

The Tim Ferriss Show Transcripts

Episode 35: Tony Robbins & Peter Diamandis

Show notes and links at tim.blog/podcast

Tim Ferriss: This episode has two amazing guests, Tony Robbins and Peter Diamandis. We're going to talk, principally about how to think big. What is involved in thinking big, really 10-xing, 20-xing, what you're trying to do? Siphoning down the bios of these two gents was very, very challenging.

Both of them make me look like a real lazy bastard who hasn't done anything with his life, which is inspiring to me, so there are different ways to take it. Let's get started. Tony Robbins, for those of you who don't know, he's often called a motivational speaker, and I think that's a total misnomer because he is really a peak performance strategist, and his clientele is really astonishing. He has consulted or advised people including Nelson Mandela, Mikhail Gorbachev, Margaret Thatcher, Princess Di, Mother Theresa.

He's consulted members of two royal families, members of U.S. congress, U.S. Army, U.S. Marines, three U.S. presidents, including Bill Clinton, and some of his other celebrity clients include Serena Williams, Andre Agassi, gold legend Greg Norman, Leonardo DiCaprio – the list goes on and on and on. He's been named by Senture one of the top 50 business intellectuals in the world, by Harvard Business Press as one of the top 100 business gurus, by American Express as one of the top six business leaders in the world.

I should say, certainly, last but not least, he is the creator of a product that many of you may have seen around, which is the No. 1 personal and professional development system of all time called Personal Power. I have quite a background with this program, and in a future episode, Tony and I will be talking a lot about it. But Personal Power has sold more than 40 million audio tapes and CD copies worldwide. He himself has also developed and produced five award winning television infomercials.

Here's the stat that might blow your mind. They have been continuously aired, on average, every 30 minutes, 24 hours a day somewhere in North America since April 1989. So for more than 20 years – I guess 25 years – every 30 minutes, 24 hours a day, a

Tony Robbins infomercial has been on television in North America. It's amazing. That is just a small fraction of his bio.

But I don't want to cut Peter short. Peter Diamandis – or I should say Dr. Peter Diamandis – has been named one of the world's 50 greatest leaders by *Fortune Magazine*. In the world of innovation, Diamandis is chairman and CEO of the X Prize Foundation, best known for its \$10 million Ansari XPRIZE for private spaceflight. The XPRIZE is really intended to lead the world in designing and operating large scale, global competitions to solve what Peter might call market failures.

He's also the co-founder and vice chairman of Human Longevity Inc., a genomics and cell therapy based diagnostic and therapeutic company focused on extending the health human lifespan. It goes on. He is the co-founder and exec chairman of Singularity University. I've actually spent time there as adjunct faculty, basically, in the entrepreneurship track. This is based at NASA Ames Center. It's a graduate level Silicon Valley institution that studies exponentially growing technologies. Their ability to transform industries and solve humanity's grand challenges.

Ray Kurzweil, some of you may know, also very involved with that. In the field of commercial space, Diamandis is the co-founder and co-chairman of Planetary – planetary – I need more caffeine – planetary resources, a company designing spacecraft – check this out – to enable the detection and mining of asteroids for precious materials. These two guys are amazing.

I think you'll really enjoy this conversation, and, often, what holds us back is not lack of resources, it's not lack of tools, necessarily, it's lack of ambition. We don't have dreams, aspirations that are big enough to really catapult us to the next level of thinking, strategy, operation, and so on – execution for that matter. So I wanted to bring these two guys on and talk about how on Earth they got to be where they are today, in terms of just magnitude of impact and sheer force of will.

So I hope you enjoy it. without further ado, please meet Tony and Peter.

Hello, Ladies and Gentleman, this is Tim Ferriss, and welcome to another episode of the Tim Ferriss Show. I am very excited to have two of my friends on the line, Peter Diamandis and Tony Robins. Gentleman, how are you?

Tony Robbins: Doing great. How are you?

Peter Diamandis: Great.

Tim Ferriss: I'm very well. I know that you're both very busy, and I will want to dive into quite a few different subjects. So right off the bat, I think that the general topics – and I think there are two intertwined that I'd love to explore in this conversation – are No. 1, I think in aspect of your psychologies that both of you are very well known for, and that is thinking big, so I'm going to dive into that – but how you started thinking big and really big, in many cases.

And then secondly, how you learn and how you have learned. So I thought a very, perhaps, tactical way to start off and just jump into would be asking you each – and maybe, Peter, we could start with you – what book or books you've gifted to other people the most outside of your own?

Peter Diamandis: Sure. There's actually a few books that have changed my world that I've gifted. The first is reading *The Spirit of St. Louis* by Lindbergh, and the setting is his story of this epic adventure in 1927 of crossing the Atlantic and doing it for a \$24,000.00 prize. I was amazed at this man's determination and the way he thought about this and took the risk out and then made this epic journey. That's one. I love *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand. It's something I've read multiple times to get me in the mindset of not letting anything stand in my way and really driven by passion, which is something that Tony knows nothing about.

Tim Ferriss: No, definitely. Sorry to interrupt. Please continue.

Peter Diamandis: No, no. Then there are two others that have been – *The Man Who Sold the Moon*, which is a science fiction book by Robert Heinlein. It talks about how this guy, D.D. Harriman commercializes the moon, and it's just a brilliant 50-year-old vision that's as relevant today, and then a book by my good friend Ray Kurzweil called *The Singularity is Near*, which was the basis for the foundation of Singularity University. It's funny because all of these books, each of them, in turn, were so purposeful to me that they were the drivers for me starting many of my companies.

Tim Ferriss: Awesome. I am going to go pick up all of those. Just as a side note for folks, Heinlein, for those of you who use the word grock, grock this, grock that, that is from *Stranger in a Strange Land*, also by Heinlein. A lot of techies don't realize the origins of that word. Tony, I'd love to hear your selection.

Tony Robbins:

Well, it depends what people really want. Over the years, probably the most common books I've recommended are *As a Man Thinketh* by James Allen because when you think about the quality of peoples' lives, it starts with what meaning we give things. Two people can have the same exact experience, and one person thinks it's over, and one person thinks the game has begun. That is the difference that makes a difference in the quality of peoples' lives. It's not what happens to them, as we all know.

The other one, which is along the same theme that I probably give out as well – I give it out [inaudible] small book. It's a book that people can read over and over again and get great value out of it, but *Man's Search for Meaning* by Victor Frankl, to me, is just one of the great books ever written because we all, in our lives – the one things that's in common for all human beings, regardless of your background or your economic position, good, bad, or indifferent, we're all going to experience extreme stress in our life at some point.

Everyone's going to have to face the loss of a loved one. Everyone's going to have to face the loss of a job or an opportunity of a government change in policy that effects your business or some health issues yourself or a robbery or the loss of your home, burglary, burning – all these horrible things, in your lifetime, you're going to experience.

