

# Survival Guide for an Impossible World



Free  
Happiness Business  
Singles  
Workplace  
Reasons for Good News  
Diets  
Waiting

by Paul T. Owens

*Survival Guide for an Impossible World*

Free

Happiness Business

Singles

Workplace

Reasons for Good News

Diets

Waiting

*Paul T. Owens*

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Published by  
Myron Publishers  
4625 Saltillo St.  
Woodland Hills, CA 91364  
[www.myronpublishers.com](http://www.myronpublishers.com)  
[www.paultowens.com](http://www.paultowens.com)

ISBN:978-0-9824675-2-7  
Printed in the USA

This book is available for purchase in bulk by organizations and institutions at special discounts. Please direct your inquiries to [sales@MyronPublishers.com](mailto:sales@MyronPublishers.com)

Editing by Lee Fields and Jo Ellen Krumm  
Cover, Interior Design, Typesetting by Lyn Adelstein

## What People are Saying About

### *Survival Guide for an Impossible World*

“Well written, too shocking, too realistic.”

—Foster Quarters

“Conservatives and liberals can finally agree on something . . .  
This book.”

—Political Context Forum

“This book will make you live better. Better than who is all  
you have to decide.”

—George G. George

“Finally, a book I should have written myself.”

—Jeremy L.

“Another book you should not read while driving, as it will put  
you to sleep.”

—Melvin Mavan, Triple Digits Driving College

“A real piece of work. I don’t know if it works for you, but it  
worked for me; how well it works for me, I am still trying to  
find out, but read it already.”

—Susan S.

“Congratulations. You found it. You might never find the right  
girl or guy, but this is the right book.”

—Gertrude Zoftick

“I survived. Now what?”

—I. C. Plotz.

## The Author and the Book

Paul T. Owens expands his writing talent to humor with this book, *Survival Guide for an Impossible World*. His credits include features for the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, serving as Senior Staff Writer with the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee for Peter V. Ueberroth, coaching staff writer for the Dallas Cowboys with Tom Landry, biographer of NFL coaches and officials, along with a collection of books with several creative essays. Mr. Owens attended the University of Southern California and Columbia University.

*Survival Guide for an Impossible World* is a satirical quest to identify and explain how to endure within an impossible world. From being single, laughter-only diets, how not to wait for anything, and words you must learn to be successful in the workplace, Owens makes living easier for anyone.

How free do you have to be? The risks of being in the happiness business, reasons for good news, things you must know, and percentages of life you must ponder, are also subjects which make this guide a pleasure.

Other Books by Paul T. Owens:

*Leaners Out of the Wind*, with artist Claudia J. Sobel

*Don't Hit Him, He's Dead*, with John McDonough,  
foreword Deacon Jones

*The Kicking Game*, with Ben Agajanian,  
foreword Tom Landry

*Who's Kicking Now*

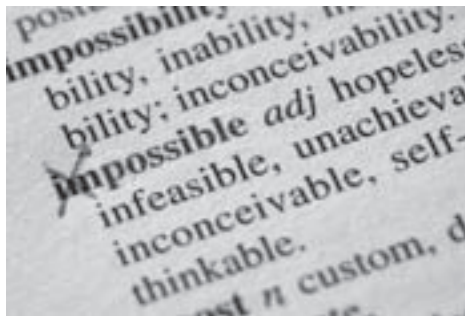
*Sports Joys and Gifts of Play*

*Sports Firsts: Winning Stories*

*Black Language: American Ethnic Speech*, with Professor  
Malachi Andrews

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**How *Free* Do You Want to Be?**  
**How free do you have to be?**

**You are free to be in your own hurry.**  
**You are free to leave a love without blaming or explaining.**  
**Can you be as free as you want to be?**

You are free to believe anything is or was not your fault.

You are free to be taken advantage of.

Free not to overreact to anything.

Free to believe that what just happened did not happen.

Free to thrive on whatever made you happy or makes you unhappy.

Free not to be offended by what others do not do.

