

Ward RoadShow - 1998

The Virtue of Persistence

The Power of Persistence

Written by Marsha Steed.

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A Roadshow based on 'Persistence' and the campy song, "THE THING ~ "As I was walking down the beach one bright and sunny day... " It features many popular American Hero's, who then give their advice on how to solve the main character's difficulty.

Entra Act: Dressed up with boxes around, painted as Train Cars. Five people, Narrater recites the poem, Train says the 'I think I can' sections, first soft, then progressively louder.

The little blue engine

**The little blue engine looked up at the hill.
His light was weak, his whistle was shrill.
He was tired and small, and the hill was tall,
and his face blushed red as he softly said,
"I think I can, I think I can, I think I can."**

**SO he started up with a chug and a strain,
and he puffed and pulled with might and main.
And slowly he climbed, a foot at a time,**

**and his engine coughed as he whispered soft,
"I think I can, I think I can, I think I can."**

**With a squeak and a creak and a toot and a sigh,
With an extra hope and an extra try,
He would not stop - now he neared the top-
and strong and proud he cried out loud,
"I think I can, I think I can, I think I can."**

our power to do has increased.	Heber J. Grant	1900
I start where the last man left off.	Thomas Edison	1880
It is not that the American's were braver than the British, it is just that they were brave five minutes longer.		1700
Do not despise the bottom rungs in the ascent to greatness.	Publius Syrus	1BC

:: SCENES ::

The Thing

**While I was walking down the beach one bright and sunny day...
I saw a great big wooden box a floatin' in the bay
I pulled it in and opened it up and much to my surprise...
I discovered a right before my eyes.
I discovered a right before my eyes.**

**I picked it up and opened it up, as happy as a king.
I took it to a guy I know who'll buy most anything
But this what he hollared at me when I walked in his shop
Ohhhh get out of here with the before I call a cop...
Ohhhh get out of here with the before I call a cop...**

**I turned around and got right out, a runnin' for my life.
And then I took it home with me to give it to my wife.
But this what she hollared at me as I walked into the door...
Ohhhh get out of here with that and don't come back no more!
Ohhhh get out of here with that and don't come back no more!**

**I wandered all around the town untill I chanced to meet
a hobo who was lookin' for a handout on the street.
He said he'd take most any old thing, he was a desperate man
ohhhh when I showed him the he turned around and ran.
ohhhh when I showed him the he turned around and ran.**

**I wandered on for many years, a victim of my fate.
Until I came upon St. Peter at the gate.
And when I tried to take it inside, he told me where to go.
Get out of here with that and take it down below**

Get out of here with that and take it down below

**The moral of this story is, if you are out on the beach
If you should see a great big box and it was in your reach
don't ever stop and open it up, that's my advice to you...
Cause..... you'll never get rid of the no matter what you do!
Cause..... you'll never get rid of the no matter what you do!**

The Thing

While I was walking down the beach one bright and sunny day...
I saw a great big wooden box a floatin' in the bay (sailor look with hand to forehead ; box to
I pulled it in and opened it up and much to my surprise...(come flying through the paper backdrop
I discovered a right before my eyes. (Two people in front of audience
I discovered a right before my eyes. Holds up a CLAP< CLAP<CLAP sign)

I picked it up and opened it up, as happy as a Lark
I looked around for someone who was standing in the park
But all I saw were the statues there all made out of stone
Get out of here with that and leave us all alone! (Famous people waggle fingers)
Get out of here with that and leave us all alone!

Roman -

Do not despise the bottom rungs in the ascent to greatness. - Publilius Syrus 1 BC

Girl 1 -I've tried for weeks to get Plavious to notice me. (pouty face)

Girl 2 - Oh yea? Have you tried that newsnake bracelet? It's supposed to be all the
rage.

Girl 1 - No, do you really think it will work?

Girl 2 - Well, if it doesn't, you can always let it bite him!
(two romangirls, stand and follow after the man')

I heft it up and carried it out and walked right into town.
I brought it to a soldier who I thought would not frown.
He took one look, and lifted up a shaking fist at me
You better get out with that ... or I'll bop you in the knee!
You better get out with that ... or I'll bop you in the knee!

I start where the last man left off. - Thomas Edison Inventor 1880

((tries to get several passer's by to take the box, none seem interested. Stops the last person in a line of 4-5))

Girl 1 - Why don't you try and get your invention copyrighted?

Boy 1 - Yeah, you might be a bizillionaire.

Girl1 - I'd buy it...

Boy 2 - I would, but ...(a sales - clerk girl and Edison's assistant follow along with the others.)

That which we persist in doing, becomes easier for us to do.

Not that the nature of the thing itself has changed, but that

our power to do has increased. Heber J. Grant Prophet 1900
Dance - One
(Girl 1 looking on, as other girls dance the number. She tries, but it terrible at it)

With a sad and lonely face, I turned around fleeing
I took it to a guy I know who'll buy most anything
But this what he hollared at me when I walked in his shop
Ohhhh get out of here with the before I call a cop...
Ohhhh get out of here with the before I call a cop...