To be able to learn from someone who experienced the Holocaust directly, who not only experienced the Holocaust, but walked through what was the difference between those who made it and those who didn't – and as most of us who've read the book know, it wasn't the strongest that survived. It was those that had a higher meaning for their pain, those that found a way to even take suffering and transform it into a meaningful experience. Most people today – we live in a society where people think happiness is what life's about, but you can get bored being happy.

Some people, they're so damn happy, they create a problem just to have variety in their life because we have lots of needs as human beings, and they make up problems they don't even have. I deal with extremely wealthy clients, and you should – some people hear their problem and go, "Yeah, I'd love to have those problems." So meaning is what really matters and to witness, to go through the experience in an associated way and see how this man not only transformed his own life but then came back to help so many others, I think, is one of the more invaluable components.

Another book would be *The Fourth Turning* because I also believe you have to understand that life is seasons, and *The Fourth Turning* is written by two brilliant men who actually [inaudible] book that President Clinton gave me when I worked with him 20 years ago called *Generations*, which goes through 100 years of generations and walks through out, basically, we adapt to the way we've been brought up and bring up our children differently and how that creates gross patterns that effect history.

But *The Fourth Turning* is just an incredibly in depth experience that shows you that human beings go for periods of time, 10, 15, 20 years – usually in the 15 year range in the stage we are now – where we have a primary set of emotions. There are winters where people will tend to find what's wrong. There's the springtime of possibility. There's the hot summer, and of course, there's the fall where the rewards are very, very simple. You can tie it to this economics. You can tie them to emotions.

It's just an extraordinary book to put your life in perspective. You learn some people freak out in the winter. Some people freeze to death; some people ski and snowboard, and how to take advantage of whatever season of life you're in and how to utilize that to anticipate in your business and your life I find to be invaluable. But it depends on what somebody's looking for. I just recommended *Slow Sex* to somebody yesterday who desperately needed it [inaudible] and another person, I was watching them deal with their kid, and I said, "You've got to go pick up *Mindset* by the Stanford University because you keep telling your kid how perfect they are, and you're going to ruin them.

Telling a kid that they're perfect creates a frame of reference where they have to be a certain way as opposed to giving them the feedback because they put out the effort. Effort, they can control; who you are is a whole different component. So I'm always, honestly, seeing what's needed for that individual now. But if I'm going universal, I think it's understanding the seasons of life, it's understanding creating meaning, and it's understanding how your thoughts are the ultimate control of your life.

Tim Ferriss:

No, I agree. For those people curious to dig into – and also the parenting aspect event you mentioned, I think that *Brain Rules* – and the author, I think's name is Professor Medina out of View, Washington, also underscores that, as does Josh Waitzkin, actually, who I interviewed on this podcast who is the basis for *Searching for Bobby Fischer*, and he talked about the same thing, how

emphasizing effort over attributes is and continues to be increasingly important is raising children.

The macro level aspect of both of you that jumps out most immediately to a lot of people is just the sheer scale of what you do. Tony, for instance, how many people are you going to be feeding or are you aiming to feed in 2015 through your –

Tony Robbins: I'm not aiming. I'm not aiming. It started when I was 11. Somebody fed my family. I don't even know who it was.

I just met the man at the door who delivered the food, and it radically changed my life because the meaning I took out of it was that strangers care, and if strangers cared about my family, then regardless of what my father told me, I was going to care at a different level. It changed my entire life. This happened when I was 11. When I was 17 was the first time I fed two families, and then four the next year, and then eight.

It was getting a little tough, so I got some friends involved, and then my companies grew. So now, for the last 37 years, I've fed 42 million people, but I feed about four million a year, two million people each year through my foundation, and I do two million myself. I do matching funds for the last five years.

But this year – last year, I don't know if you saw, but a lot of people didn't even notice that congress cut food stamps by \$8.2 billion, which is the equivalency – understand – of the families they're supporting going without food one week out of the month – just arbitrarily without figuring out how to make up for it. I, obviously, work pretty passionately with all these nonprofits because I help support them all, and they're being maxed out.

So I thought, “You know what, I'm writing this book right now on finances, and I'm fortunate enough to do quite well. What if I took all the money of that, and I donated it? How many meals could I donate?” And that wasn't enough. So I said, “Well, I'll write a check above that,” and I thought, “If I could do as many meals as I've done in my lifetime in a year, that'd be a good start.” So I said, “Okay, I've got to find 42 million meals. Holy shit, that's a large drink of water. How about I donate everything from the book, and I put up a big check, and I feed 20 million people this year, and I get matching donations.”

But as I've gone along, I've gotten more inspired, and I've partnered with Feeding America, which is the largest domestic

feeding organization – the best organization, and I’ve negotiated with them to cut out all of the costs. Now, I’ve raised my game. My total number that I’m writing a check for in a few weeks – November 18th – is 55 million meals I’m personally going to deliver to 55 million people, and then they’re going to partner with me to get that to 100 million with matching funds. So I know for sure I’m going to feed 55 million this year.

Tim Ferriss: Wow.

Tony Robbins: That’s not counting my foundation or the other work that I do, so I guess it’ll be slightly –

Tim Ferriss: No, and these numbers to most people are just almost unimaginable. So, Peter, just to, perhaps, catch people up on a couple of examples of the work you’ve done with the XPRIZE – and of course, you’ve done many different things in addition to the XPRIZE. What are some of the problems that you’re attempting – or are tackling or have tackled – with the XPRIZE to date? I know we’re going to – certainly, we all have a secret agenda to talk about one that we’re particularly passionate about right now, but what are some of the others that you can mention?

Peter Diamandis: Sure. So people might know the work we do here for the original Ansari XPRIZE for spaceflight, modeled after Lindbergh’s flight across the Atlantic to win a \$25,000.00 prize. We put \$10 million back in 1996 for the first unit to build a spaceship and carry three adults up into space and back. The relevance here is that individuals today can do extraordinary things, and you need to give them guidance. Without a target, you’ll miss it every time, and if you incentivize them, you can get entrepreneurs from any place, any walk of life, independent what they’ve done before to do extraordinary things, and I fundamentally believe that.

So the question is, can you point entrepreneurs at the world’s biggest problems and grand challenges, and that’s what we’re doing in oceans and health and learning and energy. One of the prizes that I think that’s relevant that we’re in the midst of right now is called the Qualcomm Tricorder XPRIZE. Anybody who’s a fellow treky who know, from Star Trek, Dr. McCoy Bones would have this device called the Tricorder. He’d point it at somebody and be able to tell if they have Rigelian Fever or if they’re an alien, or whatever the case might be.

It’s sort of the vision where we’re going. So we partnered with Qualcomm. Paul Jacobs who’s the chairman there, they put up \$20

million, and we have challenged teams around the world to build a handheld mobile device – not for a doctor or a nurse. It’s for a mom or dad at 2:00 in the morning when their kid is sick. This is a device you can talk to. It’s got AI—artificial intelligence on the could.

