

Epilogue

Epilogue: The author begins this reflective epilogue by recounting a pivotal moment in her life when she was approached by *60 Minutes* for an interview. This request took her by surprise and led her to ponder the many influences and aspirations that had shaped her journey. She had grown up watching the show since its inception in 1968, making it a familiar part of her life, and never imagined being asked to be part of such an iconic program. As the production team led by producer Michael Karzis carried out extensive research about her life and career, the author found herself anxious about how she would present her personal history on such a prominent platform. The pressure to accurately reflect her experiences intensified as she prepared for the interview, causing her to evaluate the significance of her accomplishments and how she had arrived at this point in her life.

When the interview finally began, the author couldn't help but reflect on her own approach to her work, particularly her long-running television series *Be My Guest*. She had always aimed to make her guests feel comfortable and at ease, a technique she took great pride in. As the interview progressed, the author was challenged by Sharyn Alfonsi, an Emmy Award-winning correspondent, who observed that her success had not come solely from luck, but from strategic planning, hard work, and business savvy. This observation forced the author to reconsider her own views about the role of luck in her achievements. For the first time, she questioned whether it was truly luck that had led to her success or if it had been her commitment to hard work and careful preparation all along.

The discussion continued after a Matrix Award event, where the author shared her experience with notable figures such as Oprah and Lesley Stahl. During their conversation, the author shared her belief that luck had played a significant role in her success. Oprah, however, challenged this notion by encouraging the idea that one

must actively create their own luck. Lesley Stahl also chimed in, pointing out that women often attribute their accomplishments to luck, while men are more likely to credit their success to talent. This conversation deeply resonated with the author, prompting her to examine the reasons behind the disparity in how success is perceived across genders.

The narrative took another turn when the author spoke with renowned director Rob Marshall, who shared a powerful piece of advice from Liza Minnelli: "Be ready when the luck happens." This remark left a lasting impression on the author, as it suggested that luck is not merely a random occurrence, but something that can be welcomed and capitalized on if one is prepared. The author realized that while hard work and determination were essential to her journey, the ability to recognize and seize opportunities when they arose was equally important. This new perspective shifted her understanding of success, revealing that it is not a matter of waiting for luck to appear, but of positioning oneself in a way that makes it possible to embrace it when it does.

In closing, the author concluded that success does not have one clear-cut path. Instead, it is the result of a balance between passion, persistence, and the readiness to embrace those serendipitous moments when they come along. She emphasized that focusing on the present, enjoying the work at hand, and remaining open to opportunities are the keys to being prepared for when luck strikes. Ultimately, the realization that both effort and timing play integral roles in success gave the author a renewed sense of purpose and gratitude for the journey she had undertaken. This epilogue serves as a reminder that success is not just about working hard, but also about staying ready and open to the unexpected moments that may change the course of one's life.