

Speaker 1: Bulletproof Radio, a state of high performance.

Dave Asprey: Today's episode is fantastic. You're going to want to listen through all the way to the end, because you're going to learn how a guy who created a company worth a billion dollars, like, went inside his head. You'll learn about his struggles, and he has real, actionable advice for you in today's show. When you listen all the way through, you're going to hear about the story of the creation of the value, but what does a growth mindset mean to you, and how do you turn it on?

You'll learn about how to learn from other people. You're going to learn about what self-esteem does, how identifying the right answer really matters, and you're going to learn how being right all the time is toxic to you being a successful human being, not just in business, but just in life. You'll learn about how you should avoid doing things that help you move away from your goals, and there's a specific meaning to that you'll pick up. Finally, you're going to learn some really cool mindset hacks from a guy who's spent a lot of time working on his own mindset to become as successful as he is. Along the way, I'm going to tell you a few things about my own background that you probably don't know. This is an episode that you'll totally want to tune in for the entire time.

You're listening to Bulletproof Radio with Dave Asprey. Today's cool fact of the day is something that you're probably going to like, and it's that some new research says that sex is actually good for you, at least if you're over 50, and probably if you're under 50. Research has found that in 50 to 83 year olds who had more regular sex scored higher on tests measuring verbal fluency. They were better able to perceive objects and the spaces between them, and that's making scientists look at how neurotransmitters like dopamine and oxytocin can influence the relationship between how often you have sex and how well your brain works. In the meantime, I will continue to experiment diligently.

Before we get into today's episode, if you haven't had a chance to check out the Bulletproof Coffee variety pack, you've gotta do this online, and here's why. We've got some of there. If you're watching on YouTube, you go to [Bulletproof.com/YouTube](https://bulletproof.com/YouTube) to find the channel. There are three different flavors of Bulletproof Coffee now, not counting decaf, and my current favorite is Mentalist. This is a medium dark roast. We've got The Original, which is a medium roast, and we've got French Kick, which is a dark roast that doesn't suck. Most dark roasts are just terrible.

For all of these roasts, we've worked with the guy who trains the Cup of Excellence judges on dialing in the roast parameters to get them perfect. However, lots of people have good roasting. What's important is what goes into the roaster, and there we've got special processing of green coffee beans in a way that's called the Bulletproof process, that eliminates the formation of toxins. We independently lab test our coffees for 27 different toxins that our process is designed to minimize. These are all single origin, grown at high altitudes, Rainforest Alliance certified, and of course they're guaranteed fresh. If you like this stuff, I'd love it if you'd just send a Tweet out to BPNutrition or any

of the other social media channels, and say, "Hey, this stuff is good." But if you haven't tried the three roasts, order the variety pack, save a little bit of money, and what you're going to find is that some of these are amazing, some are good for espresso, and some of these are just going to be the one that you dial in for your flavor profile. None of these are blends. We don't just buy coffees at a big auction the way most companies do. These are carefully processed from soil to cup, and you'll feel the difference in every single day that you drink them.

All right. If you like the show, there's something you can do as well. If you head to [Bulletproof.com/iTunes](https://bulletproof.com/iTunes), that'll take you straight to the iTunes page, and you can just go right there and leave a five-star review that says, "Hey, this show is awesome, and here's what I like about it." When you do that, I see it, and everyone else knows that the show was worth watching. We're almost up to 2,000 reviews, and I'm so grateful if you take five seconds to go to [Bulletproof.com/iTunes](https://bulletproof.com/iTunes). Just tell the world that more than 400 episodes of this, that I don't know how many thousands of hours go into that, but it's here to share the best knowledge from people who are fascinating.

Speaking of fascinating, interesting, disruptive people, today's guest is a guy I met a couple of years ago, and someone I've admired quite a lot, and someone you've probably heard of. His name is Tom Bilyeu. He's the co-founder of a company called Quest Nutrition, which is one of those things called a unicorn startup, which is a startup that gets to be worth more than a billion dollars. This man grew his company by 57,000% in his first three years, which is easy if your first year is \$1 revenue, Tom. I got your statistics there. Still, it's pretty impressive. Number two on the Inc. 500 Fastest Growing Companies in the US in 2014, and a couple years ago Tom started Impact Theory along with his wife. There, he teaches people how to develop the mindset of success, and his whole point there is you can hack through the matrix, you can break out of this mindset where you're sort of stuck.

When I met Tom, it was at the XPRIZE Innovation Board, and if you are familiar with the XPRIZE, this is what launched the private travel of space. Like, private space exploration happened because of Peter Diamandis' work with the XPRIZE. There's a board of directors there, and I'm not on the board of directors, but I was lucky enough to be invited to sit in on a board meeting, and Tom and I got a chance to chat and meet each other, which was particularly cool. It was nice that Peter put us together, and now it's a chance for you to learn from Tom about the principles, the 25 principles behind Impact Theory, and behind just the amazing success he's had in his life.

Tom, welcome to the show.

Tom Bilyeu: Thank you, man. It's good to be here.

Dave Asprey: All right. Hopefully that intro was good for you. I mean, I kind of feel like I might have-

Tom Bilyeu: Dude, that was [crosstalk].

Dave Asprey: I think I might have like maybe glossed over some of the things, but basically you're from a business perspective, and just as a human being, like you're pretty much a badass, so I'm happy to have you on the show.

Tom Bilyeu: Wow. Thank you, man. No, the intro was very generous, so I appreciate it.

Dave Asprey: I want to talk about your life, and there's a lot of times when I'm interviewing maverick scientists, and we're going really deep on stuff like that. I want to know what happened between your ears with this kind of success. Where did you start out before you, quote, "broke through your own matrix" and started this billion dollar company, and did some of the other things you've done? Just give me your origin myth.

Tom Bilyeu: Yeah. It's not cool at all. I was raised to be a good employee, to keep my head down, do as little work as possible, and avoid punishment at all costs. I did that, was very diligent at that, and I had ambitions, but I didn't really have the drive needed to figure out the skillsets that I was lacking to get there. I very much had a fixed mindset. I thought that my talent and intelligence were fixed traits. There was really nothing I could do, and life was really about optimizing for what I had, not asking the question, "How hard are you willing to work to acquire a new set of skills?"

