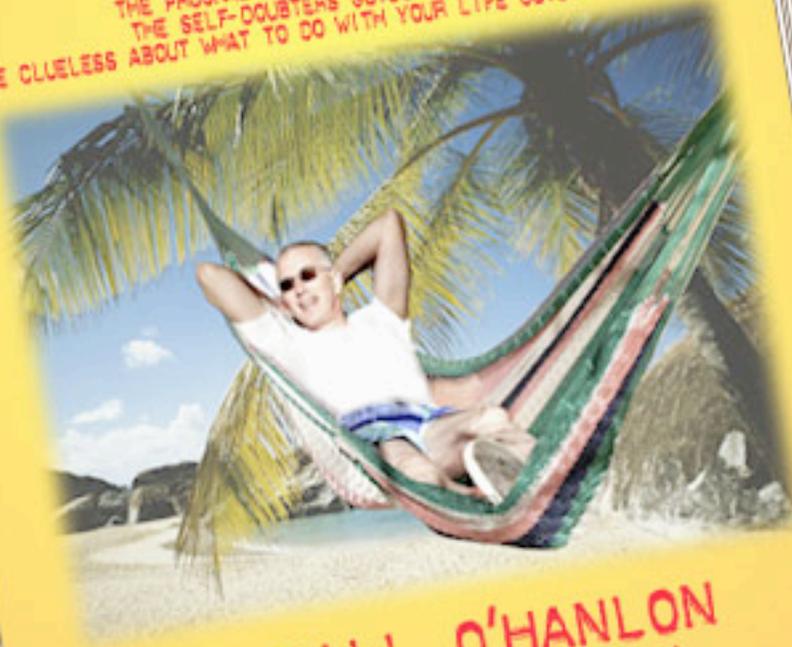


# A LAZY MAN'S GUIDE TO SUCCESS\*

\* ALSO  
THE PERFECTIONISTS GUIDE TO SUCCESS  
THE PROCRASTINATORS GUIDE TO SUCCESS  
THE SELF-DOUBTERS GUIDE TO SUCCESS  
THE CLUELESS ABOUT WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR LIFE GUIDE TO SUCCESS



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\*AS SOON AS THIS BOOK CRACKS A MILLION UNITS

# A Lazy Man's Guide to Success

by Bill O'Hanlon

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## Introduction

# A Little Book about Success

*“I couldn’t wait for success . . . so I went ahead without it.” —Jonathan Winters*

This is a little book about success. What I mean by success is accomplishing something you really want to accomplish in the world and getting others to support it and agree that it is of value. That, of course, is not the only definition of success, but it’s my book and that’s my definition. I wrote this book for people who are not yet clear about what it is they are supposed to do while they’re on the planet and for those who do know, but haven’t pursued their missions or dreams. This book will tell you everything you need to know to succeed. Not how to be happy. Not how to be a good person. Not how to be loved. Not even how to be wealthy. Those can be good things and they may be byproducts of success. But not necessarily. Sometimes success can even get in the way of being happy or a good person.

This book is about successfully realizing your passions, destiny or dreams if you know what they are. It's also about finding out what you are meant to do in this life if you don't know yet what that is.

Why did I call it *A Lazy Man's Guide to Success*? [Please note that it is not the sexist title that some of you thought at first glance-this is my story-I'm the lazy guy of the title.] Because I succeeded when I, and most folks around me, wouldn't have bet on me to succeed earlier in my life.

One day, my wife said to me in amazement, "You know, you are the *laziest* successful person I have ever known." I laughed and had to agree. I am the laziest successful person I know, too. I have written 21 books, which have been translated into fourteen other languages. I've been on Oprah (for some people, this is my main claim to fame). I teach workshops all over the world for thousands of dollars per day. I have created several methods and theories of psychotherapy that are practiced in various parts of the world. But you can't get me to do anything I am not interested in.

I'm terribly distractable. I rarely work except when I am required to in order to keep a commitment. I typically put off writing my books as long as I can. In college, I discovered I couldn't sign up for any classes that began before 11:30 a.m.

because I would oversleep too often to pass the course. My office is a mess. Until recently, I always filed my taxes late, because I couldn't get it together to find all my receipts and take the time to fill out the forms – or even get them to an accountant. I prefer to sit around playing the guitar, reading, watching movies and hanging out at home.

I was certainly lazy and remain so. I didn't think I was strong enough, ambitious enough, or organized enough to make it. But I succeeded – beyond my wildest expectations. [Another inspiration for the title was a book I read years ago called *A Lazy Man's Guide to Enlightenment*.]

A few years ago, I had a sort of reverse midlife crisis, wondering how I had been lucky enough to live my dreams. I kept asking myself: Why have *I* succeeded, while others who are more talented, smarter and more self-disciplined have not? When I asked my wife this same question, she amended her previous observation. “Well,” she said, “you are lazy and you aren't. When you get engaged, you work faster, better and with more focus than anyone I've known.” And that's what this book is in part about. How do you succeed when you are lazy and undisciplined – or otherwise gifted at sabotaging yourself?

Were you one of those kids whose parents were always hearing that you weren't "working up to your potential"? If so, this book is definitely for you. It will also work for you annoying people who are self-disciplined and not lazy by any stretch of the imagination, but who haven't reached your goals because you don't know where to apply your self-discipline. Or for those of you who are so perfectionistic, you tend to get in your own way. Or those of you who are totally clueless about what you are meant to do with your lives.

So, here it is, the most succinct version I can give you of what I have learned about how to succeed. It's as short as I can make it and still make what I have to say compelling and clear.

Okay. Let me give you an overview of where we're going. First, we'll explore the importance of having a compelling dream or vision or direction to move in.

Next I'll tell you why you need a soul to succeed and what a soul is for (and this will have nothing to do with religion, so relax if you're religion-phobic). Even if you already know you have a soul, this chapter is worth reading (relax again, it's only a few pages), 'cause if you miss this, you're screwed. The rest of the book won't work.

If by the end of the chapters on dreams and soul, you don't already have a dream that matters enough to get off the couch and go after, then I'll give you some ideas about how to get a dream like that.

Next I'll tell you how to get the world to be your guru and teach you how to make your dream come true.

Last (well almost), I'll tell you why I think it is important to have a dream that is not just for your own personal gratification (like getting rich or getting laid or getting famous). Nothing wrong with wanting those things or getting them, but if that is your main motivation for success, again, you may be screwed.

Then I'll give you a one-page summary of the whole book. Those of you who are *really* lazy can just flip back there and get the gist of things and maybe it will work, but I doubt it. You'll probably actually have to *read* the book to really get it. Sometimes the devil, as well as God, really is in the details.

Last (really last this time), I've thrown in a pet theory of mine about how to arrange your work and money life so you can be lazy the rest of your natural born days, because you can arrange things so you don't do work you don't want to do, and have money come to you without putting in ongoing time or effort.

Ready? Place your tray tables to the upright and locked position. Keep your hands and arms inside the car. Here we go!

Want to read more? Click this link ([Link to purchase the book online](#)) to buy the book as a PDF and download it instantly.

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