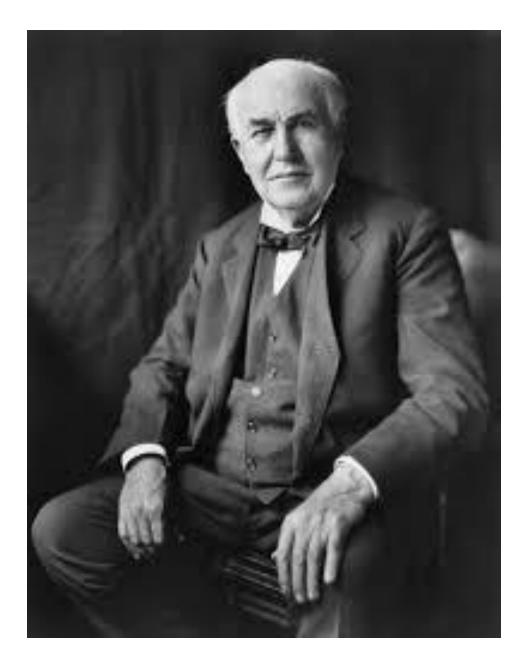
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5. LEARN NEW THINGS







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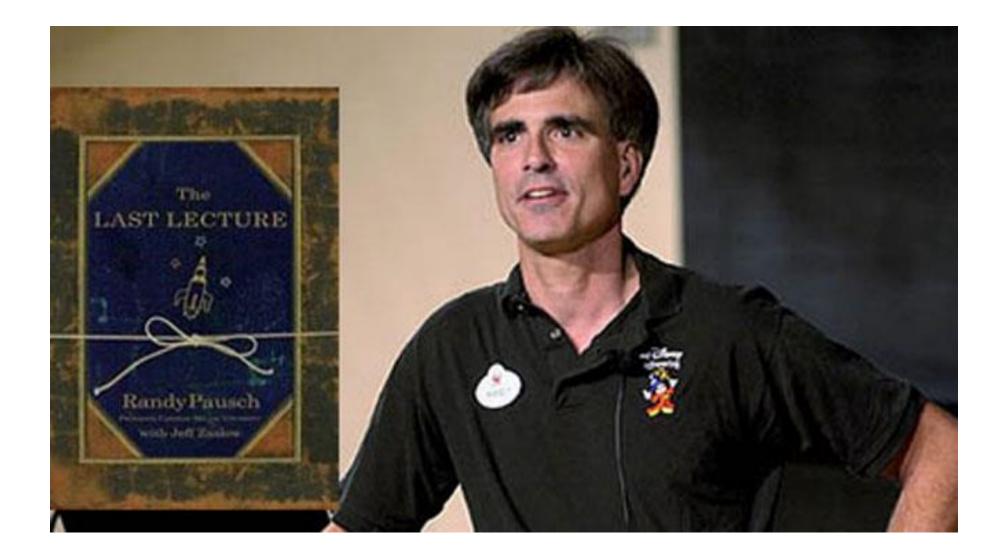
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HOW TO BUILD A CREATIVE LIFE

STEP 1: LEARN YOUR CRAFT
STEP 2: LEARN MORE ABOUT WHO YOU ARE
STEP 3: UNDERSTAND WHAT MOTIVATES YOU
STEP 4: CHOOSE THE RIGHT SPACE FOR THE JOB
STEP 5: LEARN NEW THINGS
STEP 6: MANAGE YOUR TIME

MANAGE YOUR TIME



MANAGE YOUR TIME

- The real problems in our lives are stress and procrastination
- Have a ToDo list that is prioritized
- Make an HourPlan every day

MANAGE YOUR TIME

- The real problems in our lives are stress and procrastination
- Have a ToDo list that is prioritized
- Make an HourPlan every day
- "Find your creative time and defend it ruthlessly."
- Track your time

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26							2x food. 2x												
27							Lights at 12:	30											