Film school really changed things for me, because I thought ... The way that they break it up at USC is your first two years are a theory and general education, and I hadn't yet been accepted to film school, and I went to one of the people on the acceptance committee, and I said, "What do I need to do to get in?" They said, "Get good grades." For two years, I locked myself in my dorm room. I didn't party. I didn't drink. I didn't go on dates. Nothing. I literally just worked. I got the grades that I needed, got into film school, and then the next two years, for the first year and a half I did very well. I began to get some recognition within the school for having talent, whatever that means, and got selected in the last half of my senior year to direct a senior thesis, which only four people get to do, so it's a very big deal.

I crashed and burned. I made the worst movie ever, and really got slapped in the face with the fact that I have absolutely no talent as a filmmaker. That was so emotionally destructive that I really began to search for a new ideological system that would just give me reprieve from feeling so badly about myself, and very fortunately I found myself teaching film, and in teaching it, not only was I needing to learn just to put together a coherent class, but also in teaching something, you end up learning about it yourself. As I'm teaching these students and I'm realizing, "Okay, they're actually better at the end of the class than they were at the beginning because of the feedback and the things that they learned, so clearly it's possible for them to improve. Is it possible for me to improve? And if so, how much?" That really began my journey of becoming a better filmmaker, rather than just trying to prove that I already was a good filmmaker.

Look, it's very easy to mythologize. The truth is, it was just a very brutal sort of stumbling process of reading a lot, and beginning to encounter what now is called a growth mindset, but when I started all of this, Carol Dweck hadn't written her book yet, so none of that verbiage was around, or certainly I had never encountered it.

While I was teaching, I met these two guys, very successful entrepreneurs. They were about to start a technology company, and they said, "Look, you're coming to the world with your hand out. If you really want to make films and you want to do it your way, and you want to control the art, you're gonna have to get rich." They said, "Why don't you come to work for us, be a copywriter, but don't think of yourself like a copywriter. This is a startup. You can have any job you want. You just have to become the right person for the job." That really put me into a mindset accelerator where I was around other people that believed to the core of their being you can change any aspect of yourself that you want. You can get better. You can identify the skills that you lack, and if you're willing to put in the work to acquire those skills, then you can do anything.

That began a 15-year entrepreneurial journey that saw me start as a copywriter, ultimately work my way to chief marketing officer, be given 10% ownership in that technology company just through sheer equity, sweat equity, and then long story short, I went through a total emotional crisis, was just chasing money, became so profoundly unhappy that I said, "I can't keep doing this. If I'm going to stay in business, it's going to have to be something that's predicated on delivering value, where we're being authentic, where we're really engaging with our community, creating something that's supportive." This was back in 2009, so people just weren't talking like that back then. Nobody really understood how to use social media, and when we said ... Because they both agreed. My two partners agreed, and they said, "Okay. If we're gonna do this, what is something that the three of us would love doing every day, even if we were failing?"

For three very different reasons, that led us to nutrition, which I wanted to save my mom and my sister. I grew up in a morbidly obese family, and by now, I believe in myself as an entrepreneur, I believe that I can get any skill that I need to, and I'm really looking at the problem, the global pandemic of ill health and metabolic disease, and just really working backwards from that, and saying, "Telling people to eat less and exercise more is not a winning formula." You've talked very profoundly about, you know, it wasn't a moral failing of yours. You were working your ass off. You were eating less than some of your friends, but you were still just getting a different result. What we wanted to do was make food that people could choose based on taste, and it happened to be good for them, but we would do the difficult part of learning about manufacturing, in some ways re-engineering the very manufacturing process to be able to make a fundamentally new product.

All of that is sort of this connective tissue of what my journey has looked like. The important parts being I learned a growth mindset, and that changed everything, and then realizing that if you want to be successful in business, you

need to recognize the only thing you can sell over time is value. If you're not actually adding value to people's lives, the best you can hope to be is a flash in the pan.

Dave Asprey:

I've talked with a lot of young entrepreneurs, and I have a pretty similar path to you there, early success and things like that. But a lot of them are going, "I'm going to get rich. I'm going to learn online poker. I'm going to be doing day trading." Or, "I'm going to do something like this." Which adds zero value to anything. By the way, I was a pretty experienced day trader. I could do butterfly spreads on options and all this stuff, but the bottom line is, it doesn't do anything for anyone other than put some money in your account, and there's value in having money, because you can do something meaningful with it, but in fact you have a quote from in one of your interviews where you say, "That's what people don't understand about money or even success. You can have all of it and still hate your life."

I went through a point when I was 26, I made \$6 million at the company that held Google's first server, when it was just Larry and Sergei and a couple of servers, and the very formation of when The Facebook became a customer, because they hadn't renamed themselves to Facebook yet, and all this.

Tom Bilyeu:

Wow.

Dave Asprey:

I literally was like, "You know, I'll be happy when I have \$10 million." I literally said that. Like, I'm 26 years old with \$6 million in stock and all this stuff, and what kind of a jerk, right? That whole hating your life thing was a problem. I lost that money when I was 28, which was kind of unfortunate, but I went through that same thing. I just love that you say that. You can still hate your life if you're successful, top of whatever your industry is, and enough money not to worry about it. I know a lot of people who are there, and I also know some people who are billionaires, or people who are just loads of money, who are profoundly happy because they decided to make a difference. In fact, where we met, at the XPRIZE Innovation Board, this is a group of extremely financially successful people who are putting meaningful amounts of their own money - and meaningful to these guys has lots of zeroes - to work changing the world, because it makes them happy. Because they think they can do something good. Those are the happy billionaires.

Then there's the miserable billionaires, who are like, "How do I hold on to what I have?" You know, the Mr. Smiths from the Simpsons. How did you avoid becoming Mister ... Is it Mr. Smith? Smithers, sorry. How did you avoid becoming Mr. Smithers as you became wealthier?

Tom Bilyeu:

I joke with people and say that Quest was a company born out of misery, but that's actually true. I think if Awareness Technologies, which was the tech company that I sort of grew up in, hadn't become such a profoundly miserable experience for me, I wouldn't have escaped it. It was because I was going

through that and I had this dawning, horrific realization, which is that the struggle is guaranteed, but the money is not.

Dave Asprey:

Well said.