You can cough on it, it can do the RNA and DNA analysis of the bacteria in your sputum. You do a blood prick, and you do your blood chemistries. It’s meant to be able to diagnose you independent of the medical system, which is so broken right now. We had 300 teams enter the competition. We’re down to the top 10. We’ll have a winner in 15 months. But people are [inaudible], “Are you going to put doctors and nurses out of business?”

And the answer is, no, we’ve got a problem right now. We’re going to be short something on the order of 100,000 doctors in the U.S. alone by 2020, and that’s great compared to the rest of the world. Africa’s got 25 percent of the disease burden and 1.3 percent of the healthcare workers. We could not scale building hospitals or physicians fast enough, so can we use technology to touch the lives of a billion people. That’s one of them, the Qualcomm Tricorder XPRIZE.

The way I think about it is imagine technology that a Maasai Warrior in the middle of Kenya today has access to a smartphone with Google. They have access to more knowledge and information than President Clinton had 20 years ago, and they’re paying \$1.00 a day. This democratization and this demonetization is where we’re heading.

Tim Ferriss:

I think what I’d love to ask both of you – and, Peter, perhaps we could start with you, is, when did you leave this very incremental linear thinking? Because for a lot of people, they hear tens of millions of dollars, and they immediately respond in their own head with, “I could never do that. I could never raise that type of money, make that type of money, have that type of impact,” and when I interviewed Peter Thiel on the podcast – some people may have heard it – but he’s, obviously, known as a billionaire investor, first money into Facebook, co-founder of Palantir.

But back in the day, he was on a very traditional track to becoming a lawyer, and he ended up not getting a clerking position, and that was the redirection that sent him into what would later become PayPal.

Now, of course, he poses questions like, “Why don’t you take your ten-year plan, and ask yourself, ‘Why can I do this in six

months?”” And it turns out that sometimes you can actually formulate a plan that works, based on asking better questions. For him, there were a few moments that really shook him or showed him that the incremental approach was not the only approach. So, Peter, I’m curious, at what point did you develop this thinking, or who impacted you? What were the triggers that led you to think this big?

Peter Diamandis: Great question. It was probably – so I grew up passionate about space, watching the talent of Apollo, drinking all the Tang I got my hands on, watching Star Trek, and it was driven by this inner purpose and mission and passion.

I attached that to becoming an astronaut and joining NASA, and that was my vision and my future. As I got closer and closer to meeting astronauts and seeing what was really going on behind NASA, I realized it was never going to happen in the government. Honestly, NASA had become so risk adverse that it was massively disappointing.

It was this connect between my vision of where the world should be and the way it was and the way it was going, and I had this moment in time where I literally, when I was at grad school at MIT, I did not submit my astronaut application, and I said, “Screw it. Forget it. I’m going to do this myself.” I made a commitment to myself to work to open up the private space frontier on my own, which is an insane concept to think about.

Tim Ferriss: Were you sitting having a cup of coffee and just looking across the café?

What was the moment when you were like, “Screw it, I’m just going to do it”?

Peter Diamandis: I was in the man vehicle lab at MIT. I was doing research on human physiology, and I had a bunch of shuttle astronauts in the lab, and I was talking to them – Byron Lichtenberg and Owen Garriott and a number of folks, and I was listening to the stories of what they had to do to get into NASA and how they had to be a good boy and do what they were told, which is not me by any stretch of the imagination. Then I was told, “Your chance of being selected are 1 in 1,000. If you get selected, maybe you’ll fly, and if you fly, you might fly once or twice in your career.”

I’m like, “Holy shit, that’s ridiculous. This is bullshit. This is not my vision of the way opening up space is going to be.” It was so

antithetical, and I had so much energy and emotion tied to this desire that I literally poured that all into a brand new approach, which became Zero Gravity Corporation, XPRIZE, Space Adventures, Planetary Resources – a whole bunch of things – and we’re just beginning.

I think it is now possible for an entrepreneur to do anything, to take on any grand challenge, and I think it’s an important message. You can stop complaining about problems and start solving them. That’s what we’re living in today.

Tim Ferriss: Just to look at, say, the Ansari XPRIZE, it’s \$10 million. Going from MIT to, say, the first XPRIZE – obviously, there are a lot of different steps in between. I know this may seem like I’m beating a dead horse on this, \$10 million, but it’s such an unfathomable number for a lot of people.

Peter Diamandis: Yeah, so I didn’t have \$10 million.

Tony Robbins: I was going to say, I hope you’re going to share this part of the story.

Peter Diamandis: Yeah.

Tony Robbins: [Inaudible] walked out with \$10 million. Come on, Peter. [Inaudible] tell the story. The first time you told me this story, it was like, “Alright, you’re my brother.”

Tim Ferriss: Alright, cool. Yeah, no, let’s get into –

Tony Robbins: Tell him. Tell him.

Peter Diamandis: Listen, the fact of the matter is I read this book, *The Spirit of St. Louis*, that my good friend Greg Mattock gives me, and I hear about it, and then I go, “Hey, if I can create a prize, maybe that’s the means I get my ass into space.”

And so I start noodling this as I’m reading the book. Ten million bucks is enough money. I’m going to call it the XPRIZE because I had no idea who was going to put up the \$10 million. The X was going to represent the name of the person who would eventually put up the money as a variable to be replaced. So long story short, I’m scrambling for it back then, you know \$100.00 here, \$1,000.00 there, getting the seed money to get this going. I end up in St. Louis where an amazing man, Al Kerth, says, “I will help you raise

some seed money,” and he was driven and connected by my passion, my commitment to this.

He helped me raise about a half a million dollars in 10k and 20k checks from the people. People connect with your passion, with your heartfelt desire to do something bigger than yourself, and they’re willing to back that to some extent. Long story short, over the course of a year and a lot of worn out kneepads, I end up raising a half a million dollars, and then our fundraising stalls.

We make the very bold decision that we’re going to announce this \$10 million prize anyway with no money in place. We end up going out under the arch in St. Louis – one of the things I teach entrepreneurs – in fact, I write about this in my next book called *Bold*, which is how you announce a big bold idea to the world really matters. If you announce it below a line of credibility – we all have a line of credibility around ideas. We judge them constantly.

If you announce it below the line of credibility, people dismiss it out of hand, and then we have this line of super credibility that if you announce it above the line of super credibility, people say, “Wow, when’s it going to happen? How can I be involved?” So for me, even though I didn’t have \$10 million, I didn’t have any teams, I got on stage to stand by my side 20 astronauts, from Buzz Aldrin and others, the head of NASA, the head of the FA, who had seen me over many years, and it took a lot of convincing.

