

Dare To Be Hired: The revolution for jobseekers

Building resilience through rejection and pressing on
to get a job.

Dare To Be Hired: The revolution for job seekers

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I thank God for blessing me with the inspiration and strength needed to write this book.

TO MY PARENTS

for raising me and allowing me to explore my dreams despite how expensive it was, you still believed in me and let me go

TO MY HUSBAND

for encouraging me to make my dreams a reality

AND TO MY KIDS

Mummy loves you guys to the moon and back! Thanks for being in my life during these beautiful moments.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Safira van Toor is the wife of an awesome Dutch man and a mother of two amazing kids. She has MSC in Consultancy and Entrepreneurship from Rotterdam Business School, an MBA in Global Business from Cass European Institute of Management and completed a coaching course at HRBS. Safira is a lecturer at the Rotterdam University of Applied Science. As a lecturer and a people and personal development coach, Safira spends her time speaking and listening to students. She does her best writing inspirational blogs on LetsInspire.blog in her free time. As once a foreign student from West-Africa Ghana, Safira has experienced both the pretty and the ugly side of being a foreigner and a job seeker. Her first book - Dare to be Hired is meant to inspire, educate and prepare young graduates and job seekers to the job market.

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Preface

This book combines the shared experiences of the author and others who have gone through difficult and challenging times during their job search. The characters mentioned in the book share their experiences as a reminder to readers; to encourage them to press on in their job search journey. Indeed the journey can be very challenging; a lot of people have already travelled it while others are yet to start. People use different means of travel to embark on this journey; some go on foot, others by bike while few use cars and aeroplanes for their trip. Each person arrives at different times and encounters different challenges depending on their selected means of travel. As a job seeker, you don't have to be distracted by how fast your mates arrives at their destination, focus on your own trip. Also, don't allow the difficulties and challenges you might face in your job search journey weigh you down; let those difficulties dare and strengthen you to search on. Understand that there are several means to travel this journey and each

means of travel has its arrival times, therefore, toughen up, fasten your belt, keep pushing and dare to be hired!

Dare to be hired is divided into two parts:

Part 1: The job search guide.

Part 2: Challenging phases in job searching.

Introduction

Job searching is about having grits and confidence in yourself to build resilience through rejections, rudeness and disappointments. The search is indeed not easy, but the struggle does pay off at the end. Searching for a job is a full-time job in itself. Don't take any step of the process for granted neither should you let the entire process overwhelm you. Give no excuses as to why you cannot get a job, don't let anything stop you; not even the high rise in unemployment as a result of COVOD-19 should stop you from finding a job, or your inability to tick all the boxes in a job requirement. Dare yourself to be hired because success comes to those who dare!

Life after graduation

Being in school can be fun and boring at the same time. At a certain point, you would wish you have graduated and have started making money in your first real job. At school, you get the opportunity to attend all kinds of career-coaching seminars and lectures which give you lots of inspiration and ideas on how to land your first job

after graduation. These courses and seminars give you a lot of positive energy, so much so that you begin to imagine or see the job market as a bed of roses. You sometimes feel you will get your first job after your internship while in school or right after graduation. I must say these feelings are accurate to an extent. Some graduates are fortunate to get a job offer during their internships while others are not. Some graduates can find a job soon after their studies while others struggle for months. After college, a lot of the graduates fall under one of the following categories: The lucky birds, the networkers, the fighters or the safe settlers.

The lucky birds: These are people who get job offers before graduating. They get these offers during internships or research work. In most cases, they get these offers because of their unique skills or intelligence. This category of graduates does receive a lot of offers to the extent that it sometimes confuses them which offer to accept. In most cases, when people in this category start their career, they quickly move to different positions or change jobs after a few months or years of working.

Things usually happen very fast and easy for *lucky birds* in their career. They simple have good luck and are most of the times favoured. I will say, people in this category are born lucky!

The networkers: These set of graduates get jobs through the whom-you-know approach. They are either recommended by family and friends or through their connections. With the help of their networks, they get numerous job opportunities which makes it easier for them to switch jobs. Most of the times, graduates under this category don't usually like to share their network; they use it for themselves. Hardly will they introduce or refer a friend to any of their connections. They are selfishly smart and well connected!

The Fighters: This group consist of self-doers, and they have little to no connections. They don't mind persevering for half a year and more to find their dream job. They are not easily intimidated by rejections or naysayers. They mostly have a flexible plan in place that helps them to enjoy their social life alongside job