Tom Bilyeu:

When you know you're going to go through hard times, man, and I cannot promise you on the other side of that is the success that you're imagining for yourself, and I began to realize, "The game that I'm playing actually isn't money. The game that I'm playing isn't success. The game that I'm playing is neurochemistry." I could give you \$7.4 billion, but if you hate yourself and want to commit suicide, what good is that money? And conversely, if you have no money but you feel a deep sense of fulfillment and accomplishment in your life, and you love what you're doing, it doesn't matter that you don't have money, because you feel so great. That's what makes this industry in particular so interesting to me, and it's why I'm just destined to be involved in two industries. Industries that address the body, and industries that address the mind. Because those are the two ways that you really are able to experience, in a positive way, life, right?

That to me is big, but understand that I was having these realizations, like with dawning horror, because everything that I was doing in my life was the exact opposite. I'm chasing money for the sake of money with no sense of what I want to do with it, so it's like the dog chasing the car. It's like, "You don't know why you're chasing the car." Right? I had some vague sense from when I was a kid that money was cool, and it let you get cool things, and that I was going to somehow love those cool things, and what I didn't realize, and what I now know is just baked into the core of my existence, what I didn't realize was that I would not feel any differently about myself with money than I did without money.

When you look at somebody that has money and you don't, you look at them with envy. You have a level of adoration for them. It's impressive. As a culture, we celebrate that. When I finally hit "refresh, refresh, refresh" on my bank account and suddenly I had a lot of money, I was like, "This is amazing like a bowl of ice cream is amazing, but I do not feel differently about myself at all." It was such a cruel moment, where it was like you want to laugh and cry. It's like, "This is going to be powerful, because I now know why I want the money." Long before I got it, I had figured that out. I wanted to help people escape the matrix, whether it was by helping them get their body right, or directly helping them get their mind right. That was my obsession. Being of service, monetizing value. Actually helping people and doing something meaningful for the world, and that makes me feel good, right?

Because the game I'm playing is neurochemistry. It's not about legacy. It's about, "Right now, today, I want to feel good about contributing." I want to feel good about somebody writing in and saying, "Dude. That talk you gave changed my life." Or, "That piece of advice that you just gave, that really has fundamentally changed the trajectory of my life. I've launched a business. I've

done whatever." I love that. Not in some, "When I'm dead and look back kind of way." Like, right now, today, that's very meaningful to me.

I was going after wealth creation for the right reason. I was doing it through the right method, of delivering value to people, but in that moment realizing, "This has not changed the way that I feel about myself. I am not looking at myself the way that I look at other people who have success." Now I know that all the internal struggles, feeling inadequate, insecurities, they're there to stay until you do the internal work, right? Of getting past that.

That was obviously very humbling, and then along that journey that I laid out in the beginning, one of the most powerful realizations that I had was just humility, right? To always be willing to sit at somebody's feet and learn is just incredibly valuable if you want to be successful. Couple the, "I'm humbled because it feels good." Because you don't feel like you're teetering and on the brink of the illusion crumbling. Humility serves that purpose, but then humility also is incredibly powerful, and I know that. In being humble, you open yourself up to new information. You don't stagnate. Your ideas don't become dogmatic or calcified. You stay nimble and fresh intellectually, which then serves you if you're trying to build something. That's obviously a lot of words, to answer your question, but that's how I've avoided that.

Dave Asprey:

It's a profound answer. I know I was chasing money when I was a young man, because I figured money would mean that I'd be loved, and it would mean that I'd be safe. I didn't think this stuff, you know? These aren't rational thoughts. These are deep-seated, self-conscious emotional things. A lot of people who are chasing money have some message like that, and it's usually around love, safety, being wanted, and just all sorts of weird stuff that is tied into neurochemistry, and tied into early childhood experiences that happen even in the best of families, where something happens and you get this little seed that grows in there, and suddenly you're like, "Okay, I'm going to have some money. I'll finally be good enough." Or whatever. "I'll finally prove it to something." But you don't think the thought. You feel the emotion about that, and it drives your behavior, and you're like, "Why am I doing this?"

I, like you, it's to the point where there's studies. If you make about \$75,000 a year, another dollar will not change your happiness one bit. Having your basic needs met does improve your happiness, but it doesn't mean you're a good person or not a bad person. It doesn't mean you're happy or not happy. Certainly struggling to make sure you have enough food and clean water does reduce happiness, but beyond that, if you don't have a mission and a vision, why? Why are you doing it? I appreciate that you figured that out, and you shared it so eloquently. I wish someone had told me that when I was 25. It would have saved me a lot of work.

Tom Bilyeu:

You and me both.

Dave Asprey: That's one of the reasons I do what I do, and I think that's why you do what you do, also.

Tom Bilyeu: No question.

Dave Asprey: You talk about 25 growth mindsets with Impact Theory. We're not going to talk about all 25 in this interview, because that would probably bore the heck out of people if we tried to cram them all in in an hour, but I picked out a few of them that I thought were particularly useful, and one ties in to humility, that you just talked about, where you know that you know what you know, but you also know there's things you don't know, and you're willing to absorb them.

Your principle number 13 is that everything or everyone has something to teach you, so learn from whoever you can. Tell me a couple examples of times where you learned something either from someone famous or some unexpected person that completely changed your trajectory.

Tom Bilyeu: I will tell you that working in the inner cities at Quest, that was a very surprising thing. I'd never really put two and two together, but when you're manufacturing, you're going to go into an area that's an industrial zone. Those are almost exclusively in underprivileged areas. Your work force is gonna be people from the surrounding neighborhood, and they're gonna have grown up relatively hard. We were manufacturing in Compton in the early days of Quest, and the people that were coming in and working for us had just grown up insanely hard. One of the things that they taught me that they didn't necessarily intend to teach me was the power of hope. Seeing somebody go, that's never had hope before in their life, and see them suddenly realize, "Whoa, I can do something more with my life. This is incredible." Seeing how hard somebody is willing to work for their family, when they've had nothing. Like, that taking care of your own and really sacrificing and doing things to take care of your family, there were just amazing stories of that within the company. That was incredible.

What have I learned from somebody famous? For some reason, Michael Strahan jumps to mind. He wrote a book called Wake Up Happy, and he's a guy that I've had the very good fortune of getting to know well off-camera. He really is like that all the time. This guy has an optimistic, upbeat life that is just unbelievable, and he talks about, "It's all about your perception, and that perception is a choice." If you choose to see the negative, you're going to see the negative, but if you choose to see the positive, and you wake up every day saying, "How am I going to make this a great day?" When that becomes your frame for the day, it really is incredible. That, I have adopted deeply in my life.