Even getting to that point was a pinnacle of years or work but driven by this commitment. So we announce this prize, front page around the world because I’m absolutely, positively sure I’m going to raise \$10 million. Who wouldn’t want to pay \$10 million after a person did it? It’s paid only on success. Challenge is, 150 CEOs later over the next five years between ’96 and 2001, everyone’s turning me down.

I finally meet the Ansari Family. There’s a lot more detail here. Listen, the fact of the matter is, if I – there were many times at 3:00 a.m. in the morning when I was tempted to give up, and it was only because I was being driven by my internally, my own massively transformative purpose that kept me going, and we’re here today having this conversation because I did not give up. I’ll leave it at that.

Tim Ferriss: No, I love that story, and I think what I'd love to underscore, as much for myself as anyone else is that you also had the public accountability because you made that –

Peter Diamandis: I burned my ships, dude.

Tim Ferriss: Exactly, you burned your ships. That's a wonderful story. Tony, I know a lot about your story, and, of course, we're going to have a follow up conversation to talk about many other things, but I've read all your books, I've listened to a lot of your material, and I know that you weren't always the Tony Robbins that people know of today. There was a point where you were – well, there's a lot to the story, of course. But what were the triggers for you, the influences, the moments, where you decided, "Okay, instead of feeding an additional two people per year or making an additional 10k per year," or whatever it might be in those increments, where you went to really getting bold, as Peter might say?

Tony Robbins: I think it unfolds with time. There are moments along the way, but there are inevitable moments that come with growth, and growth only comes if there's something, as Peter said, that you're passionate about that's larger than yourself because it's very easy to become satisfied with a certain amount of money, a certain amount of food, a certain amount of sex, a certain amount of comfort, a certain amount of anything, but if you said to me, "What is the difference in people's lives? What's the difference between Peter – as I love dearly – and the average person?"

It's hunger. He's an incredibly intelligent man. He understates who he is and his just pure level of intelligence. Truthfully, I've seen people that have one-tenth the intelligence accomplish more because that hunger's there. My hunger, from the earliest day, was to light people up, and I think it's because I was surrounded by so much suffering. I hate to see people suffer. I love to light people up, and I found early that would light people up was answers, answers that could change the quality of life immediately, where they could suddenly shift their body, and their energy would change. Their body would change.

They could lose 20 or 30 pounds, that they could change their relationship and suddenly something that was dead was fully alive, and there was passion. I don't care who you are in the world. You can make \$10 billion – and I know because I can recall some of these people – that's not the game. The game is your body. It's your emotions. It's your relationships. If everything else in your life is going great, and there's an area that isn't, it inevitably will

bite you because we're designed, as human beings, to grow or die. That's just how it works, spiritually, mentally, emotionally. So along the way, I wanted answers for myself, to start with. I was short. I was fat.

I grew up in a very tough environment. I had four different fathers. We had no food, no money. Those things trigger you, and as a result, I couldn't get answers in my environment. I didn't have access to anybody. So for me, it was books. I'm very passionate about the power of how self-learning can transform anybody, especially in the world we have today where you have access to everything, literally, at your fingertips, on your phone, anywhere you go. But I read 700 books in a period – I thought I was going to read a book a day. That was a goal. I took a speed-reading class, but I didn't do that.

I read 700 books over seven years. But I read anything I could on physiology, psychology, emotion – anything I could make the difference in the quality of people's lives. And then, gradually, what happened was, I started going from books to being able to use net time, no extra time. I want to listen to things. I started listening, those days, to cassette tapes. That's how old I am. As I went through the process, I then found myself at events, and I went to an event that changed my life. It was the first real teacher was this man named Jim Rhone who was a personal development teacher.

It was a three-hour event. I sat in this room, and I watched this man who's just so eloquently, in three hours, shared with people principles that I knew would change the quality of my life or theirs, and I decided to go to work for him because I thought, "This is what I want my life to be about. This guy is the best at what he does. I want to live this stuff." And so I went to work for him, and the core essence that I got from being around him was the quality of your life really comes down to your capacity to add value, that, in life, the only thing that makes you feel fully alive is growing and giving, and that involved my language of it. That's what I pulled by being around him, not so much by what he said.

But what he said that grabbed me in those early days that opened my world was – my mother wanted me to become a truck driver. There was this truck master's driving school they used to advertise on television, and she was obsessed that I could make \$24,000.00 a year, which was twice as much as my father, if I just go to truck driving school, and then I'd have this open road. I thought, "You know, [inaudible] could drive that truck far enough, fast enough, long enough to change the world. That's not going to change the

world. That's not what my passion is." And so I went to this event, and I saw this man. I walked out of there, and I said, "It's about adding value."

He showed me on all levels, including economics, that if you found a way to do more for others than anybody else, you would have the opportunity to grow, expand, have impact, be economically free, have the choices you want. The next big chunk was when I got exposed – because I was always looking for new teachers – to a man named John Grinder, who taught an [inaudible] program at NLP, and I watched this man take people in minutes and create changes they've been working on in decades, and so I became obsessed.

There was nobody in that community other than therapists in those early days, and I convinced him at 18, 19, I guess, years old at the time to let me come sit in his class because I was going to put my ear to the door anyway no matter what. I took notes like crazy at the end of the class, and then there was a day there were this person – he was out of the room – and this person started going through this phobic exposure and started freaking out and screaming, and I'm in a room with 70 people, and they're all therapists, and nobody's doing anything.

I just stood up, and I just grabbed this person. I wasn't going to let him suffer, and then everything that I had learned, consciously and unconsciously, came out, and it was like magic. Fifteen minutes later, it was gone, and John walked in the room, and everybody's like, "Did you see what this guy did? He's a phenome." I'm no phenome. All I did was I cared so much, I had so much intensity for the issue that it's like – I didn't know how to give somebody mouth to mouth resuscitation.

I was in a place with my father-in-law where he dropped – and I mean dropped – and nothing that I had learned made a difference, and somewhere in my head, in milliseconds where he was dying and turning gray, my brain remembered having seen Sanjay Gupta talk about, "It's not mouth to mouth. It's press compressions to get blood into the brain."

Where does your brain come up with that? It comes up because it's attuned to answers when you become in an altered state, a state of passion, a state of commitment, a state of must. When you're listening to Peter, when he put himself on the line – the way you take the – as you said, you take the [inaudible] and you burned the boats. In those moments, the answer's there.

So then I started making that my modus operandi. I went on national radio in Canada, and I challenged psychologists and psychiatrists after I had four days of training, and I said, “I don’t care what your problem is, I don’t care if you have uncontrollable phobias, see me. I’ll handle it, literally, in one hour or less.” I got challenged. Psychiatrists called me on the phone and made my whole career by saying, “You’re a liar. You’re a charlatan. People like you should not be allowed on the radio.” And I said, “Sir, have you ever met me?” He said, “Of course not.” I said, “Have you ever met my clients?” He said, “Of course not.” I said, “So are you a scientist?” He said, “I’m a physician.”