The only time you can't afford to fail is the last time you try. - Charles Kettering 1910

Girl - I'll never understand men...

Boy - It's easy. If I say something that can be interpreted in two ways, and one of the ways makes you sad or angry, I meant it the other way.

I turned around and got right out, a runnin' with a whirl.
And then I took it home with me to give it to my girl.
But this what she shouted at me as I walked in the door...
Ohhhh get out of here with that and don't come back no more!
Ohhhh get out of here with that and don't come back no more!

Failure is only the opportunity to begin again more intelligently. - Henry Ford - 1927

(Girl 1, laying on her belly, writing in a journal)

Dear Diary, I have tried for weeks to get this dance number down, I don't think I'll ever learn it. I have only a week, and the big show will be here. I guess I'll just have to practice harder.

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a hobo who was lookin' for a handout on the street.
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I think and think for months and years. Ninety-nine times the conclusion is false. The hundredth time I am right. - Albert Einstein 1957

Chauffer - I've heard this lecture so many times boss, I'll bet I could give it without a flaw

Einstein - Alright, you are on. I'll sit in the back and watch.

Chauffer - You there, what is your question? (pointing to a learned man)

Learned man - Tell me about anti-matter formation, though I maybe digressing here and here but everyone in the audience should know that I'm nobody's fool.

Chauffer - That is so fundamental, I'm going to let my Chauffer answer it. <pointing to Einstein in the back

(The Learned man gets lessons from Einstein then follows him with three buddies)

The harder you work the harder it is to surrender. - Vincent Lombardi 1965

Female Quarterback - all right ladies, we have to show them we can do as good as they

Female halfback - But if we were smarter than them... we wouldn't be out here getting our bodies

pounced on. (Football team makes a touchdown then follows)

I wandered on for many years, a victim of my fate.
Until I came upon some children at the a gate.
And when I tried to take it inside, they told me where to go.
Get out of here with that and take it down below
Get out of here with that and take it down below

Dear GOD,
Did you try real hard to make giraffe to look like that or was it an
accident? * Norma

Dear GOD,
Instead of letting people die over and over again and having to make new ones, why
don't You just keep the ones You have now? * Jane

Dear GOD,
Did you really mean "do unto others as they do unto you"? Because
if you did, then I'm going to fix my brother! * Darla

Dear GOD,
Thank you for the baby brother, but what I prayed for every night for months was a puppy.
* Joyce
Your persistence is your belief in yourself. - Brian Tracy
(discouraged man, wanting to give up. Kids gather around him, and encourage him as the above
quote is given, then the music. . .)

Dance - Ease on Down the Road

I searched and searched and finally found a kind and trusting soul
Who did not turn away from me, when I came with a stroll
I timidly held out the box, and let her look with pride.
Ohhh thank you so much for the I feel so good inside! (big hug)
Ohhh thank you so much for the I feel so good inside!

D & C 124: 7 Let the work of my temple, and all the works which I
have appointed unto you, be continued on and not cease;
and let your diligence, and your perseverance, and patience
and your works be redoubled, and you shall in nowise lose
your reward, saith the Lord of Hosts. . . Christ

Dance - Duet - Dream Ballet Type - Couple.

The moral of this story is, if you are out on the beach
If you should see a great big box and it was in your reach
don't ever stop trying to share what's within, that's my advice to you...

Cause..... you'll never know what treasures you'll find or who to share with too!
Cause..... you'll never know what treasures you'll find or who to share with too!

(Tabloid pose with everyone - just music last bit of dancing... to pose and sing)

ALTERNATE QUOTES:

Persistence pays off.. Thinking you can only works when followed by doing what you can.

Do not despise the bottom rungs in the ascent to greatness. Publilius Syrus 1BC

It is not that the American's were braver than the British,
it is just that they were brave five minutes longer. Will Willcox 1700

I start where the last man left off. Thomas Edison 1880

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intelligently. Henry Ford 1927

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the conclusion is false. The hundredth time I am right. -- Albert Einstein 1957

The harder you work the harder it is to surrender.- Vincent Lombardi 1960

. . . Let the work of my temple, and all the works which I
have appointed unto you, be continued on and not cease;
and let your diligence, and your perseverance, and patience
and your works be redoubled, and you shall in nowise lose
your reward, saith the Lord of Hosts. . . Jesus Christ D & C 127:4

Your persistence is your belief in yourself. Brian Tracy 1996

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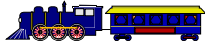
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do!

Music - Dancing

Backbone The Thing

20's

Charleston

50's

Swing

70's

One

90's

Ease on Down the road

Oliver dance - boys

Partners

Duet

Girls

Line dance

per·sist (per-sîst¹, -zîst¹) verb, intransitive

per·sist·ed, per·sist·ing, per·sists

- 1. To be obstinately repetitious, insistent, or tenacious.**
- 2. To hold firmly and steadfastly to a purpose, a state, or an undertaking despite obstacles, warnings, or setbacks**

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