Tony Robbins, another famous person, gave me some advice when I was young, just through his books. I didn't meet him until ... God, I guess three years ago. That was the concept of, "If you change the questions you're asking yourself, you will change the trajectory of your life." Then he said, "Take the worst thing that's ever happened to you and ask yourself the simple and honest question, 'How is that thing the best thing that ever happened to me?'" That goes back to

that Strahan notion of perspective is everything. Once you can stop looking at that moment as something that was truly damaging, and acknowledging, "Yeah, it was." That side is just as real, but it's also almost certainly given you something.

When you look at that ... I'll just go right to one of the hardest things for people that were abused growing up. So many of them say, "I'm gonna be the one that breaks the cycle. That is never going to happen under my watch." And they end up being extraordinary friends, parents, because they've just got that line that for them simply cannot be crossed, and they understand how damaging it is, and they can really be a resource for other people that are going through something similar, so it's just incredibly, incredibly powerful. One of the people that came on the show, his name is Wes Chapman, had that kind of life, but now because of that, and he'll be the first to say, "Literally, I can't wish to not have gone through it now, because then I wouldn't be in a position to help the people that I'm helping." That to me is just like, you can't change what happened, but you can change the way that you look at it.

Dave Asprey: It's just fundamental gratitude. Same thing with me. I kinda wish I didn't have all the knee surgeries and that I wasn't obese, all this crap I went through, but I wouldn't be a bio-hacker if it wasn't for it, so if you can't find gratitude for your challenges, there's something to do when you go to bed tonight, is find some gratitude for your challenges.

Tom Bilyeu: Yeah.

Dave Asprey: Do you ever go to Tony Robbins events? Have you ever been to one?

Tom Bilyeu: I've been to one, yeah.

Dave Asprey: He invited me to speak at his events this year, at the Unleash the Power Within...

Tom Bilyeu: Nice.

Dave Asprey: His work, his books have changed my life quite a while ago, but I always kind of went, "Oh, maybe he's a marketing guy. Like, who really knows?" I went to his event. I'm like, "Holy crap." I had no idea how deep that stuff is, and how powerful and real it was. I literally, two weeks ago, just finished four days of one of those. On the final day I spoke, but the first three days I just did this whole process. I'm like, "Wow. There's some real magic here with Tony." And so many of the very successful people I know have been influenced by him. It was cool that you brought him up, because he's a good human being.

Tom Bilyeu: He's an amazing ... A good human being, and I actually think his advice is real.

Dave Asprey: Oh, yeah.

Tom Bilyeu: By that, if you take his advice, your life will actually be better.

Dave Asprey: Yeah. It works, which is profound. It's very elegant neurologically, too. I was really stoked that you mentioned him, because he's there when I have a dinner conversation with really successful people. A surprising amount of the time, someone will just bring up something he said.

Tom Bilyeu: Wow.

Dave Asprey: Talk about having a big impact and feeling good about it, so I'm glad he can be an example.

Tom Bilyeu: No question.

Dave Asprey: You also talk about building self-esteem around identifying the right answer, and pursuing it faster than anyone else. Give me some examples. How does that work? How does that tie into self-esteem?

Tom Bilyeu: This was probably the single most important realization that I've ever had. I'm working with these two high-powered entrepreneurs, and I'm like the dumb kid who doesn't know anything about business. I found that really difficult emotionally, because I was constantly feeling badly about myself, because I, up until that moment, prided myself on being smart, and when you pride yourself on being smart, you need to be right. Otherwise, A, are you really that smart? And so I found myself in this position. These guys are just sort of empirically, the data would show, are smarter than me. By that, I mean they process raw data faster than I do. I'm constantly in this position of, they would come up with the right answer faster, and then I would feel badly about myself, and I was like, "Man, this experience is really not great." I would keep arguing for dumb ideas just because they were mine.

I remember one time I finally out-argued them, and I convinced them to do my idea. Now, this was at the time when my sole goal in life was to get rich. Here I am, stated goal: Get rich. I've just convinced them of an idea that I know is worse than their idea, and so now I have this moment of crisis where I'm like, "What do I actually want?" Because if my stated goal is to get rich, and I'm promising my wife, "Look, we're not going to be poor forever. I'm going to make you rich. It's going to be incredible." But here I am arguing for an idea that I know is worse, just to be right. That made me realize, "There's something driving my behavior other than what I think is driving my behavior." I was like, "Do I want to be right, or do I want to achieve my goals?"

In that moment, I realized this is a problem of self-esteem. What's happening is, they make me feel badly about myself because I pride myself on being smart. I need to feel good about myself. I think that just goes without saying, but when I look at suicide rates, it's crazy how many people commit suicides. The second leading cause of death among young men in the US. The number one leading

cause of death among young men in Australia, and that's when you get the false belief that you could never feel good about yourself again. It's a false belief, but nonetheless that's what happens.

I thought, "Self-esteem is critically important, but can I choose what I base it on?" Because if I can choose what I base it on, I need to base it on something that's anti-fragile, so Nassim Taleb's notion of being strong, being resilient is not nearly as useful as being anti-fragile. He defines that as, "The more you attack it, the stronger it gets." Like working out in a gym. You're actually tearing the muscle, but as long as you give yourself the rest period, it actually builds back stronger. Wanting to put my self-esteem in a similar situation. I realized if instead of priding myself on being smart, I prided myself on being a learner, being humble, always being willing to sit at somebody's feet and learn from them, and then leverage that to identify the right answer faster than anybody else, and then be the one to put the energy behind the idea.

I began to reward myself emotionally for the times where I'd be fighting for an idea because I believed in it, not the times where I knew that it was wrong. But fighting for an idea I believed in, I really thought it was going to be the thing that would move us towards our goal, someone would say something, and I would realize, "They're right." And I would say, "Guys, I have to admit, I know just 30 seconds ago I was fighting really hard for this idea, but they just convinced me. I think this is the right idea. I was totally wrong." In doing that, you actually build credibility, because people now know you don't fight for an idea just to fight for it. You only fight for something when you actually think it's right. Then I would acknowledge the person whose idea it was, put a ton of energy behind it, try to help them execute in any way that I could, get other people excited about the idea, and so that not only made me feel good, and is anti-fragile, but it also helped us actually push towards our goals.