I said, “Are you a scientist?” I said, “Good, because a scientist would never make an assumption. What you’re telling me is what you’re proposing, is your hypothesis. Your hypothesis is that I’m a charlatan and a liar, so let’s prove it. I’m at the Holiday Inn tomorrow night. Anyone listening, come. Bring me your worst patient. Bring me somebody you’ve never been able to cure. I’m sure you’ve got plenty of those.”

And I enticed this guy to a point where he had nowhere to go. So he brought me this woman he treated for seven years who had a snake phobia. She’d dream about a snake in the middle of the night, wake up, four or five times a night, treat her for seven years, and 15 minutes later, I wrapped a snake around her. That became my modus operandi, results. And that’s where I came up with the idea of coaching. I said, “I’m not a motivator.” No one’s using the term, so I built the beginning of an industry. My idea of coaching was not go get a certificate. You’re paid for results.

So I would go and say, “You pay me nothing. I’ll do one session. Give me the most impossible task, and I’ll turn it around. You’re addicted to a drug. You’re smoking the cigarettes. You’re in the place.” I built it. I went to the United States Army, and said, “Give me a program. I’ll take any training program you have. I’ll cut the training time in half and increase the competency. You’ll pay me nothing.”

He said, “You’re crazy.” I said, “No, I’m expensive,” and negotiated, and I took a four-day pistol shooting program and turned it a one-day program, qualified 100 percent of the people when, before, they’ve only done 70 percent. The colonel wrote the general and says, “The first breakthrough since World War I.” Pistol shooting. I never shot a gun before. It was this driving force. Then I started with athletes. Then, all of a sudden, I’m working

with Princess Diana, then President Clinton – who, by the way, you’re absolutely right because he didn’t even have an AOL account back then.

I remember when I first started working with him, I said, “There’s this new stuff called e-mail. I got this thing called AOL. Maybe we’ll talk electronically.” He goes, “I’ve heard about that.” He didn’t have an account. [Inaudible] those days. And it just grew to businesses and individuals. Every time you do something and you think you’ve done your best, if you’re a growing human being, you find out it’s not your best.

There’s a new level. When you get there, there’s a new horizon. If there is a passion to serve something bigger than yourself [inaudible] not limited as you’re thinking. I believe the seat people get in signifies what capacity of their brain they’re going to be able to utilize, and I’ve become an expert in changing your state, changing the story that limits that state, and then finding the real strategies that work.

I don’t give a shit what state you’re in. If you’re running east looking for a sunset, you’re screwed. You’ve got to have the right strategy as well. Those three things are, I think, what can do it for whatever. Change your strategy, change your story, change your state, and you can pretty much change anything.

Tim Ferriss: And, Tony, what was the last name of the NLP teacher that you mentioned?

Tony Robbins: Grinder, John Grinder, one of the co-founders.

Tim Ferriss: Got it. I think the commonality, at least – or one of the commonalities, if I’m trying to piece together the patterns speaking to the two of you is that you put your reputations where your mouth was in both cases – in slightly different approaches, but – it just gets me so amped up. My hands are getting sweaty just thinking about big stuff just listening to you guys. Speaking of big things, I want to make sure we have ample time to cover something that we’re all very excited about, and that is the Global Learning XPRIZE. Perhaps, Peter, you could chat about this.

Before we jump into it, though, I want to mention a couple things to people. No. 1, first and foremost, very similar to Tony in this respect, I’ve been a lifelong reader and autodidact. I’ve had many incredible teachers, but my most important teachers, in many cases, have come from books. They’ve come indirectly through

words on a page. I was actually going to be held back for kindergarten because I didn't learn to read, and my teacher was convinced I couldn't read, which was not the case.

What ended up being the problem is she never explained why I should learn the alphabet. Then I got into first grade, and Mrs. [inaudible] – I still remember her – she said, “Tim, I know you don't want to learn the alphabet, but if you learn the alphabet, you'll be able to read books.” I was like, “Well, why didn't somebody tell me this,” and learned to read.

Tony Robbins: That's awesome. That's awesome.

Tim Ferriss: And so Mrs. [inaudible] to this day – I ended up being the valedictorian of my grade school because of her, and she had competitions.

So just to bring it full circle, she had these little paper racecars we would make and put them on a wall, and there was a track with the number of books read, and there was a competition to get to the end.

Peter Diamandis: Love it.

Tim Ferriss: I got to the end, maybe a third of the way through the year, and we had to extend the racetrack. It was all due to that passion she had for reading and her ability to explain the benefits of it. As a segway, Peter, maybe you could tell us a bit about the Global Learning XPRIZE, which I'm so excited about.

Peter Diamandis: Yeah, thank you, Tim. When I think about, what are the world's biggest problems? The problems that if we, as society, could fix would really transform this planet, I mean that every mother and father and every person watching should really care about, there's one that, when you pull that thread, topples others, and that's creating a world of literacy.

There's a billion illiterate people on the planet. Two thirds of them are women, and 215 million of them are kids, and they live in the parts of the world that will never build enough schools or teach enough teachers. I'll tell you one thing. A population of people who are literate are more peaceful, more prosperous, and less populous. In fact, Bill Gates has a great Ted Talk in which he talks about the fact that there's something you can do to stop population growth rates, and it's make a population healthier and more literate, and you do that, growth stops.

In fact, growth goes negative, and it really is a key part of our world. At XPRIZE, we, every year, pull together the smartest people on the planet and say, “Where should we focus our next XPRIZE?” We call this thing visioneering. Tony’s been a part of it. Tim, I would welcome your participation in the future. We have this debate and discussion with those smartest and wealthiest people on the planet, and literacy, learning became the focal point. So we set out to create something we called the Global Learning XPRIZE.

Here’s the question. Can we get entrepreneurs around the planet to build a piece of software that can operate on any phablet, any tablet, and take a child where there is nothing, no literate adults, not schools – nothing – and on their own take them to basic reading, writing, and numeracy? That’s our challenge, and we fundamentally believe it is possible.

Got amazing support from Nicholas Negroponte who created one laptop per child who he and Mat Keller, who’s running this prize for us, actually did an experiment. They took tablets into Ethiopia, in to villages that were 100 miles from any schools, any anything, and they dropped the tablets off in a box, and the kids opened the box, learned on their own how to turn on the tablet, how to use the apps, and how to start learning how to sound out words.

The problem they had was that the software was so poor it limited them. And so our question is, can we create what Neil Stevenson, a great author in science fiction, would call young lady’s illustrator primer from diamond age? Can we create software that allows kids to teach themselves? That’s our challenge. That’s what the Global Learning XPRIZE is about.

