

I found several things from the video, the ‘Last Lecture’ particularly profound and informing. To start I liked how he approached the topic achieving goals and framed it through his recent cancer diagnosis, or rather didn’t. Instead of approaching the topic from the standpoint of a classic terminal illness story or spiritual and religious awakenings he went at it from the point of dreams. He started at childhood dreams which is something every kid has. I think this is great because it shows as kids we identify values and goals more simply and dreams don’t seem so unreachable. I also thought it was interesting that his dreams could be fulfilled even if they didn’t technically happen. For example when he talked about his experience with playing football in high school and wanting to join the NFL but obviously didn’t. Even though he didn’t play in the NFL the experiences of playing when he was young continue to impact and help him in his daily life and so the dream of football still lived on in some sense. Another thing that impacted me was how he repeated the phrase, ‘Brick walls are there to stop people who don’t want it badly enough’. I think it is very true and an important lesson. Throughout life we will all consistently have brick walls, in fact we should anticipate them. However they are not meant to put us down but rather help us prove how much something means to us and to shape our attachment to our dreams. If dreams were easy they wouldn’t be dreams. Additionally I think the challenges in our lives when trying to accomplish something only serve to grow our experience and capabilities. When the next brick wall inevitably comes we are more prepared and adept to handle it. This skill is something crucial for those who dream big because the path is not easy. Overall I liked his creative solutions that he came up with to solve the challenges in his life. I think that’s the most important takeaway I gathered