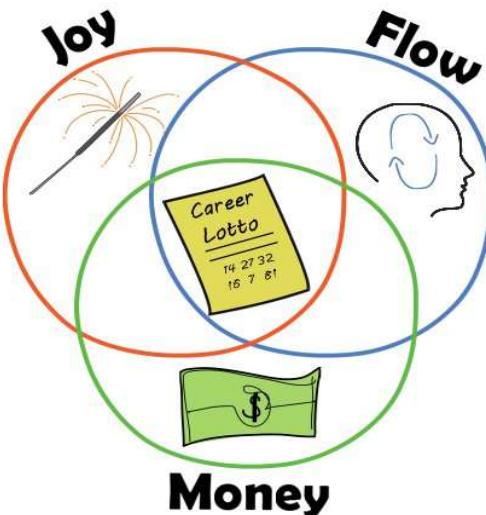


Insights from Born for This by Chris Guillebeau

"Work isn't everything in life, but we spend a great deal of our lives at work. Some people, it seems, really do have it all. These people take to their working roles as if it's the absolute best possible fit for them—it's as though they were born to fulfill a certain role. If you've ever worked on something you took great pleasure in, yet you also got paid for it, you know what this is about. And if you haven't experienced this career bliss yourself, you may have observed it in others." – Chris Guillebeau

"People who are most successful have found the perfect combination of joy, money, and flow. They've won the career lottery—and they don't have to choose between their money and their life. Above all else, finding the work you were meant to do should be your number one career goal." - Chris Guillebeau



How to Win the Career Lottery



Work on Your Side Hustle

"Think you're too busy for another project? Whether busy or not, ask yourself, "Do I have the right balance of joy, money, and flow in my life?" If you want an outcome different from the one your current path is leading to, somehow you'll have to find the time. Being too busy may be the new social currency, but the real winners find time to do what matters to them." - Chris Guillebeau

Start your search for the career lottery ticket by using your spare time to focus on side projects. Select side projects that allow you to expand your skillset and your social network. Use your spare time to develop your 'soft' skills: writing (blogging), public speaking (Toastmasters), conflict management, and follow-up (volunteer for leadership positions).



Actively Listen

While working on your side hustle and developing soft skills, you'll come across specific problems people need help solving.

- Identify these problems by searching for common questions in your email inbox, social media feed, and during daily interactions.
- Ask yourself: "How might I address these questions using my unique skill set?"
- The best questions to solve are questions related to specific problems people struggle with on a daily basis.

"Here's the core principle: when you're not sure what your "thing" is—when you don't know quite where to look to find that job or career that brings you joy, flow, and a good income—the people you talk to every day can help you find it." - Chris Guillebeau

If you can't find a question worth devoting your time to answering, start interviewing and surveying people.

- Set up 15 minutes Skype calls with 100 people and find out what they're struggling with that relates to your current skill set.



Resign Every Year

Sometimes quitting is the smartest thing you can do.

"Once a year, on the date of your choosing, commit to yourself that you will quit your job unless staying put is the best possible choice for you at this time. If it is, that's great—you can proceed with confidence, knowing that you're on the right track. If not, immediately begin looking for something different." - Chris Guillebeau

Don't let sunken costs keep you in a dead-end job! If you were waiting in line at a store for 20 minutes and another register opens up, would you switch lines to check out faster? Most people know the right thing to do in a grocery store, but not in our careers. Once a year, ask yourself: "Is this the best opportunity for me to at time moment?" If so, stay committed no matter how hard it is. If not, take the leap.