Tim Ferriss:

I think there are a couple of really important aspects to this that I’d love to underscore for people. First, I’ll second the Neil Stevenson recommendation. If you’re going to start with one – I’m a huge fan of *Snow Crash* and *Cryptonomicon*. But coming back to the – your boldest mission yet, I think, is what you called it in an e-mail that I received. There are two things. I think it’s worth talking about the old way and the challenges of trying to meet the demands of, say, 250 million illiterate children.

Based on what I read, it looks like that would take 1.6 million new teachers by 2015. Needless to say, doesn’t seem like there’s any way that the old way would scale. Another thing I want to point out to folks is if you create a literate, numerate mother or particularly younger women and children, you tend to, in many

countries, create educated families. There's sort of a false multiplier effect by attacking this. The other thing I loved you to talk about is – maybe you could just, obviously, comment on how people can get involved, but the fact that it's not just using software to make people literate, but there's a time constraint. I think it's 18 months. Is that right?

Peter Diamandis: Yeah. It was a friend, Elon Musk, that challenged us to do it faster than we originally planned.

It's 18 months. So the way this prize is going to work, we announced it at the United Nations General Assembly. If I can say, Tony is one of our major benefactors underwriting the purse. We raised \$15 million prize money for this, and we announce at the UNGA, at the Social Good Summit, and at the Clinton Global Initiative. I had the honor of closing out CGI with President Clinton talking about this. We expect there will be hundreds, if not thousands, of teams competing for this.

Teams can come from anywhere. It can be a high school team. It can be a team out of Microsoft, a team out of Mumbai. It doesn't matter. You've got to build a piece of software. We're going to narrow it down from 1,000 plus teams down to a top five. Those five are going to deliver their software to us, and they're each going to win \$1 million of capital right there. That software's got to engage the student because if it's not exciting for them to use this software, they're going to give up and put the tablet down, and it's done.

Game over. It's got to actually be compelling enough and exciting enough and understand that child's favorite movie star, sports star, colors so it engages them and personalizes it in a way that makes them want to learn. We're going to deliver that software. Those five finalists are going to be delivered to 5,000 kids in Sub-Saharan Africa, and on 5,000 tablets, and we're going to measure over 18 months where they go from zero to how far they can go in terms of reading, writing, and numeracy, and we're going to crown a winner. It has to meet a certain level. I won't go into that detail now.

But the cool thing about this prize, unlike any other XPRIZE, the winning software wins \$10 million. That's great, but we also get the right to open source that software. So imagine if the best software on the planet for teaching a child reading, writing, and numeracy now became available for free on every tablet and every smart phone put out there.

There'll be a billion handsets in Africa by 2016. Imagine if every one of them became the type of compelling teaching capability that a billionaire used or a teenage in Mumbai used the same. The way that Google is the same for Eric Schmidt or for the poorest kid on the planet.

Tim Ferriss: No, it's extremely exciting, and, obviously, I want to direct people to a few places where they can learn more. But I'd be curious, Tony, to hear from you. There's so many places you could invest your time and resources. I'm sure you get asked to contribute to many, many, many, many different things. Why is this important to you, and why have you decided to take such a large position in supporting it?

Tony Robbins: I look at, how do you create the greatest impact on the quality of people's lives, and if you listen to the tree of us in this conversation as a sampling, I believe the thing that effects that most is learning.

We are growing, learning machines a person's ability to learn, to grow, to solve problems, to be able to expand is what develops the quality of life for any human being. That's what we're made for, and it all starts in the world we live today in order to access the resources, and reading and writing and arithmetic – numeracy – those three components – as basic as they are and as boring as they sound to us – they open the door for all three of us. Your story, Tim, about not wanting to learn the alphabet, but, “Okay, then I can read,” because you understood at some level, even then, that reading would open another universe as it did to me.

I transported myself into other people's lives. I transported myself into new opportunities and new concepts, new solutions. All three of us have done this. All three of us have got this benefit. Elon Musk has done that. I believe that self-directed learning is the most important of all because what's going to happen in that environment is people's individual passions is going to let them hack their own lives. They're going to let them revamp – especially in the world we live today where – think about it. Ten years ago, we had, what, 500 million people on the web.

It's hard to even imagine. We've got two billion today, and in six years, we're going to have five billion. Three billion people are going to be joining that system. But to be able to take advantage of that system fully, you've got to be able to have these fundamental skills. My whole thing is become a learning machine. You sure as hell can't do that when you have such a large population of our society and of our world that doesn't even have the opportunity to

start with. We all know that children's inventiveness is extraordinary.

What we're really doing here is using tools and technology to literally open up the world so no matter where you live – we're all lucky. But you look at how our lives have changed – I'll give you another thing that I believe of principle, and that's proximity. We change proximity. When Peter came up with this dream of his, he put himself in proximity with a different type of person over and over and over again, shared his passion and story, and that proximity opened up opportunities. Books were a way of getting proximity when I didn't have physical proximity to some of the solutions.

That proximity for someone in Africa, somebody in certain parts of India, some parts of the third world, to have there be no separation from your capacity – have the same education that somebody has at MIT, that somebody has at Stanford, that stuff is coming online, but it's worthless if you don't have the basic code, that alphabet you talked about in the very beginning. So I put my time, my energy, and my money on the line in this area because I don't think there a more important we can give back to society.

I'll tell you another reason. When you look at society and you see the problems that we have – a lot of people think of these problems as somebody else's problems. These are our problems because if you look at the biggest challenges in the world, they come from the people in society that are forgotten.

They come from people that become so frustrated, they don't have a way to come up with a power of meaning. They don't have a way to transport themselves. They don't have a way to change the quality of their life, and those are the individuals that turn to violence. You think about it – a few people asked me – a few years ago, I was in India, and I literally left the hotel there in India, I think, about two days before the big bombing.

I literally saw the bombing two days after I'd been there, and I was talking with a friend, and they were with a group of people, and one of the people was just saying, "How is this possible? How is this type of violence possible? How could somebody kill men, women, and children in this way?" And I said, "You know, it's really possible because I'll tell you what it's not possible for. It wasn't a happy person. It wasn't a growing person. It wasn't a fulfilled human being. A happy person's not trying to destroy somebody else's life."

If you want to know what makes human beings happy, it isn't money. Money will give you a certain level of happiness, depending on which study you read [inaudible]. It is one thing and one thing only. Progress. Progress equals happiness. If you feel like you're growing, expanding in your psychology and your humanity and your emotion and your capacity and your economics, you feel alive. We grow or we die, and you put a giant limitation on that based on where you live in the world, where you're born, unless you have access to certain resources, and the most fundamental resource is learning.

But with technology now, it doesn't even matter where you live. If you know how to learn, the world is yours. So on a zero to ten, to me, this is a one million of importance, and that's why I've committed the time, energy, and capital to help make it work, and that's why all the other people are doing the same that are part of this team.

