

Make Money w/ LBEE

Vol 42

**MODERN
CRAZY**



MEET THE LBEE - LAUREN

Lauren blogs at [LBEE AND THE MONEY TREE](#)

**LAUREN IS SEEN ON
FORBES, BUSINESS
INSIDER, CNN MONEY,
LIFEHACKER, TO
MENTION A FEW.**

**SHE IS THE HOST OF
AWARD WINNING SHOW
- AWKWARD MONEY
CHAT.**

**SHE IS A BLOGGING
COACH, HELPING
OTHERS RUN A
PROFITABLE BLOG.**

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Q: How did you choose your niche in personal finance?

My interest in personal finance was sparked after I spent time working at hedge fund while I lived in New York City. The people I worked with were so financially savvy and I wanted to be more like them!

In my youth I had a lot of problems with managing money and credit card debt.

I was able to work past these issues by committing to learning more about personal finance.

I thought it was a topic that didn't get talked about enough and since it changed my life and outlook, I thought writing about it could do the same for someone else.

Lauren bought a home at age 26
that she net rental income from
each month, She has paid off
\$8400 in just 90 days

Q: Does wealth creation and paying off debt go hand in hand or one must get rid of all the debts before starting to accumulate wealth?

I believe being and feeling wealthy starts first with your mindset. No one ever got rich by having a "Scarcity mentality" toward money.

But yes, paying off debt is a critical first step toward growing your earnings. Whatever you pay in interest is money you don't have in your bank account.

**No one ever got
rich by having a
"Scarcity
mentality"
toward money.**

Q: When and why did you start LBEE & The Money Tree?

I started my blog in the Spring of 2012. I'd just moved back home to Georgia after two years spent living in NYC.

I was unemployed, unsure of what to do or where to go next; definitely in the middle of my "quarter life crisis."

My Mom read an article in USA Today about how millennials could keep job skills sharp while they were unemployed and starting a blog was one of them.

I'd always been interested in writing and with all the free time I had on my hands, it seemed like a good time to start a passion project such as a blog.

From there "L Bee and the Money Tree" was born!

**IN OCTOBER 2014 AWKWARD MONEY CHAT WAS
HONORED WITH THE 5TH ANNUAL PLUTUS AWARD
FOR BEST VIDEO PRODUCTION FOR PERSONAL
FINANCE.**

Please share a little bit about starting your award winning show - Awkward Money Chat.

After blogging for two and a half years I wanted to mix things up on the blog and add a different component besides written content.

I'm a trained actor and have a degree in theater, so video work lines up with my interests and my skill set.

I wanted to do something that tackled the taboos associated with talking about money, but doing it in a new, fresh way.

I also started the series because I wanted a way to cover other individual's money journey and story.

My blog is very much mired in my story and experiences, but "Awkward Money Chat" was a way to add other's voices to the site.

What was the biggest challenge you overcame before your first taste of success?

I coach others who want to blog as a way to make money on the side or build a brand, but first I let them know that nothing happens overnight.

I blogged for almost two years before I ever made any "real money" or got published in any type of big name outlet.

The biggest challenge was finding the courage to keep going even when things didn't seem to be going anywhere.

BEST BUSINESS READ

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