

# Have you ever noticed **HOW OFTEN SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING EXTERNAL?**

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Something "out there", reserved for someone else. Maybe it was money, or job title, or perhaps what looked like the "perfect life" (whatever that is). But it was always something just out of reach, and always on a timeline. Or a deadline. Or both.

Our expected timeline for success is almost always wrong. We think success is linear, following a pattern, the result of hard work. And success is scheduled to show up on Thursday at 4:00pm. Then life happens. Your appointment with success gets moved up, or moved out, or moved onto someone else's calendar. Have you ever said or heard these phrases before?

- We should be back to work by now
- I should be married by now
- Other people have been promoted to Vice President – why hasn't that happened to me by now?
- I should be living in Manhattan Beach / driving a fancy car / owning my own business by now.

Does any of that sound familiar? Probably. Does any of that sound joyful? No, not really. Labeling your life with a "by now" tag is a recipe for suffering, not success.

What we should be able to do, by now, or how we should feel, by now, is a source of either pressure or discouragement. Either option is a choice to make ourselves feel bad, no matter how you slice it. Does it help your performance when you put more pressure on yourself? How's that pressure and discouragement helping you to feel more successful? Take two words away and it gets more realistic. More right now. Subtract "by now," and you're on to

something.

Success doesn't always come in a sequence. When we let go of our preconceptions about what success looks like, that's when we see it. When success is free to show up in whatever order and at whatever time – even unannounced – that's when it is most welcome.

We make the mistake of putting success on our to-do lists. We think success is best checked off after work hours, on weekends and on vacations.

Success is about freedom. Freedom from what others say success really is. Freedom—and permission—to say "no" to the things that don't serve you. Freedom from the timelines and the obligations that others give us. Or, often, the obligations we put on ourselves.

And that's the message inside of Wall Street Journal Best Seller, *Success From Anywhere*. The book is an invitation to pursue your freedom. The freedom to choose the work model that makes the most sense. The freedom to choose your own values. And the pathway to bring your values to life, as you make new discoveries about the true nature of success.

Success happens one individual – one person – at a time. Success is available to anyone, anywhere, anytime. And it's time to change the game. Because organizations win when people win. When the players see a new game is possible, new results follow.



[The RV Podcast featuring Karen Mangia](#)