Tim Ferriss:

Absolutely. Well said. I want to point out something else, also, to those techies listening because I know a lot of techies out there listening to this, and even those who are not necessarily technically trained – I am not – would find the fact that open – there's a fact of open source that we didn't really touch on, and that is not only is it freely available to people to use in some way, in some interpretation, in some user interface, but it is then available to be improved upon.

I think it's very fascinating that – let's just say, hypothetically, we have these teams. Five teams are given \$1 million each. They bust their asses, think big, create really innovative software to try to solve this problem. Finally, you find this winner, the code is made available. People are becoming literate who can then improve upon the software itself.

It's just a very virtuous recursive aspect to the whole thing that is really, really, really cool.

Peter Diamandis:

It is.

Tim Ferriss:

Guys, everyone listening, those of you who followed me for a while know that I don't get this excited about a lot of things, but I've been waiting to pick this shot for a long time, and I've talked about my passion for education and reforming education, improving education, which is really improving learning since my Ted Talk in 2008, and there have been very few opportunities to

really use an Archimedes lever to move the world. I think this is very legitimately one of them. Peter, maybe you could – well, there are two things. First, as we know, based on the spectacular results of the XPRIZE, that people respond to incentives, and that's not being good or bad. It's being human.

People respond to incentives. So we have – obviously, for those people who are interested in trying to develop this software and compete for the prize, where should they go? Where can they learn more?

Peter Diamandis: Yeah, if you go to xprize.org, our website, you can click on the learning XPRIZE there, and there's information about how to register as a team, how to preregister right now, and it's pretty easy. Just tell us you're interested in forming a team, and get involved. We'll take you through the process. If you're a commercial company, great. If you're a nonprofit or a startup or whatever – I know that whenever we give people a very clear target, it drives them and focuses them, and it's a great thing, whether you enter the competition the final result or not, so xprize.org is how you can register.

Tim Ferriss: Excellent. I should just mention to people, I had a conversation with a good friend of mine recently whose made hundreds of millions of dollars, and he's a very grounded deep, soulful guy.

We went for a hike because I've been trying to decide on my next chapter, so to speak, the next projects that I pick, and the way he encouraged me to think about it, he gave me a couple of questions to ask myself, and one of them was, if your goal were to be remembered in the history books, metaphorically, 200, 300 years from now, what could you do? And engineer it in reverse from that question. If your goal is to have a big impact, let's get very specific. If you're going to be remembered 200, 300 years from now or more, what could you do?

I would actually pose that to people listening to this, and I would say one of the answers is winning this completion. I really feel like it could have that great an impact. You could really go down in history for this one. That's point No. 1. Point No. 2, for those people who just want to, perhaps, look at some very, very fascinating prizes, if you'd like to support the Global Learning XPRIZE, there's an [Indiegogo](http://Indiegogo.com) page.

You can go to Indiegogo.com and just search XPRIZE – no hyphen needed – and the first thing that'll pop up – and I'll also

include this link in the show notes for people, the Global Learning XPRIZE. There are a couple of prizes. There are prizes for every price point, all the way from \$25.00 or \$10.00 even up. Peter, I thought maybe you could elaborate on one of them, which is the 10th anniversary Ansari XPRIZE ticket.

Peter Diamandis: Actually, if I could, let me give a context to why this is important because –

Tim Ferriss: Sure, definitely.

Peter Diamandis: It's really critical for people to realize we do have amazing people like Tony Robbins, who I love dearly who has put up \$1 million here. We raised the capital, and you can say, "Why would my \$10.00 or \$25.00 even make a difference here, and why should I support this?" Let me tell you why. As an organization, we have been dependent on a lot of extraordinary philanthropists. I want to change that.

I really want the XPRIZE to become an organization where the public decides what the biggest problems in the world that need to be solved are, and then vote on those and capitalize those prizes and literally create the future. We want to solve this problem, great. We'll crowd source the rules. We will raise the capital, and we'll solve that problem – literally creating the future. It's throwing yourself a touchdown pass, and this Indiegogo campaign is a means for me to prove to the XPRIZE board and to the world that the crowd wants to be involved in helping to capitalize these prizes and cares about this model for solving grand challenges.

So it's not about the half a million dollars or \$1 million we'll make. Donate \$10.00. I'm happy with that, but get involved because we want to open this up so that it's really the world solving its own problems, stopping complaining about problems and starting solving problems. That mindset is so critically important for society today.

The second thing is where we're going to use this money we're going to raise. So we, today, are basically taking this software – these tablets – out to 5,000 kids in Sub-Saharan Africa. Our goal is to double that number, and in success, we'll go to 10,000 kids, not in 100 villages, but 200 villages to really statistically get the numbers working best and to really see the major impact of this Global Learning XPRIZE can have. How can you be involved? Lots of ways.

Like you said, Tim. It's from \$10.00 up to \$10,000.00. two of my favorite – if I could – one of them is for \$25.00, you can get, actually, access to the winning software to your kid or your niece or your friend 18 months before it goes open source. So we're going to be actually taking the five finalists and making those finalists available to backers of this. If you want to play with the software yourself, \$25.00 means you care about this prize, and we'll give you a download code.

When the software is going out to kids in Africa, you'll get a chance to download it, too.

Tim Ferriss: And they don't have to be technical in order to use it.

Peter Diamandis: No, it's going to be android app you download and use pretty instantly. In fact, you have to as technical as the eight year olds in Africa that we're working with. Another very cool one, if I could, is at \$50.00. you get to be involved in visioneering. Visioneering is this thing that we do – 140 people, CEOs, top philanthropists. You can become a digital visioneer. You get to vote on which XPRIZE we should focus on next year. So you get to help direct where the XPRIZE – what grand challenge on the planet we're working towards next. Do you care about climate? Do you care about water, health? What is it? You get involved. This is about, really, inclusion, and that's really why I want people involved here.

Show you care. Get involved. Help us really change the world on a massive scale.

Tim Ferriss: Definitely. For those of you who are interested in really doubling down in other ways, you have a chance to spend some time with Peter himself, Sir Richard Branson, and others at the 10th Anniversary Ansari XPRIZE event, and then also, maybe, Tony, you could talk a little bit about a Date with Destiny. This is an opportunity to spend some time with Tony himself, and that is also an option on the Indiegogo page. Perhaps, Tony, you could mention just a little bit about that.

Tony Robbins: I didn't even know it was there.

Tim Ferriss: Oh, well, then –

[Crosstalk]

Tony Robbins: I'm glad it is. I'll support in any way I can.

Tim Ferriss: There we go.

Tony Robbins: A Date with Destiny is – I do it once a year. It's a six-day process. It's my most intensive program, and you have people from sports entertainment business, average people.