Dave Asprey: That's a cool way of looking at it. The fear of being wrong, for a lot of people, it's tied directly into, "No one will love me. I'm not a good person. I'm a failure. If I fail ..." You're like, "I could die if I fail." Like, "I can't do that." You're willing to just tell yourself a story that isn't even true, and you're willing to fight, like you said, for something that you know is inferior. You tie that in to being willing to listen, and one of the ... I'm not going to call it "regret." It's not regret anymore. It's a learning experience I had very early in my career. There's a relatively famous venture capitalist guy named Marc Andreessen. You probably know the name.

Tom Bilyeu: Of course.

Dave Asprey: When Marc was a kid, I think he was two years older than me, at University of Illinois, he wrote the first web browser that was out there. Ended up becoming a company called Netscape. I reviewed the first version of that, of his software, for PC Magazine. I was there.

Tom Bilyeu: Wow.

Dave Asprey:

I was the first guy to sell anything over the internet before the browser was created. It was a t-shirt that said, "Caffeine: My drug of choice." I'm in the fray. The difference between Marc, who's a multi-billionaire, and me, who's nowhere near a billionaire, I've worked for a paycheck for the last 20 years, and learned a lot along the way. But the difference between us is that when Marc was 25 or however old he was at the time, he went out to the most senior executives he could find, and he was willing to sit at their feet and learn from them, and he talked with a guy named Jim Clarke, who's the founder of Sun Microsystems, who became one of his board members, and his advisor and mentor, and dozens of other people.

Who else did that? Mark Zuckerberg. Mark, as a kid, like sub-25 ... I hate to tell you, I'm 44 now, so you qualify as a kid if you're under 25, just because your prefrontal cortex doesn't finish baking 'til you're 24, and you're a young adult, but you're still going to make choices that are not the choices of wisdom.

Somehow, these two guys went out and found the biggest, baddest people they could, and said, "Teach me. Show me how to do it." Both of them went on to create billions of dollars for themselves. Me? I was afraid of being wrong. I was afraid of failing, and I did all right. I made \$6 million when I was 26, but I didn't make \$60 or \$600 million like Marc did, or like Mark Zuckerberg or Marc Andreessen. It could just be that my name isn't Mark. I always thought that might be it.

Anyway, these are just examples of young entrepreneurs who did start companies at a very young age, and grew because they followed your principle number 17, around identifying the right answer and pursuing it faster than anyone else, and your number 18, which is building your self-esteem around being right all the time leads you to make poor decisions. I would make decisions out of ego or out of fear, and I would just completely repellent of advice. There's many people in positions of power and authority who desperately want to help people, but they only want to help people who genuinely will receive the help and act on it, because the last thing I want to do and the last thing you want to do is spend two hours of your time mentoring someone who's gonna ignore everything because they're right, and then go off and do what they were going to do anyway. It's a waste of your time. It's a waste of their time.

Tom Bilyeu:

Agreed.

Dave Asprey:

These are examples in my own life where I'm like, "Man, if I would have known about your number 17, number 18, it would have totally changed my career trajectory." But then again, I wouldn't be a professional bio-hacker and wouldn't have started Bulletproof, so I'm not upset about those things, but man, for people listening, they should absorb your principles there. You learned them the right way, and I learned them by watching people, and I can tell you now, some of the things I'm doing with Bulletproof, guys like Jay Abraham, he's one of the top marketing gurus out there, we've become personal friends, and he called

me up. I'm like, "How can I learn from you?" I've learned a ton from him, and just from many others who have done what I'm working to do even 20 years ago, and have decades more experience than me. Like you said, if you're not willing to listen to those people, you're doing it wrong. I love that you spelled it out the way you did.

Tom Bilyeu: Cool.

Dave Asprey: You've got another principle here, Tom. You talk about, "Do not do that which moves you away from your goals." What does that mean?

Tom Bilyeu: Yeah. I'm fiendish about this one. This really sits at the center of my behavior. In fact, if you want to understand me, if you're looking at me from an anthropological standpoint, the first thing you need to understand is, I set a goal, something that I really believe in, really want to achieve, and then all of my behaviors work backwards from that. I'll identify, "Okay, what is the actual path, step by step?" They have to be incremental, executable steps, so that you're not just sort of in the pie in the sky, like, "I want to do this thing, but I have no sense of how I'm actually going to execute against that."

Then what I inevitably realize is that those steps will require me to acquire new skills. I call that the "skill gap." Then I set about identifying what the skills are that are going to let me actually take those steps. I acquire those skills, and then I execute against them. That's really the driver.

Now, the big part of this for me is, it's not just doing what your goals demand. It's believing what your goals necessitate. A lot of people, like if you say, "Okay, I want to whatever." "I'm trying to build a studio, and I want to build a studio bigger than Disney." That's our goal. A traditional narrative studio, done in an a-traditional way, so that we actually have a shot at beating these goliaths, but looking at that and understanding that to pull that off, I have to believe that I can do it. Even if I have no earthly right to believe it, my goal demands that I believe it, because I know just like as a fact, you're only going to attempt that which you believe you can succeed at. If you don't think you can do it, you're not gonna do it. You may acknowledge that as the reason. You may come up with 100 other reasons, but if you can actually believe that ... Not that I'm capable of it today, and that's important.

It's not that I believe I can do it right now, today. It's that I believe I can acquire the skills that will allow me to do it, and because of that, I take the first step, and then I take the second, and the one after that. It's like, even though it's just as terrifying for me as it would be for anybody to say, "Okay, that's your goal, and it's so big, and of course people are laughing at us," and all that. You've gotta have the belief to be able to withstand that, to be able to withstand hitting your first real significant obstacle. To be able to withstand that person that respects you that thinks you're crazy and acting like a fool, right? All of those things, you've gotta have the internal belief system to get through that.

What I find a lot of times is, when I tell people this, "Do and believe that which moves you towards your goals." People are like, "Yeah, but this thing." And I'm like, "Look, I don't value the truth unless the truth serves me and my goals." The problem is, you'll convince yourself that something is true that actually isn't objectively true, but because negative things seem more real, they seem more believable, we're more likely to take that and assimilate it into our worldview, that the propensity for you to believe negative things that are actually false is so much higher than for you to become positively delusional that I would just much rather err on the side, so yeah. I am absolutely fiendish about that. That's one of the most important things any upcoming entrepreneur or any linchpin employee, anybody can figure out first and foremost, is, "What belief does your goal demand of you?" And then you have to cultivate it.

Dave Asprey: I know a few entrepreneurs who actually cultivate a belief that there is a conspiracy out there, and the conspiracy is that, "The world is lining up to give me what I want." There's also a psychological disease around that. It's like the opposite of people who believe the world is out to get them. They believe the world is there to help them. Are you one of those people?

