

Reading the Tea Leaves: Your Future Is Built Today

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People love to say "*The future is bright,*" like it is some reward waiting patiently on the horizon. But here is the truth most avoid:

There is no dream. There is no guarantee.

Your future does not care about your intentions. It only responds to one thing — **your actions**. Not what you hope for. Not what you talk about. What you do. Again and again.

I work with Olympic athletes, elite soldiers, and world class business leaders. Not one of them got there by chance. They are not lucky. They are not special. They are prepared. They do the work. Without fanfare. Without shortcuts. They wake while others sleep. They show up when others stay home. They do not wait until they are ready. They train until they cannot fail. They know this truth: **success is never owned — it is rented. And the rent is due every single day.**

Peter Vidmar, the first gymnast to score a perfect ten on the pommel horse, once told me his winning formula:

ROV — Risk, Originality, Virtuosity.

It is brutal in its simplicity:

- **Risk** — Take the leap. Stop planning to death. Stop playing safe. If you never risk, you never grow.
- **Originality** — Do it your way. The world does not need copies. The best set the standard. They do not follow it.
- **Virtuosity** — Master the basics. Obsess over them. Make the ordinary look like magic. That is where greatness lives.



You can read all the books. Watch every motivational video. But if you are not risking, creating, and mastering, then you are not moving. You are treading water. Reading the tea leaves is not mysticism. **It is mindset.** Your future is not in the stars. It is in your calendar. In your habits. In your choices. It is in what you do when no one is watching. It is in what you tolerate, what you repeat, and what you let slide.

Ask yourself today:

- What are you doing that drives you forward?
- What are you still doing that holds you back?
- What truth are you avoiding because it makes you uncomfortable?

The top performers do not leave the future to chance. They build it. Day by day. Risk by risk. Rep by rep.

Three Things to Reflect On

- *Your future is not a lottery ticket. It is a scoreboard.*
- *If you are not risking, you are repeating.*
- *Ordinary done well beats brilliance done once.*

Your future is watching. Show it that you mean business.