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Free to think you can continue to like people when they continue to disappoint you.

Free to let someone else retaliate for you.

Free to be silent, imagining how horrific things would be if you said anything.

Free not to care if others do not follow your ideas.

Free to accept compliments and praise as sincere.

Free to realize that those who do not call you back are people you should have not called at all.

Free to create your own grandeur, and listen to your own applause.

Free to celebrate what did not happen as much as you would if it did.

Free to jump to conclusions.

## *Risks of Being in the Happiness Business*

Free to fly off the handle.

Free to push your own luck.

Free to run away from responsibility.

Free to blame someone else.

Free to take credit for what you want to take credit for.

Free to wait forever.

Free to let serendipity decide where you are going, and who you are.

Free to be jealous of yourself.

Free not to lead, or be led.

Free to say what you would rather not say.

## ☞ Survival Guide for an Impossible World

Free not to have to explain or change your opinion.

Free to constantly redefine perfection.

Free to be continuously distracted.

Free to give too much information.

Free to make major things minor, and minor things major.

Free to realize that everyone else has the right answers for what you should do and how you should feel.

Free to save your spouse from happiness.

Free, but who is going to pay for it?

Free to announce once and for all that enough is enough already.



## **Risks of Being in the Happiness Business**

If you live long enough, you could possibly get out of the need to be in the happiness business, but the chances of you living that long are not that good. Here are reasons for not wanting to be in the happiness business.

With unhappiness everything is possible.

You must have reasons for not wanting to be in the happiness business.

Happiness is overrated and overly unfulfilling.

Happiness is someone else's fiction.

Why must happiness find you?

Unhappiness comes in every size, fits everyone well.

Luck follows happiness. Got Luck?

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Happiness as a profession? What happened?

The job you want is trying to make everyone happy; take it, you will be the most unhappiest of all.

The most fortunate are those who do not choose to be happy.

There is no equity in happiness. Mortgages are still due.

Happiness eliminates responsibility. Why would you not want to have responsibility?

Unhappiness breeds unhappiness. My horse likes your horse.

Wonder why anyone wants to legislate against unhappiness.

What does happiness buy?

Sweets make you fat, not happy.

## *Risks of Being in the Happiness Business*

At least unhappiness won't abandon you.

Imagine everyone happy at the same time. Go ahead.

Money cures all happiness.



You don't have to be happy for winning anything. Think about those who finished second, third, fourth, or not at all.

Show others that you are just as unhappy about their unhappiness as they are.

Unhappiness is blaming everyone else for having the right winning lottery ticket.

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Marriage starts as a compromise and happiness ends it.

You don't have to worry when you run out of unhappiness.  
Someone else will give you another story to bolster your reality.

Remember: If unhappiness is missing, you are not interested.



## Reasons for Good News

If winning prevails, why does there have to be losing?  
You accept chaos as an indulgent privilege.

Good News begins when you realize that this is life, real life,  
not a dress rehearsal.

To continue good news, you refuse to be around people who  
choose to feel bad all the time.

You prefer silence, as it does not need a cause, or an opinion.

You can choose your own peace, without your own theatrics.

You can rejoice in not doing everything right.

You must have enough energy at all times to be excited.

When those you did not want to come do not show.

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The best times were back then. Whatever happens, back then was best.

You are looking for things to do that do not take any effort at all.

You are inspiring yourself to create your own enthusiasm. Even being bored has to be done with enthusiasm.

You find a way to avoid the unavoidable.

You always find a way not to be affected by what someone just did.

You try not to dislike anyone who did not vote as you did.

You try not to listen to anyone's conversation with themselves.

What counts is not how hard you work, but how easy you live.

Success is measured by how well you navigate your television set, how you ABC—Avoid Bad Channels.

## *Reasons for Good News*

You are attempting to master the art of not making choices.

You know that you cannot love someone who does not love you.

It is always easiest to make things more difficult.

Eventually, you do not want to know anything; even the good news can wait.

