

COMPASS IN CHAOS



PANKAJ GULATI

COMPASS IN CHAOS

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*90 Inspiring Verses to Navigate
Through Corporate Chaos*

PANKAJ GULATI

*Lead boldly,
Adapt swiftly,
and Rise above the storm.*

Pankaj Gulati: THE FAILURE GUY™

*An IIM Alumni, helping organisations and
individuals build resilience.*

www.pankajgulati.com

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COMPASS IN CHAOS

To Sanvi and Mahira

When dawn is dim and skies turn gray,
Let these words light your winding way.

Through tempests wild and shadows deep,
May dreams you hold be yours to keep.

This book—a lantern in your night,
A compass true, your guiding light.

Gratitude in the Storm

When winds of change began to roar,
And doubts crept in like waves to shore,
You stood beside me—calm, sincere,
A beacon bright when skies weren't clear.

Niyta and Rakesh Gulati—roots that never sway,
Through every storm, through night and day,
Your love became my sacred ground,
Where peace and purpose both were found.

Jyoti Gulati, Through chaos near and battles far,
You held my hand when nights were long,
And turned my fears to fearless song.
Your faith in me, a steady flame,
Lit every path, kept my name.

To Co-workers who shared the load,
Who turned rough paths to smoother road,
Your laughter lit the darkest days,
Your teamwork sang in subtle ways.

To Managers who chose to guide,
With wisdom deep and steady stride,
You taught me strength, you taught me grace,
To lead with heart, not just the race.

To Mentors—my lanterns in the night,
Who shaped my steps with gentle light,

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Your words became my compass true,
Through every maze I wandered through.

To Friends - who heard my silent plea,
And brewed up hope like morning tea,
You gave me courage, gave me cheer,
And turned my whispers into clear.

To Siblings—anchors strong and kind,
Who held my dreams when storms aligned,
You taught me laughter, taught me fight,
And kept my soul in steady sight.

So here I stand, with heart aglow,
For all the hands that helped me grow.
Through chaos wild, through trials steep,
You gave me strength, my soul to keep.

Thank you all—for every part,
For shaping hope within my heart.
The jungle's loud, the world's unsure,
But with your love, I will endure.

Preface

Life rarely unfolds in straight lines. The paths we walk—whether from campus corridors to corporate cubicles or from uncertainty to clarity—are often tangled with choices, challenges, and change. In these moments of chaos, we search for something steady, something true—a compass to guide us forward.

This book was born from that journey of struggle in chaos to a calm state. It is not a manual of rigid rules, nor a collection of lofty theories. It is a collection of poetic conversations—a lantern for those dark hours when doubt whispers louder than dreams. It is for the student wondering if the first job will define their future, for the professional navigating the maze of office politics, for the leader striving to inspire without losing themselves.

Every page is a reminder that resilience is not about avoiding storms but learning to dance in the rain. That success is not a destination, but a journey shaped by choices, curiosity, courage, and authenticity. And that in a world of shifting winds, your greatest strength is not control—it is **Adaptability**.

So, as you turn these pages, I invite you to pause, reflect, and rise. Let these words be your quiet ally, your spark of hope, your ***Compass in Chaos***. Because the world will always change—but **YOU** have the power to choose how you grow.

COMPASS IN CHAOS

Welcome to ***Compass in Chaos***—Your true companion in navigating corporate chaos and life.

Lead boldly, Adapt swiftly, and Rise above the storm.

When choices strike like sudden rain,
And charts dissolve in logic's chain,
No framework feels the heart's soft beat—
Its rules too cold, its lines too neat.

So turn within, where whispers flow,
A compass hums the way to go.
Through chaos wild, let rhythm steer—
Your inner truth will conquer fear.

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CAMPUS TO CUBICLE

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1. *To Job or to Juggle: That Is the Question?*

I sat one morning with coffee in hand,
And pondered life's employment strand.
Should I stay safe in cubicle walls,
Or chase wild dreams with daring calls?

The Job: A Suit and Steady Pay,
With lunch at noon and end of day.
A boss who nods (or sometimes yells),
And HR memos cast in spells.

Pros? Stability, like grandma's stew,
Health insurance, maybe dental too.
Paid vacations, coffee free,
And weekends off for Netflix spree.

Cons? Promotions slow as snails in snow,
Meetings where no thoughts may flow.
Dress codes that kill funky flair,
And dreams that vanish in office air.

Entrepreneurship: A Wild Parade,
Of hopes and risks and plans half-made.
You're CEO, intern, and the janitor too,
And your office? Sometimes the nearest loo.

Pros? Freedom sweet, like mango pie,
No boss to glare or supervise.

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Sky's the limit, stars in reach,
You set the rules, you get to teach.

Cons? Income's like a moody cat,
One day it purrs, next day it spat.
No sick leave, no safety net,
And stress that makes your forehead sweat.

Commitment?

Jobs want you sharp at nine,
Entrepreneurs work overtime.

Consistency?

Jobs give you structure, neat and square,
Startups? Chaos with flair and dare.

Long-term gains?

Jobs may grow like bonsai trees,
Startups bloom or crash with ease.

So here I sit, still sipping brew,
Unsure which path I should pursue.
But one thing's clear, in this career dance—
Both need grit, and both need chance.

Whether you choose the desk or dream,
Just make sure life's not too extreme.
And if you fail? Just laugh and try—
Even Elon, sometimes had to cry.

