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Life is Too Short: 12 Inspiring Reasons You Should Chase Your Dreams Now

 Dee Dee Patterson Jan 29 · 8 min read ★Photo by [Sharon McCutcheon](#) on [Unsplash](#)

On Thanksgiving morning, November 28, 2019, my mother died in her sleep. She had no idea that it would be her last day. She posted on Facebook the day before that she was looking forward to Thanksgiving.

I talked to her that evening about my day and let her know which relatives were in town for Thanksgiving dinner at my cousin's house. There were no signs that it would be my last time talking to her.

My dad told me she complained her stomach was hurting the previous night. He asked her if she wanted to go to the emergency room. She said if it was still hurting by Friday she would go, but she didn't make it to Friday.

I learned a few lessons from my mother's death. First, if there is a health issue, get help immediately because you never know how serious it is. Second, life is too short. If you have a dream you want to pursue, you should do it now.

Have you always wanted to start a business, monetize your hobby or further your education? If so, now is the time to do it.

My mom was born on 12/12. In honor of her, I will provide 12 reasons why you should pursue your dreams now. Here goes:

12 Inspiring Reasons You Should Chase Your Dreams Now

1. You Don't Know Your Last Day.

Like my mom, no one knows the exact day of their death. Whether you are young or old, you don't know when it is your time to go.

We have seen young celebrities who were thriving in life and then died really young. The death of Los Angeles Lakers Basketball legend, Kobe Bryant, was shocking to everyone.

Although he did not know he was going to die in a helicopter accident at 41, he lived his life to the fullest and focused on what he could control.

"It's the one thing you can control," Bryant said. "You are responsible for how people remember you — or don't. So don't take it lightly," he said.

Like Kobe, since you don't know how much time you have, you might as well live your life to the fullest.

2. You Have One Life.

We all have one life. We should make the best of it. You should pursue your passions and enjoy your one life. You won't get another chance.

Another celebrity who died young was Chadwick Boseman, best known as the star of the *Black Panther* movie. After he was diagnosed with colon cancer, he starred in 7 movies before he died at 43, four years after he was first diagnosed with cancer.

One of my favorite quotes from him came during the 2018 commencement speech at his alma mater, Howard University. He said, "When you are deciding on next steps, next jobs, next careers, further education, you should rather find purpose than a job or a career. Purpose crosses disciplines. Purpose is an essential element of you. It is the reason you are on the planet at this particular time in history."

Boseman focused on his purpose and treasured every moment of his life. You should follow his example and make the most of your life too.

3. You Will Be Happier.

You may be living an unfulfilling life. Instead of being unhappy, you should go after what will make you happy. Essence featured an article of seven women who left their jobs to pursue happiness. One of the women, Melissa J. Martin, left her 9 to 5 job to focus on her photography business. She has no regrets. "For the peace, I have now and the clarity I'm gaining of my purpose, quitting my job was absolutely worth it!" she said in the article.

4. There's Never a Perfect Time.





Eric and Quebe Bradford, owners of Plant Bae (Image: Facebook)

If you are waiting for the perfect time to pursue your dreams, you will be waiting forever. There's never a perfect time. You just need to start.

Eric and Quebe Bradford, who I used to go to church with, started a vegan restaurant in the middle of a pandemic. They already had plans to start the restaurant before the pandemic.

So, even though timing wasn't perfect they launched the restaurant, Plant Bae, which became the first vegan restaurant in Montgomery, AL.

Don't wait for the perfect time to accomplish your dreams. Now is the right time to start going after them.

5. It's Not Too Late Yet.

Someone might think that they are too old to pursue their dreams. If you woke up this morning, then it's not too late. My father joined the military after high school and always dreamed of getting a college degree. He was 66 when he got a bachelor's degree in cybersecurity.

I also read a story about a 99-year-old man getting his college degree. If there is something you always wanted to do, go do it.

6. You Will Inspire Others.





The Six Figure Chick (Image: [Six Figure Chick's Blog](#))

When people see you pursue your dreams, it will inspire others to pursue their dreams. Then we will have a world of dream pursuers. The [Six Figure Chick](#) left her unmanageable job after a cancer diagnosis and became a blogger on Instagram.

Before her untimely death at 34, she earned six figures a month and gained a following of more than 400,000 people, instructing entrepreneurs how to pursue their dreams and maximize their impact on their communities.

Even after her death, The Six Figure Chick's affordable courses are available on her [website](#) for entrepreneurs to learn from her. I took one of the courses called *\$100,000 in 30 Days*. It provided a lot of helpful information.