	А	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	М	N	0	Р	Q	R	S
1			Billable	Non-Bill						Client 1	Client 2	Client 3	Infra	Book	PersGame Design & Coding	PersGame Admin & Other	Helping Out	Confs	Exercise
2																			
3	Wednesday, March	2				W 182	1234567	8											
4	6:30a-7:30a	Pers				Up. Grogg	y. Overnight e	emails.											
5							Accept Link	ed-in invit	ations										
6	7:30-7:45	Infra		0.25		Plan day							0.25						
7	7:45-9:00	Confs		1.25		Review GE	C Main Talk	Outline and	l Slides									1.25	
8							Revise out	ine to refle	ect update										
9							Collect image	ges for the	slides.										
10	9:00-9:15	Client 2	0.25			Get acces	s to internal	dev site			0.25								
	9:15-10:30	Pers				Break													
12							Still groggy.	Back to be	ed.										
	10:30-12:15	Client1	1.75			Story writ	_			1.75									
14 15							Chapter 3 d	-											
							Chapter 4 o	utline											
	12:15-12:45	Derg				Websurf.													
17	12:45-2:45	PersGame) (2.00) (Coding. Er								(2.00)			
18							Ask for help	from onli	ne forum						\sim				
	2:45-3:45	Exercise				Bike/Shov													0.5
	3:45-5:30	Client2	1.75				DD on Conflu				1.75								
	5:30-6:30	PersGame		1.00			distribution	methods								1.00			
	6:30-8:00	Pers				Dinner/di													
	8:00-9:00	Client1	1.00				pter 3 dialog	s		1.00									
	9:00-10:00	Pers				TV													
25	Night	Pers				Read mor	e of Hal's bo												
26							2x food. 2x												
27							Lights at 12:	30											

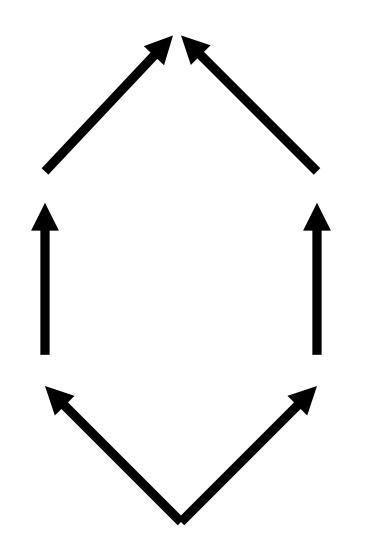
MANAGE YOUR TIME

TRACK YOUR TIME!

HOW TO BUILD A CREATIVE LIFE

STEP 1: LEARN YOUR CRAFT
STEP 2: LEARN MORE ABOUT WHO YOU ARE
STEP 3: UNDERSTAND WHAT MOTIVATES YOU
STEP 4: CHOOSE THE RIGHT SPACE FOR THE JOB
STEP 5: LEARN NEW THINGS
STEP 6: MANAGE YOUR TIME
STEP 7: DO THE WORK

