



My Story

I was born on April 2nd, 1982, the first year of the millennial generation. I'm a high school graduate of the class of 2000. It is interesting growing up on the cusp of two generations. When I grew up there was not nearly as much mainstream spiritual awareness or flexible thinking as there is today. I was taught that showing emotion is weak and that to be a strong man means to be stoic while you endure pain. Now I believe the opposite. To me, it is far more courageous to feel the deepest parts of you while in emotional pain.

I was the only child of parents who divorced when I was a year old. My father was an abusive sociopath and when my mother gave birth to me she decided she didn't want me to grow up in a household like that. Though I still had my father's presence in my life having to see him every other weekend and a few weeks in the summer, being around a sociopath leaves its mark. For most of my life before starting the spiritual journey I always looked back at my childhood and labeled it a difficult one. It was difficult to be emotionally and physically abused by my father but what is interesting to me now is that 90% of the time I was a happy kid and 10% of the time life was a nightmare. But because tough experiences stick out in the mind I saw my childhood as extremely difficult.

Though my father was angry, abusive, and a religious zealot, he gifted me with contrast. I got the privilege of growing up in two very different households. My mother was sweet, unconditionally loving, and one of the most big-hearted people you would ever meet. So I got to see the massive difference between how these two people approached relationships, life, and yes money. My mother was a hairdresser most of my childhood so I pretty much grew up in a salon. But what this means is we were poor. I didn't know anything about poverty until I was around nine years old and went to stay the night at a school friend's



house. I grew up in a tiny apartment in the ghetto of Fresno, CA. My friend from school was in a mansion on the nice side of town. I remember as soon as my mom picked me up from the sleepover I asked her, “Why can’t we live in a house like that?”

Both my mother and father both grew up poor. My mother’s parents, my grandparents came to California from Oklahoma due to the Dust Bowl. This means ‘you have to work hard for money’ was pretty much bread into me from a young age. So, I became a very hard worker. I started working at the age of 11 as a painter and a pool boy. Where I went to high school there was a mixture of all different races, religions, and economic backgrounds. You have to love California! Everything from the extremely poor kids like me to kids coming to school driving brand-new BMWs. I was always interested in money and getting rich. I would always ask what the rich kid’s parents did that made them affluent. I would try to hang out at their houses and befriend them just to spend time in the nice neighborhoods so I could feel the vibration of wealth.

Back then I didn’t know that I was trying to feel wealthy or vibrate into the feeling of wealth. All I knew was that affluent neighborhoods were cleaner, newer, and felt better to be in than where I lived. I couldn’t afford college and didn’t want to take on student loans ironically. I say ironically because many years later I owned my own student loan company. We were like student loan financial advisors helping navigate people through the complexity of loan repayment and government forgiveness. Anyway, since I wanted to make money right away and not wait around studying more in college, I went into the trades pretty much straight out of high school. I became an electrician through the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW Local 100). Almost immediately after my apprenticeship was over a close friend and I started our own electrical business. I have always been trying to work



my way to wealth. That is why I can tell you from experience wealth doesn't work like that.

After construction died from the 2008 mortgage collapse, I left the electrical field and went into the real estate industry. I moved to the California Bay Area near San Francisco. In retrospect, probably not the best time to get into real estate but I couldn't help myself. I was eager to understand money. I never really paid attention to the economy until an economic collapse destroyed my business. Before I started my electrical business my mother gave me a book to read. Think & Grow Rich by Napoleon Hill. That book forever changed my life because it started me down the path of personal development and spirituality. From there I read everything I could get my hands on with regard to manifesting money or business and money in general. I studied both the traditional and spiritual sides of money.

I finally found success in my late 30s in the financial industry but was immediately disappointed by it. There was a huge letdown because the money started coming in pretty decent quantities but I wasn't fulfilled. I wasn't living my life's purpose and I knew it. So after I took steps to sell the successful business and bought a motorhome to go into the wilderness. I bought the RV at the beginning of March 2020. Then at the end of that month, COVID-19 happened. I decided the best place to quarantine alone was in the RV. I could be alone away from society but still move around and get outside. I did a lot of soul-searching and work on myself in that RV. I see that experience as a cocoon of sorts for me. I found my calling and The Financial Shaman was born. I put in 10,000 hours unbrainwashing myself to lead by example, but also helping others find their calling, undo their financial traumas, and remove the limiting beliefs blocking the flow of wealth. I am finally fulfilled. I love what I do. This journey with money brought me somewhere I did not expect. I hope your journey with money does the same for you.