Tom Bilyeu: Yeah. Look, Einstein said that the most important decision any human being ever has to make is whether the universe is working for you or against you. I thought, "That's so fascinating." Because hiding in the question is the fact that it's a choice, and neither is objectively true, right?

Dave Asprey: Exactly.

Tom Bilyeu: The universe isn't out to get you, and it's not out to help you, but if you choose to believe, "You know what? There's actually a wind at my back." It just gives you what you need to try. It's the effort, right? If you start believing it in like a crazy way, and you lose the sense that this is a tool that I'm using, like, "I'm choosing to believe this is true as a mechanism to help me move forward, to take that first step, to begin that long journey." For instance, think about how much you've actually had to put in to learn what you know about body composition, about health, about vitality. Dude, I've dug into your world, so I know, from the organic farm that you live on to make sure that your kids are playing in the right kind of dirt. I mean, it's nuts, right? But it's so powerful to see you learn something, and you act on it.

When somebody has the wind at their back, which you clearly do, which is that you understand that this is a process, it's a physiological, biological process, it can be understood, and because you believe that it can be understood, that you actually take the steps. Now, that's the wind at one's back that I'm talking about. Merely that you believe it can be figured out. You believe that it can be understood, and that it can be understood by you. You're willing to go on what really, man, would ... It must have taken you decades to accumulate all of this knowledge, which you do with passion and enthusiasm, which only fuels the rate at which you get this information and all that. But it starts with that, "This is

doable." If you believed fundamentally it can't be done, you never would have done it.

Dave Asprey: It's funny you say that. I've pissed a lot of people off. This month I was in one of the major men's magazines, and there's an article about ... I don't want to say the wrong one, which is terrible. I haven't seen the physical copy yet, so I don't have it in my head. But there was an article, like, "How old are these crazy people going to live to be?" And then Peter Thiels is 120. I'm like, "I'm gonna do 180." Right? "I want to live 'til at least 180." Then there's [inaudible] like, "Oh, 10,000 years, and I'm going to have the best beard ever when I do that." I don't know if you know [inaudible]. He's a friend with the world's most mesmerizing beard.

People get really mad when you talk about stuff like that. They're like, "Look, if I don't believe I can do it, I'm probably not going to do it, and I'm totally willing to die trying." Right? That's the worst thing that's going to happen.

Tom Bilyeu: Right.

Dave Asprey: Which was probably going to happen at some point anyway. It's that mindset, though, and part of it is, I know I may not make it, but if I can convince my tissues that the universe is conspiring to give me the wind at my back, that I'm absolutely going to do this, it affects my subconscious behaviors. It sounds like you've got a similar line of thinking around that, where you're like, "Okay, I need to believe these things, because if I believe them, it's not just the rational part of me that's affected. It's the behavior parts of me that happen when I don't think about them." Is that fair to say?

Tom Bilyeu: 100%. Dude, so fair.

Dave Asprey: Now, that said, I can tell you when I started Bulletproof, I was a VP of Cloud Security at one of the largest computer security companies out there. I made a quarter million dollars a year, stock options. A brand new son, second child. We'd just moved to a new country. I had depleted most of my savings doing that, and working on a couple startup things, and my wife was like, "Dave, what the hell are you doing?" Like, "This is the worst time ever to start a company." Like just, "You have a good job. Just do that." I'm like, "I know, but I kind of have to do this, because I'm not making a difference in any other job."

It turns out in retrospect, I'm sure she'll tell you, it was the right move to start the company, but I had to overcome internal resistance around that, and family resistance. We've got people listening to this who are saying, "Maybe I should start a company. Maybe I should go and apply for the job." Or, "I should go back to school." Or, "I should do the thing that's going to help me achieve whatever I'm here to do." What do you say to people like that, who are maybe supporting a family, or looking at a scary new startup, or looking at a safe choice versus a risky choice?

Tom Bilyeu:

There's a couple things. One, everything comes down to your value systems. That's gonna drive your behavior. Values and identity drive behavior. You need to stay true to your values, or change them, and then stay true to the new values, but if the thing that you're gonna look back on and value yourself for is entirely predicated around safety and stability, then don't start a company. It's going to be a bad move, and you really will be out of alignment with yourself. Obviously for you, definitively for me, I don't prize safety and security. I believe the mission of ... I think everybody, but certainly I will speak for myself. The whole reason to be alive is to say, "Okay, humans are the ultimate adaptation machines. We are able to thrive in virtually any environment. We do that because we have this amazing physiological and mental ability to adapt to that new environment. Okay, so if we're primed for that more than any other species ever, why would we not take advantage of that?"

I believe the point of life is to see how many skills you can acquire that have utility, and then put that utility to the test in service of something bigger than yourself. Because that's my value system, while obviously I would want to take care of my family, that isn't enough for me. Knowing that this other thing could also ... And look, if I had a family, I would be as careful as I can. I wouldn't do anything reckless. I would keep the job as long as I could, keep the money coming in, and only pivot at that moment when I felt like, "Okay, now is my best chance to actually make it work, and now it's sort of holding that side back by being over here. Whereas in the beginning, maybe that was very useful, now it's not useful." I would look to do that intelligently, but at the end of the day, to really realize my potential, to stay true to my value system, I would have to at least try.

Protect your downside. Richard Branson speaks so beautifully about entrepreneurs that are successful really learn very quickly how to protect their downside, which I would do, but I would never fail to take that risk. It's exactly that risk that ended up paying off for my wife and I when we built Quest, which ended up being very successful. I believe it's going to pay off again now that we're leaving the safety and comfort of Quest, and coming over to something entirely new, and building it from scratch, because it speaks to my core values. I think core values are malleable, and I think people can change them, so it's about looking inward and seeing what's really true for you, what you really want, what you really value in yourself, and adjusting and acting accordingly.

Dave Asprey:

Do you think everyone is cut out to be an entrepreneur? So many people are like "wantrapreneurs," but they're doing it because that's what you're supposed to do. What's your take on the mindset of being an entrepreneur?

Tom Bilyeu:

Well, I believe anybody can develop the mindset of an entrepreneur, but I don't believe that there's any reason to become an entrepreneur if that doesn't feel right for you. To me, asking if somebody should be an entrepreneur is like asking if somebody should be a musician. It's like, "If you love it." If you are drawn to that, I'll tell you, I became an entrepreneur because I wanted to control my own destiny. That was my driving force. I really need ... It is my personality. It's

something that's part of my value system. All of it coming together. I can't have a boss. I just can't. I have a real problem with authority. It's a thing for me.

