

## Reaching Your Goals

### You Have to Work for Your Dreams

Confuse dream-chasing with lottery-winning, and you're hopping aboard the frustration treadmill so many around us are running. Yesterday's goal-setting rant wasn't a pie-in-the-sky kind of digression. It was a set up. That's right, I set you up ;O) I'm sneaky that way. Bad author, bad!

So, you're on your way this morning, chasing the next step on your list ('cause I know you're with me now on the whole list-making thing), but it's really early, and you were up late last night, and the kids are on the bus and it would be so much fun to park your buns on something soft and do more dreaming today than working. No, wait a minute, that's me--okay, so we're talking about me again today. A common occurrence when I'm on deadline, so get used to it.

The point I'm trying to make? You sit around and wait for lotto to change your life, 'cause there's nothing short of fraud you can do to affect the outcome. Not so much with the goal-setting exercise we started yesterday. Baby steps are just a launching point--a confidence builder, remember. Sooner or later, it's time to sweat, and you'll face the decision many before you have passed by without a second glance...

How hard are you willing to work for your dreams? For you goals?

There's no disgrace if the answer is, "Not Much." But if the desire is strong enough, you might just surprise yourself with an "I'm going to work really, really hard" answer. And I'm here to tell you, if that's your deal, if this is the dream you can't let go of, then get ready for the hardest, most exciting ride of your life!

That's where I am today, less than a month away from a deadline, working on what I think is my best, most emotional project yet. But digging this one out of my \$#@\* has already proven harder than any of the others--partially because everything's gone so smoothly so far in my career, and the anticipation of success is now shifting into a bit of expectation on the part of many waiting for me to either make it to the next level or fizzle out... yikes!

The question I find myself facing this morning? How hard am I willing to work at this best-selling author dream of mine. My answer as I watched my son step onto the bus this morning--pretty darn hard!

Hard enough to grunt through the next month, no matter how tired (and, yes, scared) I am?

You bet!

How about you? How invested are you in what you want? How much gumption is there inside you to make those dreams happen?