THE CREATIVE PROCESS HAS A SHAPE



BE THE EXPLORER. CAST A WIDE NET



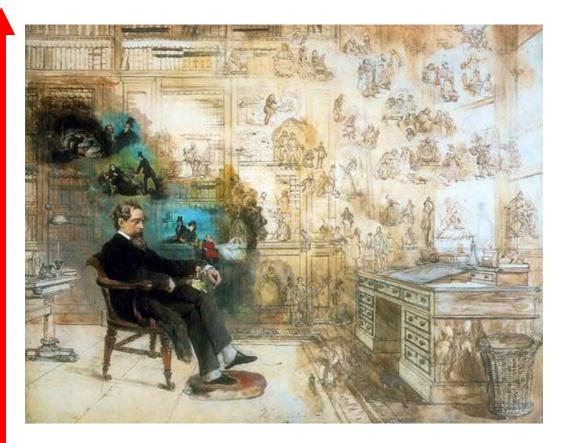


BE THE EXPLORER. CAST A WIDE NET





BE THE ARTIST AND THE JUDGE

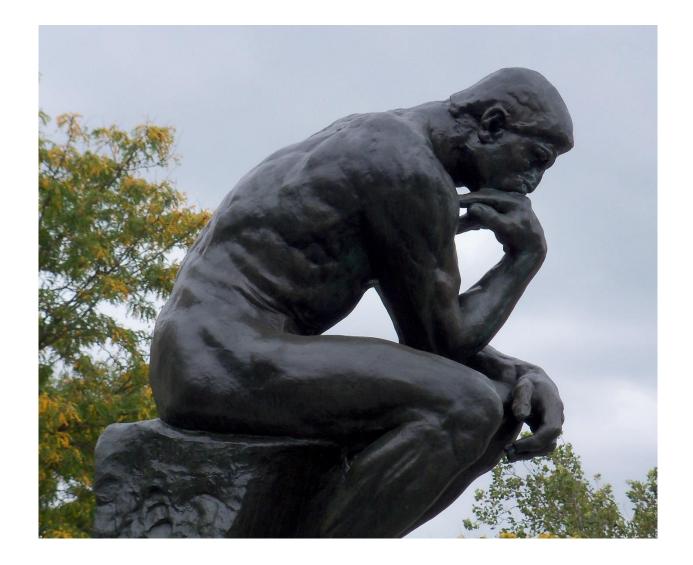


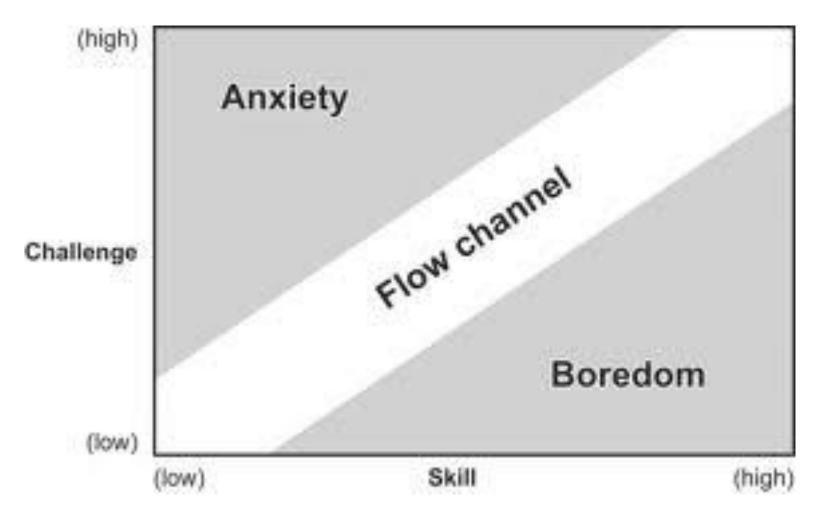


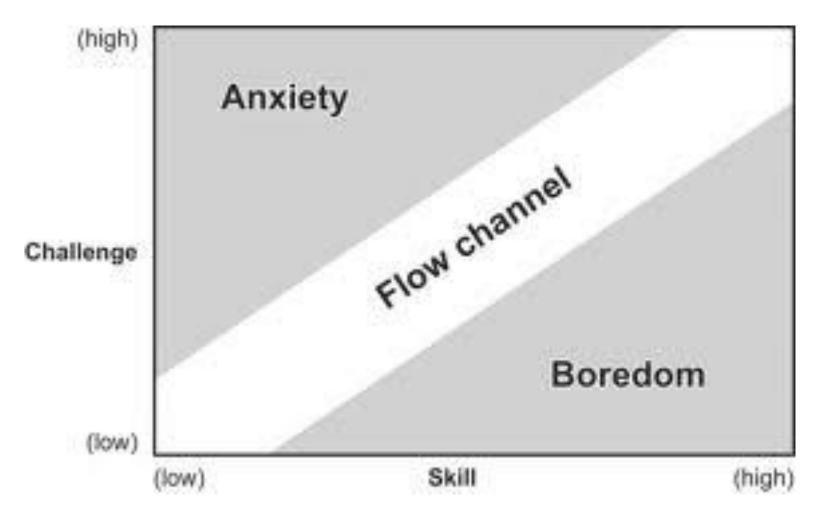
BE THE WARRIOR



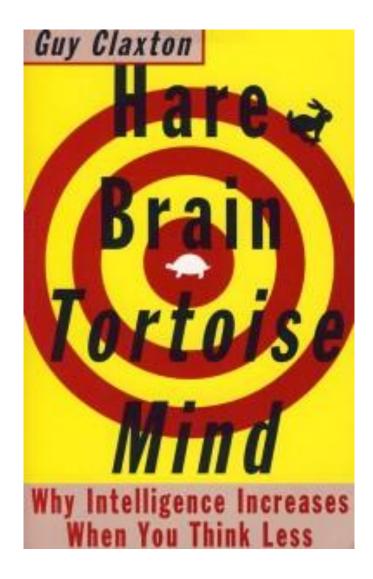














- SPACE
- TIME
- TIME

- SPACE
- TIME
- TIME









CREATIVITY IS A WAY OF LIFE

Creative Person's Owner's Manual

Creative Person's Owner's Manual

- Take care of the physical plant
- Alcohol is not your friend
- Eat one bite of the elephant at a time
- Allow yourself to be less than perfect
- Know the difference between "Ought" and "Must"

Creative Person's Owner's Manual

- Take care of the physical plant
- Alcohol is not your friend
- Eat one bite of the elephant at a time
- Allow yourself to be less than perfect
- Know the difference between "Ought" and "Must"
- Trust your ability and your process
- Find something that's fun (outside of work)
- Find meaning in your work

If You Want To Live A Creative Life

- Keep Learning
- Play Nice
- Work Hard

Thanks!

"Creativity is what happens when skill meets a deadline."

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