You never know what your impact will be to those around you. Pursue your dreams.

7. You Might Be Successful.



Ariell Johnson (Image: Facebook)

A reason that many people do not pursue their dream is because they are afraid that they will fail. You could fail or you could be successful. The odds of you failing your dream are 100 percent if you don't try.

Someone who went to my high school, followed her dreams and started a comics bookstore in Philadelphia, PA. Ariell Johnson, owner of [Amalgam Comics & Coffeehouse](#), became the first Black female comic bookstore owner on the East Coast. Her bookstore was named the 2020 Best Bookstore by Philadelphia Magazine.

Like Ariell, give it a chance. Chase your dreams. You might be a huge success.

8. You Will Learn Something New.

Even if you are not perfectly successful with pursuing your dream, you learn something new. What you learn may help you to pursue your dreams a different way in order to be successful. *Business Insider* featured an [article](#) about 29 famous people who failed before they succeeded. You, too, may fail at first but then learn from your mistakes.

9. You Will Overcome Challenges.



Melissa Butler, Founder of The Lip Bar (Image: [The Lip Bar Blog](#))

With any dream you pursue, you will have obstacles that you have to overcome. In *She Did That*, a Netflix documentary about Black women entrepreneurs, Melissa Butler, described her experience on the ABC television show *[Shark Tank](#)*, in which entrepreneurs pitch their business ideas to investors or “sharks.”

Butler pitched her company, [The Lip Bar](#), which is a vegan and cruelty-free beauty brand, changing the standards of beauty. The pitch did not go well.

One shark criticized the purple and green lip colors as unattractive and said that if the bigger companies wanted to use those colors they could, “and they would crush you like the colorful cockroaches you are.”

The offensive comment highlighted the need for a company that challenged the standards of beauty. Butler used that negative experience as momentum to keep going.

Her products ended up being sold in 450 Target stores nationwide. On the Lip Bar Instagram page, she reflected on the success of the company.

“Despite the fact that we were turned down by literally all of the sharks, look how far we have come! We’ve gone from dissed to kissed! Always be true to yourself and follow your dream babes! Anything is possible with determination, hard work, and passion!”

You may have some negative experiences as you chase your dreams. As Butler did, overcome any challenges and keep going after your dreams.

10. You Grow As A Person.





Jamisa McIvor-Bennett (Image: Facebook)

Someone who makes the most out of life, can grow as a person with each experience. That person grows and develops more than a person who plays it safe.

Jamisa McIvor-Bennett inherited her grandmother's house and sold it for a profit. She invested her earnings into real estate. By the age of 26, the millionaire owned 21 properties.

She also became the founder and CEO of Rosebud's Investments, which helps people interested in learning about real estate investments. Her website has real estate courses you can take [here](#).

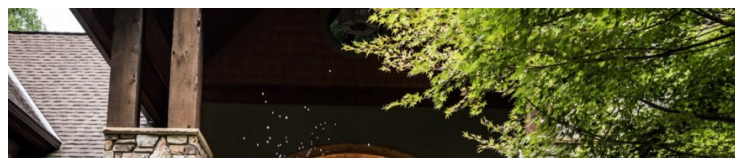
McIvor-Bennett was not an expert in real estate. She learned as she went through the process of buying property. She also invested in her education by attending seminar and conferences. She gained additional information from mentors and by making mistakes.

Like McIvor-Bennett, you do not have to know everything before you start following your dreams. The more steps you take towards your dreams, the more you will grow.

11. You Will Have No Regrets.

In a fascinating book I read about cancer patients, *[Life is a Gift: Inspiration from the Soon Departed](#)* (paid link), the soon departed advised people to live life to the fullest and live a life of no regrets. While on their death bed, they regretted the things they always wanted to do, but never did.

12. You May Leave a Legacy.





Rachel Rodgers celebrating the new ranch purchase on 53-acres of land (Image: [Rachel Rodgers's blog](#))

If you pursue your dream, you may leave a legacy or an inheritance for your children. Rachel Rodgers started a business and 10 years later the millionaire was able to [purchase a ranch on 53-acres](#), which will be passed down to her children.

Rodgers created a business called, [Hello Seven](#), which is a coaching firm with the mission to help women hit seven figures without sacrificing their families and sanity.

Her efforts and achievements will be cherished long after she's gone. You should also chase your dreams and leave a legacy for your children.

Now that you have 12 reasons to accomplish your dreams. What are you waiting for? Get started pursuing your dreams now.

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