

Journal Summary

Reading back through my journal entries it's interesting to see how certain movements have shaped the way I view the world. Each situation taught me something new. Whether it was the time I got lost or when I had to climb a wall during a race. As I look toward the next stage of my life, I realize these lessons aren't just about surviving. As I look back I realize these stories aren't just experiences but life lessons. It is about being able to grow and adapt to any situation that I face in the future.

I think at first, of the time I got lost at the zoo. I was wandering around with my head down, completely zoned out. At some point, I looked up and realized I had no idea where I was. Perk of being tall when young though I was able to look over a fence and see the buses for my camp. At that moment, I knew I had found my way back to the entrance. I followed the path back and there I found my group waiting for the buses. The funny thing is, getting lost at the zoo didn't just teach me how to navigate the space around me. It taught me how to stay calm, stay aware, and use the resources around me to figure things out. I've learned that when you're lost, you don't need to panic, you need to stop and assess your options. And then, keep moving forward.

Then there was my trip to Spain. It was a huge change for me. The main difference was I don't speak any Spanish. The language barrier was a big deal, but the moment I stepped off the plane there were many other differences. The food, the people, the weather, the whole vibe in general. It felt complex at first every interaction, from ordering food to figuring out the train system was a challenge. The trip pushed me out of my comfort zone and now because I've experienced it, I feel more confident navigating for the next time I go back. It was a drip or drown situation, the feeling of being uncomfortable is just part of getting better. I plan on putting myself in similar situations when trying to learn.

There was this one moment I'll always remember from the Spartan Race. I had to climb a 12 foot wall. I'm not as tall as I am now, so the thought of scaling this giant wall didn't seem like something I could easily do. But as I watched other people attempt it first, their struggles gave me the confidence to try. And when it was my turn, I climbed that wall just as easy. It wasn't perfect, but I got over it. It's funny to think if I did that same wall now it would be so much easier. I've gotten stronger, mentally and physically. That experience showed me something important: it's not always about being the biggest or the best. It's about being persistent and I can apply that to anything now.

Looking ahead, I've been thinking a lot about my goals in life. I want to have a lot of money, not just rich for the sake of it, but financially free. I want the kind of freedom

where I'm not constantly worrying about money. It's more about having the ability to choose what I do with my time, to travel when I want, to invest in things that matter, and not be tied down. It's going to take discipline, smart investments, managing my time, and a strong work ethic. But I'm up for it. The key is to keep my eyes on the long term prize, even when things feel challenging. Once I gain this financial independence and security, I know money will still be in the back of my mind, no matter how much I have. I'm not entirely sure why that is. Maybe it's how I was raised, maybe it's just how I think, but it's something that I've come to accept. The first thing I would do after becoming financially stable isn't to relax or spend big, it's to invest it. That's the entire reason I took four years of business courses and focused so heavily on finance. I didn't study markets and strategies for nothing. I want my money to grow in ways that go beyond just having a big number in a bank account. I want to build something real and long lasting. I want to have money moving in so many different directions that it would make your head spin—in real estate, stocks, businesses, maybe even areas I haven't discovered yet.

But money isn't the only thing I plan to focus on. My physical health is just as important. No matter where I end up in life or what I end up doing, I want to be as strong and athletic as I possibly can. That's always been a big part of how I see myself, and it's something I'll never let go of. For me, being fit isn't just about looks or performance, it's about discipline, mindset, and having control over your body the same way you try to have control over your finances. Financial strength and physical strength go hand in hand in the life I want to live: one that's free, capable, and constantly improving. When it comes to family, I've thought about it a lot. Right now, I don't see myself chasing after the idea of starting one just for the sake of it. If I meet someone special along the way, then I'll be open to it. But I won't force it. I've already got a family that I care about, and if I never start my own, I'll still take care of the people I already have in my life. To me, being successful also means being able to support and give back to the people who supported you along the way. That's a responsibility I'll gladly take on, whether I have a partner and kids someday or not. So if I'm asked how I'll "wield" financial freedom, the answer is this: I'll use it to double down on my goals. To keep growing wealth, to stay in peak condition, and to care for the people who matter to me. For some people, financial freedom means slowing down. For me, it means speeding up, it means freedom to pursue everything I've ever wanted to do, without having to ask permission or wait until the time is right. I don't want to retire early and do nothing. I want to work on what excites me, what challenges me, and what brings value. I want to build something that lasts and live in a way that never settles.

I found myself thinking about that zoo story again in Week 10, when we talked about getting lost. Even though it was just a moment that happened when I was a kid, it's something I've carried with me. I think this is because I rarely have ever gotten lost.

Now reflecting on it I think this moment is telling me to look at what you have around you, even when everything feels off course. Being lost doesn't last forever, you just need to assess where you are and how to get where you want to go. This requires a bit of patience and a little strategy but it makes things seem more manageable.

To summarize these journal entries, when I read back through them I realize how each one has contributed to the person I'm becoming. Getting lost at the zoo, pushing myself in a race, navigating a new culture, each experience was more than just a moment. They were all lessons in how to be persistent and in figuring out how to keep moving even when things aren't easy. I'm interested in what's next for my life, but with these lessons in my pocket, I feel more ready. I'll keep pushing myself, learning, and staying focused on my goals. It's all about embracing the journey.