



## BOOK RECOMMENDATION

# THE PATH TO VICTORY

**By Delia Steinberg Guzmán**

This book is a collection of articles that were written at different times, but are ordered around a single theme: how to achieve victory in everyday life. As the author explains, she is not talking about superficial success, but the achievement of mastery over inner and outer circumstances. It is, in essence, about the hero's journey, a journey full of trials and difficulties, but also full of joys that come from each victory obtained and from the many experiences and individuals we meet along the way.

History is an extraordinary showcase where different ideas have appeared and given rise to many different ways of life, like coloured crystals whose hues vary according to the light. Each age has its parameters, and human beings, on their endless path of searching, have been ruled by those models, which they have tried to follow and obey more than they would follow an idea from any other source. What is commonly accepted becomes like a law and, as time passes, some of the ideas that have been accepted become even more powerful than laws themselves.

In this way, success has always been a goal, even if it has not always been seen in the same light. What was considered success in one century, or just a few decades ago, may be seen today as a misplaced or outmoded longing, while other ambitions have taken the place of the previous ones. Only one thing remains constant: the desire for success, the need to succeed, the desire to be accepted and taken seriously by others, conforming to the law that makes the whole – us and the rest – a consistent mass from which standing out is not encouraged, even if it involves finding success by other routes.

The statistics fill pages upon pages in dozens of publications. It is very clear that in these times, success is defined by social prestige and financial power, which then give rise to other forms of power, and these in turn further increase prestige. It is true that academic research, science, the arts and knowledge in general have a

place, but this is becoming smaller with time. Learning is a beautiful adornment which, with a few exceptions, goes together with the above-mentioned prestige of a solid social position backed by a respectable fortune.

It is not surprising, then, that young people in particular direct their aspirations towards those formulas for success if they want to be acknowledged in the societies they are living in and not join the long list of “marginalized” people. Today, the future is approached from that perspective: a vocation must be subject to a checklist of questions about its practicality in terms of power and wealth. Today there is a growing list of courses that can be studied with the intention of achieving a quick and profitable success and a social position that will be perceived as solid and lasting.

But not all that glitters is gold.

If these were truly formulas for succeeding in life, there ought to be many more happy people than we see. Unless we accept that success is one thing and happiness is another.

The same statistics that list all the successful people also reveal a progressive increase in the conditions of psychosis, depression, anguish, dissatisfaction, loneliness, aggression, boredom, corruption and many other psychological situations that make up the general pattern of “stress”. So, perhaps we should think of other types of success



which even if they don't conform to the commonly accepted types, may prove to be more effective.

We propose a few simple keys for achieving a more human success, in many different areas of life; a more stable victory, more in accordance with our dreams and aspirations.

It is clearly not enough to dream of victory. We need to act and we need to know how to develop a healthy activity based on will. We should not act just for the sake of it, but choose the best and most appropriate actions.

The old advice about knowing oneself is still applicable today; we will find it difficult to find a rewarding job if we don't know who we are or what our skills and abilities are. And once we know what they are, we need to train ourselves to develop them so that our activity will be useful to ourselves and others.

Whenever you undertake a task, do it well, not only for the reward you may receive, but also for the satisfaction of experiencing your own efficiency. Know how to be satisfied with what you obtain, and, at the same time, never rest on your laurels, always looking for a higher level of achievement.

Never allow yourself to feel crushed by problems, however difficult they may seem. On the contrary, exert your imagination in order to look for new

avenues and solutions. Think of difficulties as challenges for your intelligence and your will. And in the worst case, turn failures into opportunities to make a new beginning.

Learn to take advantage of opportunities. Life is full of opportunities, but if we walk around with our eyes closed, we will never discover them. If we become imprisoned in our conflicts and constantly dwell on them, we will waste energy and never get out of that vicious cycle, ignoring the thousand doors which the supposed labyrinth was offering us.

Practise loving continuously, because this is the best way to understand others. Help others cheerfully and generously, which is the best way to feel at ease with yourself.

Search for the meaning of life and try to find the meaning of your own life. Nothing happens without a reason, and answers only come to those who look for them in the spirit of wisdom and with the courage of someone who is sure of victory.

Improve everything you do every day; improve everything around you without ever giving up. Put beauty into every corner; put light into every place - inner and outer - wherever you are.

Someone who succeeds in applying these few keys will be someone who is sure of themselves; a contented person insofar as contentment is possible for human beings.



Someone who can achieve these things is truly successful. And even if no one admits it because it is not fashionable to do so everyone would like to attain this kind of success.

This short book is a homage to the brave, to all those who have the strength to keep going. Above all, to the brave who have no name, whether they be great or small, because no one knows them, and yet they are with us, they are all around us, they are everywhere in the world. They are the spirit of all progressive movement.

It is a homage to those who are in the world, to those who have made the world their home, regardless of difficulties. It is a homage to those who have learned to give things their proper value; the brightness of a stone, the leaf sprouting from a branch, the sounds of animals, the words of humans, the language of the gods.

It is a homage to the brave who always find a way out of the labyrinth: they keep walking, constantly looking for the door which will give them freedom. And they fall, they fall a thousand times and a thousand times they pick themselves up again, and every time they get up they are a little stronger.

It is a homage to those who have developed continuity, to those who have never lost their way, because their heart is a compass which always points north; to those who never lose their rhythm, because their heart is a drum beating time for them.

This is a homage to the brave who seek fraternity and harmony among human beings, even though all around them there is pain, terror and death.

It is a homage to those who stretch out their arms like a bridge, to those who do not experience it as a sacrifice and do not mind becoming a passage between the human and the divine.

This is a homage to those who always have the ability to bring us regeneration, to heal our wounds, to alleviate our sorrows, to give us a solution for everything. It is a homage to the Lords of Rebirth, who choose the hard and sharp weapon of wisdom to fight with, like a double-edged axe that can open up the minds of others, but above all opens up the mind of the one who wields it. It is a homage to the Lords of Wisdom.

It is a homage to the heroes of life, because it is very difficult to live. It is a homage to those who are interested in life above all else, and understand the need to fight as a way of protecting life. For in the heart of all human beings there is no war: there is life. In the heart of all human beings there is no war: there is eternity.

It is a homage, in short, to all the brave, to all the heroes, great and small, who do not know one another, either because they are very great or because they are very small, but who nevertheless are always going forward, above all when times are hard and difficult.