

On Life and Meaning

MARK PERES

Episode 32 – Fabi Preslar – A Sparkling Life

Leaps of Faith and Glimpses of Eternity

And now a personal word,

One afternoon I suddenly thought about Fabi Preslar. I could not really tell you why. I only had brief contact with her in the past, and we didn't know each other personally at all. But Fabi had entered my mind. I looked up her number and gave her a call. I asked her if she was familiar with my podcast and if she would consider being a guest. Fabi said that she had already imagined being on the podcast, she wanted it to happen, she was pleasantly surprised by my call, but not completely, as the universe had surely responded to her desire.

Huh, I thought. Yet again. Some psychic force at work. Whether its thinking of someone and within moments they call. Or knowing exactly what will be said next as if the conversation had happened before. Or imagining something improbable and experiencing it perfectly as it unfolds. It's happened to me a thousand times. Some energy connects us all.

There is a theme in the stories that Fabi tells: that there is a larger force at work in the world that she has come to know and trust. It might be God. It might be something else.

Fabi talked about taking leaps in her life: leaving her home when she was 17 with nothing in her pocket and moving to a new city. Falling in love instantly with the man who become her husband, believing she had met him in a previous life. Inventing and reinventing her business not knowing what would happen next. Each time she jumped into the unknown.

The phrase 'leap of faith' is often attributed to the philosopher Soren Kierkegaard, who talked about believing in things that are not rational; how faith is completely unreasonable, and yet it is, paradoxically, the highest duty of a Christian. The gap between logic and belief can only be crossed by a 'leap.'

But Kierkegaard did not use the phrase 'a leap of faith.' Instead, he talked about a 'qualitative leap,' that in the leaping we change our being. In the action, we change substantively. In the doing, we become something new. The leap catalyzes an ontological transformation.

The philosophers of today often write articles in the very business magazines that Fabi designs: popular philosophy reduced to listicles and practical tips. Any search of the Internet will give you '7 tips to accomplish anything you have just searched Google about,' and there it is in the search results: '7 Tips For Anyone About to Take a Leap of Faith' by Stacy Michelle, a freelance business writer. Here is condensed version:

1. Listen to your inner-voice. Trust your yearnings and gut-instinct. That voice is your authentic-self guiding you.
2. Practice self-care. Stop, breathe and nourish your body and soul to relieve stress and unlock your power.
3. Replace fear with your desire for what is to come. Live into and feel emotionally the passion you are pursuing.
4. Be with like-minded people. Find a community or tribe taking a similar leap that will support you.
5. Quit comparing yourself to others around you. Everyone is on their own path manifesting their own realities.
6. Celebrate life and small victories. It will give you the energy and joy to continue.
7. You are perfect as you are. A mindset of gratitude and abundance will create the life you desire.

We hear that framework in everything that Fabi says: an entrepreneur's life is one leap after another. It is the belief that intention + action creates something new. Intention + action changes reality and who we are. There are larger forces that an entrepreneur can harness to create abundance. An entrepreneur can learn to feel the universe at their fingertips. It is the gospel of entrepreneurial success.

Fabi also shared seeing a cloud come to rest at her feet and a shared death experience. She is not the only one who has beheld such moments. People all over the world have reported similar accounts over centuries. Whatever we make of it, there is more that we do not know than we know.

I am certain of this: we are better for our leaps of faith and glimpses of eternity that call us into boldness and possibility. We are better because Fabi Preslar sparkles as she does.