Dreams to Reality

This isn’t about the dreams that you have while sleeping. Let’s focus on the dreams you have for your life. When I was young, I dreamt of being a really good guitar player. Not necessarily Eddie Van Halen, just a very good guitar player. I’ve always been a realist - I recognize talent is a factor in this type of pursuit. With fifty years of practice and playing under my belt, Eddie still has nothing to worry about, but I really enjoy myself when I’m playing, and I’m not all that bad.

If what you want is just a dream or fantasy, you are really looking for something for free – just call it what it really is, a wish. Like, I wish I was rich. Now you just have to wait till somebody comes along and gives you a truck load of money. I can’t say it couldn’t happen, but I can say it’s not very likely.

How do you convert that wish or that dream into a reality? First, you have to believe it’s possible, and then you have to put a plan together. You’ll need clear goals and objectives and a realistic timeline to get there. Let’s use the guitar example. I wanted to be a proficient guitar player.

The first approach – wish a lot about it, get a guitar, lean it against your bed, and wake up every morning and see if you can play it yet. What’s going to happen? Zilch…..a dusty guitar.

The second approach – decide you are going to become a proficient guitar player. Lay down a realistic plan, follow the plan and truly believe you can attain your goal. Getting to the point of truly believing in yourself, that your goal can be realized, may be as difficult as actually learning to play the guitar. The next hard part is taking that first step. It’s a tough journey and you have spend the practice time it takes to get there (or fill in the tasks associated with reaching your goal) . Measure your progress. Modify the plan if need be – but stick with it. Goals beat dreams any day. With clear goals, a good plan, hard work, patience, and follow through – all carried out with passion - and I can promise, you will reach the goal. Happy Trails

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