Also, a huge thing for me is, I need to know that the more effort I put in, the more problems I effectively solve, that I can make more money. That's important to me. Just knowing all of that, it doesn't work in a traditional work environment where unless you're the sales guy, and even then there's usually caps and restructures and all that, that happen inevitably. The one way I knew I can control my destiny, I live and die by my abilities, and I actually love that my house is on the line at all times, that if I fail, hey, it all goes away. I love that. I love knowing I am playing a high-stakes game where my skillset matters, right? Going back to my vision of what the meaning of life is, to acquire skills that have utility, right? I want to know, "Are the skills that I'm acquiring, do they actually work?" And when they work and you're like, "Holy hell. I was able to make something of this." And dude, you must feel this more than most. When you first started talking about high fat, you sounded like a crazy man to pretty much everybody, right?

Dave Asprey: Yup.

Tom Bilyeu: You understood it. You understood what was happening from a metabolic standpoint, and because of that, you had a true north. You could keep pushing forward. You knew what you were trying to build. Slowly the world starts catching up. I mean, you just really played the right hand of an entrepreneur. It wasn't about the money. It was about the belief system. It was about what you were trying to create, bring to the world. You knew what your mission was. It was just amazing.

Dave Asprey: Oh, thank you.

Tom Bilyeu: Your life in every way, shape, or form is a reflection of that, so it's like, you're totally authentic, wonderfully transparent. You're trying to add value. I mean, just go to your shopping cart, and you can see, all the products are designed to add value. All the informational products are designed to add value. Even the stuff like the full body shaker. They're all things that are consistent with your belief system about how to optimize. There's no hole to poke in you. People may say you're wrong, but no one's gonna say that you're lying. No one's gonna say that you're just trying to monetize. You can attack you from every angle, and you're just going to find the same person standing there. Because you're so consistent.

That's where it's like, that's this new world of entrepreneurship that we live in, that makes me so excited about where we're headed, but no. I don't think it's a true north for everybody. I think some people really do prize security and safety, and that's perfect, right? If you really think about it, if everybody wanted to be an entrepreneur, it all falls apart, right?

Dave Asprey: Yeah.

Tom Bilyeu: I've got people on this team, they're incredible, and without them, we could not do what we're gonna do, but we can't all be the one running the show.

Dave Asprey: It's totally true. I know some people who want to be an entrepreneur because that's what they're supposed to do, but they haven't developed either the mental toughness or just the, "I'm going to do it and I don't care if I'm not supposed to" mindset that's a part of it, at least in my experience of being an entrepreneur.

Tom Bilyeu: Totally agree.

Dave Asprey: It's funny, you talked about people calling you a liar. Any entrepreneur will face doubters and things like that. The cool thing is, every time someone says that you're going to not succeed, or they say, "You're a liar." Or whatever else they say about your belief systems and whatever else, they're still saying your name. It's like, "Say my name. Just say my name."

Tom Bilyeu: Right.

Dave Asprey: And it actually works, because people are talking about it. If your ideas have merit, and if they're backed by science and they actually work, it works out at the end of the day. If you're an entrepreneur who's, "I'm going to build something that provides no value for anyone," and there are entrepreneurs who sort of do that and just go like, "I'm going to re-label something and sell enough of it on Amazon so I can go live on an island, and work a couple hours every month." You're probably not adding a lot of value to the world, but you probably can make enough money to live, but that's not really an entrepreneur in the way that I think you and I are talking about the term, right?

Tom Bilyeu: Correct.

Dave Asprey: You talk about mindset hacks. Sorry. You talk about mindset hacks. Three mental upgrades you'd recommend. Do you have those at the front of your mind? I took notes when I was going through to prepare for the show, but you want to talk about some of your favorite mindset hacks?

Tom Bilyeu: Yeah. I mean, I don't know that these will be the same three that I said then, but my first for me ... These are the things that I did. One, prioritizing sleep. I'm actually a little uncomfortable with this becoming part of my persona, but people think that I just get absolutely no sleep, which isn't true. I don't set an alarm. I haven't set an alarm in like 15 years, which is probably part of why I wake up when I wake up. I get between five and six hours. I'll sleep 10 if that's what I need. I don't have an alarm. There's nothing that's going to stop me. I sleep as much as I need every night. It's typically between five and six hours, and prioritizing sleep was a big breakthrough for me, because I just don't do

well. I'm not cognitively optimized when I'm tired, and I find that a unique form of misery.

When you take up to an alarm and it wakes you up in the wrong part of your sleep cycle, it is so hateful. I just hate it. Starting my day off that nastily is just gross. I go to bed really early. That's hack number one. Just go to bed early, sleep as long as you need, no alarm.

Hack number two for me is the gym. Now, I hate the gym. I want to make that abundantly clear. I do not enjoy anything about it. My wife loves it. The act of working out for her is amazing, and when we're on vacation, she's like, "To enjoy my vacation, I want to keep working out." I am the exact opposite. The level of physical exertion, the way that I feel, I just don't enjoy it. But going back to cognitively optimizing, the research on this so clear. If you want your mind to be sharp, your body's gotta be sharp. Then to your point, I want to live quite literally forever. As Woody Allen said, "I don't want to live forever through my works. I want to live forever by not dying." That is the live forever I'm looking for, and I know there's a lot that has to happen between now and then.

Dave Asprey: Do you have one of those ... Do you have a bracelet? Are you gonna like freeze your body in case you die?

Tom Bilyeu: I don't.

Dave Asprey: I don't either.

Tom Bilyeu: My thing is ...

Dave Asprey: That's not how I want to live.

Tom Bilyeu: Right? I would rather just live long enough naturally to get to the point where whatever problem has to be solved to actually allow us to live forever, we solve that problem.

Dave Asprey: There you go.

Tom Bilyeu: I'm trying to be as good to my body as humanly possible.

Dave Asprey: That's a great strategy.

Tom Bilyeu: Yeah. That's my ... Was that two hacks?

Dave Asprey: Yeah.

