



# How to Fail at Almost Everything and Still Win Big: Kind of the Story of My Life

By Scott Adams

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## How to Fail at Almost Everything and Still Win Big: Kind of the Story of My Life By Scott Adams

**Blasting clichéd career advice, the contrarian pundit and creator of *Dilbert* recounts the humorous ups and downs of his career, revealing the outsized role of luck in our lives and how best to play the system.**

Scott Adams has likely failed at more things than anyone you've ever met or anyone you've even heard of. So how did he go from hapless office worker and serial failure to the creator of *Dilbert*, one of the world's most famous syndicated comic strips, in just a few years? In *How to Fail at Almost Everything and Still Win Big*, Adams shares the game plan he's followed since he was a teen: invite failure in, embrace it, then pick its pocket.

No career guide can offer advice that works for everyone. As Adams explains, your best bet is to study the ways of others who made it big and try to glean some tricks and strategies that make sense for you. Adams pulls back the covers on his own unusual life and shares how he turned one failure after another—including his corporate career, his inventions, his investments, and his two restaurants—into something good and lasting. There's a lot to learn from his personal story, and a lot of entertainment along the way. Adams discovered some unlikely truths that helped to propel him forward. For instance:

- Goals are for losers. Systems are for winners.
- "Passion" is bull. What you need is personal energy.
- A combination of mediocre skills can make you surprisingly valuable.
- You can manage your odds in a way that makes you look lucky to others.

Adams hopes you can laugh at his failures while discovering some unique and helpful ideas on your own path to personal victory. As he writes: "This is a story of one person's unlikely success within the context of scores of embarrassing failures. Was my eventual success primarily a result of talent, luck, hard work, or an accidental just-right balance of each? All I know for sure is that I pursued a conscious strategy of managing my opportunities in a way that would make it easier for luck to find me."

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### Editorial Review

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The creator of the Dilbert comic strip is also the author of several nonfiction books that apply Dilbert's philosophy to the workplace. Here he takes an autobiographical approach, using his own life to illustrate his thesis that failure isn't necessarily a bad thing. Adams' own list of failures is—given his spectacular success as a cartoonist—surprisingly lengthy: a couple of unsuccessful restaurants as well as computer games, inventions, and online businesses that all tanked. Adams isn't bummed by any of his flops because—and this is the key element of his philosophy—you learn by trying, not by succeeding. And every failure in life helps point us in the direction of ultimate success. (Adams says he would never have become a cartoonist if it weren't for a combination of personal failures and the successes of some of his friends, who were willing to take personal risks.) Readers familiar with the author's previous nonfiction will note the same easygoing, conversational style here, an approach that works perfectly for blending humor with serious advice. --David Pitt

### Review

"Adams has a funny, refreshingly considered set of ideas about how to find success—and what that success will look like when one gets there."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Scott Adams has drawn nearly 9,000 Dilbert cartoons since the strip began, in 1989, and his cynical take on management ideas, the effectiveness of bosses, and cubicle life has affected the worldview of millions. But he built his successful career mainly through trial and error—a whole lot of error, to be exact.

—*Harvard Business Review*

### About the Author

Scott Adams is the creator of *Dilbert*, one of the most popular and widely-distributed comic strips of the past quarter century. He has been a full-time cartoonist since 1995, after 16 years as a technology worker for companies like Crocker National Bank and Pacific Bell. His many bestsellers include *The Dilbert Principle* and *Dogbert's Top Secret Management Handbook*. He lives outside of San Francisco.

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#### David Anthony:

This How to Fail at Almost Everything and Still Win Big: Kind of the Story of My Life book is not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you have by reading this book will be information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get data which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This kind of How to Fail at Almost Everything and Still Win Big: Kind of the Story of My Life without we realize teach the one who reading it become critical in thinking and analyzing. Don't become worry How to Fail at Almost Everything and Still Win Big: Kind of the Story of My Life can bring if you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' turn into full because you can have it with your lovely laptop even cell phone. This How to Fail at Almost Everything and Still Win Big: Kind of the Story of My Life having good arrangement in word and layout, so you will not experience

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**Brian Wallace:**

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**Carol Smith:**

Reading a publication tends to be new life style in this era globalization. With looking at you can get a lot of information that will give you benefit in your life. Having book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Textbooks can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their own reader with their story or even their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the guides. But also they write about the information about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your kids, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors these days always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some exploration before they write for their book. One of them is this How to Fail at Almost Everything and Still Win Big: Kind of the Story of My Life.

**Noel Klein:**

Reading a book to be new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to learn a book. When you learn a book you can get a lots of benefit. When you read ebooks, you can improve your knowledge, mainly because book has a lot of information upon it. The information that you will get depend on what kinds of book that you have read. If you want to get information about your review, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, this kind of us novel, comics, and soon. The How to Fail at Almost Everything and Still Win Big: Kind of the Story of My Life will give you a new experience in reading a book.

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