We have people, usually, from about 40, 50 countries. We translate six or seven language. The outcome of those six days is most of don't understand that there's a software program, if you will, an operating system that really controls how you think, feel, and experience every part of your life. We know of it generally. We know what we value. We know what we believe generally.

But we take that down to a level that's mindboggling where you will understand why you think the thoughts you think, feel the feelings you have, and more importantly, once you understand what's really the controlling force in your entire life, you rewire it because you can't change something you're unaware of, and then you just have a random life. I don't care.

Some people have had randomness that's brought a lot of greatness to their life, so you find what's great in your life, and you find out what's not, and you find out the real source and cause of it. It's an experience that is – you laugh more. You cry more. You're entertained at a level because it's raw and real, and you see changes that are unbelievable.

You'll see a guy that's just come back from – the last one we did – Afghanistan who's shell shocked, who has PTSD, who can't sleep at night. He's got the shivers. When he tries to hold the microphone, his hand is shaking out of control. He just stands up. You never know who's going to stand up. You see him 45 minutes later, and he's not shaking. He no longer – literally, take his glasses off – there's a physiological change in him where he can have light sensitivity. I brought him on CNN, to give you an example, just to show people it's possible. You see a young woman whose face has been disfigured and thinks her life is horrific.

Literally, there is a transformation in her. We saw her about six months ago, and she's got a relationship for the first time in her life. You see a person that has made more money than God, who's achieved more than they ever have, and they're bored out of their mind and frustrated with their life, and you find out that, guess what? That solution's not the solution, and you see what they're transformed like afterwards. You participate in these processes. It's

just the most intensive individual program that I do, and instead of doing it with 5,000 or 10,000 people – it's the most intimate thing I do.

We do it with about 1,800 or 2,000 people, and you get to develop family of people and friends from all over the world. It's the ultimate – if you want to transform, you want to learn what controls and shapes your life, it's the ultimate of that experience, and [inaudible] what it is, you're in.

Peter Diamandis: Tony, let me just tell you, you donated ten seats at the 10k level, and that's actually being matched with another 10k. So if you donated \$10,000 – you come to Date with Destiny, and, Tony, you said you'll take a photo and spend a few moments with those individuals, which your time is the most precious thing, and I can say that having done Date with Destiny myself with you, I learned more in six days than I learned in four years at MIT. It's the most extraordinary experience of my life.

Tony Robbins: That's very sweet of you. I love you dearly, buddy.

Tim Ferriss: That is a hell of an endorsement.

Peter Diamandis: I love you, too, pal.

Tim Ferriss: Guys, I know you have worlds to conquer out there, and the Global Learning XPRIZE is really something that has reinvigorated me in a way that has been a long time coming for me I feel.

I really feel like – for those of you listening who are in any way passionate about education, and you've been wondering how to pick your shot, how to throw that one touchdown pass, I really feel like this is an excellent place, and it's very time sensitive, to focus your energy. I'm going to be, obviously, getting behind it as I am and doing some things to help move the needle. You can go to xprize.org if you want to compete. Plenty of money on the line, and glory lasts forever, right? So that's one.

And then if you want to check out the Indiegogo campaign, I will put the link in the show notes, so you can just go to the blog – fourhourblog.com – and click on podcasting to find the show notes, or you can just go to Indiegogo.com and search for XPRIZE, without a hyphen. Before we take off, do you gentleman have any parting comments, advice, recommendations, restaurant tips – anything at all that you'd like to leave with us before we go?

Tony Robbins: I'll do something because you see the combination in all three of us, and I think you'll see it in anybody that's enjoying their life. The game never ends. Life is a game of mastery. It's about finding a way to do something and do it so well it goes beyond yourself. That if you can find your passion, find anything your passionate about – if you don't know what it is, I think it's getting around people that are really passionate. It's getting around where it's better and letting something hit you. You can't get around a person like yourself or like Peter and not be touched. There's something inside of you that's going to get ignited.

So if you don't have that passion yet, and you're listening – listening to these podcasts is a way to get some of that proximity. I'd go pursue putting myself in an environment where you're going to be stimulated. If you know what your passion is, the big question is, how can you surround yourself with the best of the best so you can be challenged because the idea behind the XPRIZE really is it's not just the incentive. It's also the challenge. It's that competition to say, "How can I do more in less time for more people than I've ever done in my life?"

When that becomes your focus, something happens. The vibratory rate of the human brain and insights come. You start seeing things. The particular activating system in the brain starts finding answers because you have that focus on something larger. If you don't have it, find it, and if you don't know how to find it, get yourself in environments consistently where people are living it, and something will hit you.

Peter Diamandis: Wow.

Tim Ferriss: Absolutely, and that's part of the reason – people ask me why I live in Silicon Valley if I could live anywhere, and it's not the tech. it's being around the people who believe that they're going to change the world.

Peter Diamandis: The conversations.

Tim Ferriss: Absolutely. Peter?

Peter Diamandis: Yeah, it all begins with passion. There's no better teacher/mentor on the planet than Tony Robbins when it comes down to that. For me, I'll just add on top of that that there is no problem we cannot take on. The world's biggest problems are the world's biggest business opportunities, which is amazing to think about.

You want to become a billionaire to help a billion people, that convergence and the notion that a single individual today – I don't care who you are in the world, where you are in the world, you have access to extraordinary capabilities. You have access to the world's knowledge and information on Google. You have access to AI, to cloud printing – all these exponential technologies, and at the same time, you've got access to all the expertise you want through crowd sourcing. You have capital through crowd funding. My goal here is to say, first and foremost, connect with your passion.

Let that drive that with you, and then take your moon shot. Where are you going to take and do something significant that gives meaning? I love that example you gave, Tim, about how you can be remembered 200, 300 years from today. It's an amazing time to be alive. It's an amazing time to be an entrepreneur. I am thankful, Tim, for who you are in the world, and Tony, and blessed to be on this conversation with you guys.

Tim Ferriss: Well, gentlemen, thank you so much for taking the time.

It would be really fun to get together in person at some point. I know we're on different coasts and constantly flying, but this virtual proximity will do for now. Everybody, check out the XPRIZE. It is very worthwhile, and there are plenty of incentives for every player in the game.

If you're looking for that passion that Peter mentioned, and you don't know what that passion is, as Tony mentioned, one of the best ways to get passionate is to be surrounded by people who are very passionate and thinking magnitudes of order above the average Joe or Jane you may be surrounded by. A great way to do that, honestly, is just to check out even the page that describes this XPRIZE on xprize.org or Indiegogo, and you might just find, as is the case with me, it's just provided some intellectual gasoline and some passion that you might not have seen in a while.

So I think that it's worth checking out, and I'll be doing a lot more related to it. Guys, for the time being. Thanks so much for being on.

Tony Robbins: Thanks, Tim. Thanks, Peter. Great being with you guys.

Peter Diamandis: Thanks, guys.

Tim Ferriss: Bye-bye.