Tom Bilyeu: Then I'll give you a third one: Meditating. Meditating for me has been transformative, and that I avoided doing it for years because it made me feel effeminate. I'll be honest. It just didn't seem right, and then I met Mark Divine,

who's a Navy SEAL, who is basically like, "Look, dumbass. You need to meditate. It has nothing to do with being weak." He was like, "It is such a useful tool to getting the mind out of fight or flight, turning off the sympathetic nervous system, getting into the parasympathetic nervous system." Hearing it like that, I was like, "Okay, now I get the mechanism. I get what this is trying to do." I started meditating, and that has been unbelievably useful for me, because it gets rid of what I call background radiation. The sort of thoughts, worries, anxiety, all that. It just builds to a level that becomes to ubiquitous and ever-present you forget that it's there until you meditate, and it drops to absolute zero. It's like, "Now I have the space to hear myself. My mind is quiet. I can actually hear a thought. I can put together unique ideas." Very, very transformative for me.

Dave Asprey: Mark's been a guest on Bulletproof Radio a couple of times, and it's awesome when you see a Navy SEAL, like the ultimate tough guy, like, "No, actually you have to meditate." It's very different than, "You have to put on your sports bra to meditate." Because I've found that that doesn't actually work for me as well either.

I do have to say, for Mark Divine, the guy has a porn star name, and he's a Navy SEAL, and I've always been afraid to tell that to him to his face, because he'd probably kill me, but in the meantime, I can say it here in case he ever hears this. Mark, if you're listening, man, thank you for your work, but your name is the most badass name ever. Thumbs up.

Tom Bilyeu: It is. It is pretty badass.

Dave Asprey: He runs SEAL Fit, so if you're listening and you haven't checked out Mark's work, you should check it out, because he'll kick your ass in a good way with some of his workout programs and his meditation stuff. It's very legitimate, and it's cool you brought up Tony, you brought up Mark, all these- That's the third Mark on the show that was really successful, so there's something about the name Mark that makes you successful and tough I guess.

Tom Bilyeu: Very true. Right?

Dave Asprey: I don't know. Now, I was going to ask you top three recommendations for kicking ass at life so you can be more bulletproof, but I think you just answered those when I was talking about your mindset hacks. Is there anything else you'd add to that list? If someone came to you tomorrow and was like, "Look, Tom, I want to perform better at everything as a human being. What's the most important?" What would you tell them?

Tom Bilyeu: Yeah. I'll give you two more. One, self-talk matters so much I can't tell you. Getting really good at self-talk. That is probably the most overlooked thing in success. The people that really go on to do something special are people that can self-soothe very, very quickly, so they know how to talk themselves through

a difficult time, that it doesn't become a major stumbling block. They don't get stuck in something, that they can quickly move past emotional defeat. That's just really, really important.

Then the other is, always be reading. I'm a huge believer in books, and I know you have a new book, which we should be promoting right now. You have a copy you can put on screen?

Dave Asprey: Headstrong.

Tom Bilyeu: Dude, honestly, people should read it. Reading, reading, reading, because they can now learn what's taken you 20 plus years to learn. They can read it in like a week. It's crazy. I love that, and I'm so grateful to every author that's ever taken the time to share their notion, and when I think about what has allowed culture to accelerate so rapidly, it's that, right? There's so much knowledge out there that now, especially with the internet, anything you want to learn about, and in fact, something that I am dedicated to becoming one of the world's foremost experts on right now, because I needed to help me wife, will resonate with you, because you already are one of the world's foremost experts on this, which is the microbiome.

Dave Asprey: Oh, nice.

Tom Bilyeu: My wife struggled very, very profoundly with that, and it was just unbearable to watch her, and it was making me feel like a failure as a husband that I wasn't able to solve this problem, and so finally I just said, "The doctors aren't helping. They all have their area of expertise. They're not taking a functional approach to this, so I'm just going to have to learn about it myself." I went in hardcore, just started reading primers, and defining every term I came across that I didn't understand, and now getting to the point where I'm actually beginning to understand the stuff, to the point where now I would have known better not to go to a doctor unless they're already in this area, and really can understand it.

That notion of, don't just read to aimlessly read. I'm talking about picking something that you want to get great at, going deep, researching, learning, and then executing against what you're learning.

Dave Asprey: Beautiful. That was a great piece of advice, and the way you put it there around, look, you're getting thousands and thousands of hours compressed into like four hours of reading. The return on investment there is actually higher than for listening to this episode, just because-

Tom Bilyeu: It's crazy.

Dave Asprey: Every word you write, it is amplified so much that you write really carefully if you're writing a quote, "real book." Do you have a book coming out sometime?

Tom Bilyeu: I do. It should be out somewhere between summer and fall of 2018.

Dave Asprey: All right. Well when the time comes, I'll have you back on the show so we can talk about your book, because I'm sure it'll be fascinating. You're thinking about and structuring information about things that have helped you get where you are, and sharing it in a really impactful way, almost like you have an Impact Theory.

Tom Bilyeu: [crosstalk]

Dave Asprey: I appreciate that about you, and thanks for being on Bulletproof Radio. It was really fun to connect with you again, and to get to dig inside your head and see what you've done, and to provide some real actionable tips for people, so thank you.

Tom Bilyeu: Awesome. Thanks for having me on, man. It really was an honor.

Dave Asprey: Where can people find out more about Impact Theory?

Tom Bilyeu: @TimBilyeu. The show releases on my YouTube channel, so forward slash TomBilyeu in the case of YouTube, but yeah. I'm there, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, all at Tom Bilyeu, and I'm very active socially. It's actually me, so if you get a like or a comment, a response, anything, it's actually me.

Dave Asprey: Cool. Have an awesome day.

Tom Bilyeu: Thanks, man. You too.

Dave Asprey: If you liked today's episode, there's a couple things you can do. Number one, go to [Bulletproof.com](https://bulletproof.com)/iTunes and just it'll take you literally one second. Leave a review. Just click the star, and say, "This show matters. I got something good out of today's episode." That'll help other people find it, and you'll actually do a solid for me. You'll do a solid for everyone else who sees it. Same time, while you're at it, you can go to Amazon and pick up a copy of *Headstrong*. If you already have a copy, leave a review. It's one of the simplest things you can do. I read all the reviews. It really matters, because when people see a review, it tells them that it's worth their four hours to read the book to get the 10,000 plus hours that went into the book. But if you don't talk about it, they're like, "I don't know. Should I read it? Should I not read it?" So I'd appreciate it if you'd go and you'd do that now. Just go to Amazon and look up "*Headstrong*" and leave a review.