

Career Rx

By [Lisa Chenofsky Singer](#)

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Live Your Talent to Love Your Career

"Love your career, live your talent and treasure your life's successes" is the motto of my business, Chenofsky Singer & Associates LLC. Recently, I was fortunate enough to see Paul Potts perform. So, who is Paul Potts? He is a 38 year old tenor who used to sell mobile phones. For those of you who don't know him, Paul was the winner of "Britain's Got Talent" in 2007. He can be found on "YouTube". In learning about his life, I was struck by how Paul *loves his career by living his talent.*

Paul's dream of singing began as a child growing up in Bristol. Bullied and taunted at school, he joined his local church choir and continued to fulfill his passion for singing as an escape from the playground abuse. (Excerpts from www.paulpottsofficial.com)

At Paul's audition for Britain's Got Talent, his gut reaction was to run but instead he tells us, "When I stepped on to the stage the crowd was baying (a.k.a. howling) for blood. The act before I went on had been a disaster. I just wanted to turn around and run away." But Paul didn't run. Instead he summoned every ounce of courage and wowed the audience and judges. This was his defining moment.

We can all learn from his risk taking. Paul tried on numerous occasions to get noticed for his singing but did not succeed. Paul chose to audition for this reality competition based on a coin toss. *"It took a flick of a coin to change Paul's entire life. Heads he entered Britain's Got Talent, Tails he didn't. The rest, as they say is history."* Sometimes the right time and right place can play a big part in one's success.

If you have the opportunity to audition, or interview, take it! At the least, you build on your experience in interviewing, make additional networking connections and increase your confidence for the next opportunity.

"Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important than fear." Ambrose Redmoon

Paul's desire to sing outweighed his fear of failure. His courage enabled him to overcome his fear and anxiety. Fear can prevent you from reaching your dreams. Most people get what they want when they know what they want, have the talent, are fully committed and happen to be in the right place at the right time. When one hesitates, one is suspended in their decision making. The courage to explore and take risks is crucial to move forward for career success. Will you be courageous enough to trust your instincts?

We learn more about ourselves during the process, whether we fail or succeed. Courage is learned from lessons gleaned during our life's journey. We learn to leverage our strengths. There are some fortunate individuals that love what they do day after day. They draw energy from their work as Paul does from his singing. With determination, one can do anything. Success is defined individually, so strive to live your life to the fullest. As I tell my clients, live your talent to love your career!

This column provides thought provoking strategies for getting unstuck along your career journey. A certified Executive and Career Coach can be instrumental in guiding you in your efforts to gain a new perspective. I invite you to contact me @ Lisa@ChenofskySinger.com

Lisa Chenofsky Singer is the Managing Director of Chenofsky Singer and Associates LLC www.ChenofskySinger.com, providing Executive and Career Coaching and Human Resources Consulting.

Lisa's extensive human resources and coaching experience with Fortune 500 companies, small enterprises, medium-sized firms, and non-profit organizations gives her the unique ability to bring together wide-ranging perspectives on career transitions, executive and leadership development. She has consulted with a wide variety of sectors — consumer goods, financial services, healthcare, media and entertainment, pharmaceutical and life sciences, publishing, professional services, technology, and non-profit. Lisa has a passion for motivational speaking, conducts career forums, and provides executive and career coaching.

Lisa's greatest strength is that she enables individuals and organizations to see themselves in new ways, freeing them to achieve their goals. Lisa can be reached at Lisa@ChenofskySinger.com.