

The Last Lecture

The Last Lecture is one of the best speeches I've ever listened to. Randy Pausch was a brilliant speaker, engaging, funny, and well articulated. At first I wasn't sure where exactly the talk was going or what the point of it was, but the further it went on, the more impactful it became. It really was a head fake as Pausch reveals at the end.

At the beginning we were told the speech is about achieving our childhood dreams, which is a strong motivator for pushing us to achieve what we want in life and doing something that makes us happy and successful (hopefully). As Pausch points out though, sometimes we'll hit brick walls that'll stand in our way. This part especially stood out to me. Many times in my life I've questioned whether or not I can really achieve what I want, as I keep seeming to hit these brick walls, things telling me maybe I don't have the talent or resources to get where I want to be. It can be disheartening, and I don't think I quite realized until I watched this video that these things stopping me are brick walls. The thing with brick walls though, as Pausch points out, is that while they may stand in your way there are ways to get past them as long as you persevere and I keep trying.

Hearing Pausch talk about his own experiences encountering brick walls was really motivating to hear. In the end though, the most important thing I took away from the video, is that it isn't just about following your own dreams. It's also about helping others with theirs and being able to positively affect others lives.