2. The Interview Awaits

From lecture halls to office doors,
You've crossed the bridge, now life explores.
The gown is gone, the tie is tight,
Your future stands in morning light.

The panel waits, their gaze is keen,
But you've prepared — you're not unseen.
Your story matters, voice it proud,
Let confidence speak clear and loud.

Tell your tale, your why, your spark,
What drives your dreams, ignites your mark.
Not just grades or skills you've earned,
But lessons lived and passions burned.

Research deep — the company's soul,
Its mission, values, every goal.
Show you care, connect the thread,
Let your answers be well-fed.

Practice calm, breathe in, breathe out,
Let nerves dissolve, replace with clout.
A smile can win, a pause can charm,
Your presence is your secret arm.

Ask questions — show you care,
About the role, the growth, the fare.
Curiosity is not a flaw,
It shows you think beyond the draw.

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Dress the part, but more than style,
Wear your truth, your inner smile.
Authenticity will always shine,
More than suits or ties align.

Walk in strong, let doubts be few,
The world is waiting just for you.
Each “Tell me about yourself” you hear,
Is a chance to make your purpose clear.

You’re not just seeking — you’re the find,
A spark of talent, sharp and kind.
So go ahead, the stage is set,
Your journey’s just begun — no regret.

3. Choosing the Right Employer

When dreams take flight and paths unfold,
A choice awaits, more precious than gold.
Not just a name or a shining brand,
But a place where your roots can truly stand.

Seek not the glitter, nor fleeting fame,
But values strong, a guiding flame.
Where learning thrives and voices are heard,
Where growth is promised, not just a word.

Look for leaders who inspire, not rule,
A culture warm, not cold and cruel.
Where purpose beats in every heart,
And innovation plays its vital part.

Ask: Will I matter? Will I grow?
Will they nurture the seeds I sow?
For a career's not just a race to run,
It's a journey shared, beneath the sun.

So choose with care, and choose with pride,
Let passion and wisdom be your guide.
For the right employer is more than a start—
It's the canvas where you paint your art.

4. *The Four Pillars of Purpose*

In the rush of life, we chase and strive,
But meaning blooms where choices thrive.
Four anchors hold our journey true—
Control them well, they'll carry you.

When you work—the rhythm, the beat,
Not every hour is meant to compete.
Guard your time like sacred gold,
For burnout waits where time's not told.

Where you work—the space, the air,
Shapes your thoughts and how you care.
A toxic place can dim your flame,
But peace and light will lift your name.

Whom you work with—hearts and minds,
In shared respect, true power binds.
The wrong crowd drains, the right inspires,
They stoke your dreams or quench your fires.

What you work on—the soul of the quest,
Is it just a job, or your very best?
Purpose fuels the longest run,
When passion and mission become one.

So choose with care, these four you steer,
They shape your days, your month, your year.
And in their balance, you will find,
A life well-lived, with peace of mind.

5. Campus to Cubicle

The bell once rang, a call to roam,
Through lecture halls I called my home.
Books in hand, with dreams so wide,
In college halls, I used to glide.

Late-night talks and coffee runs,
Deadlines chased beneath the sun.
Laughter echoed, plans were made,
In youthful hearts, no fears displayed.

But now I stand, in shirt and tie,
A name tag pinned, my collar high.
The office hums, a steady beat,
No bunking class, no empty seat.

First handshakes firm, some smiles unsure,
New names and faces to endure.
“Welcome aboard,” they kindly say,
Yet I miss my friends from yesterday.

The clock ticks loud, the stakes are real,
Deadlines bite with sharpened steel.
No more grace for being late,
Now punctuality seals your fate.

Where once I strolled with books and dreams,
Now I juggle tasks and project schemes.
No canteen chats or campus trees,
Just coffee breaks and corporate pleas.

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Yet in this world, so new, so wide,
A different thrill begins to rise.
A chance to grow, to learn, to lead,
To plant ambition's daring seed.

So here I stand, both proud and shy,
A college kid with suit and tie.
From carefree days to grown-up game,
Different paths but dreams the same.

6. The Role I Seek

In halls of glass and towers tall,
I wandered through the corporate sprawl,
With dreams that burned, a steady flame,
Not chasing titles, wealth, or fame.

I sought a place where purpose grows,
Where heart and mind in rhythm flow,
A role not just to earn my bread,
But feed the soul and forge ahead.

Where values aren't just words displayed,
But actions lived and truth conveyed,
Where culture breathes in every space,
And kindness walks with quiet grace.

Through trials steep and moments grim,
I held my ground when hope was dim,
Each setback carved a deeper way,
To rise, rebuild, and seize the day.

I passed the doors that didn't fit,
Where passion dimmed and dreams unlit,
Till one bright morning, clear and true,
A vision matched what I once knew.

A team that listens, dares, and tries,
Where failure's not a foe, but wise,

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Where growth is nurtured, not just tracked,
And every voice is welcomed back.

Now here I stand, not just employed,
But in a role that brings me joy,
Aligned with all I hold most dear—
Ambition, values, culture clear.

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Thankyou

Thank you for giving your time and heart to ***Compass in Chaos***. Every word in these pages was written with hope—that someone, somewhere, would find a spark of strength when the world spooks with Uncertainty, Chaos and Failures.

Knowing you've walked this journey with me means more than I can express. If even one line made you pause, smile, or believe a little more in yourself, then this book has fulfilled its purpose.

Life will always bring its storms, but I hope these thoughts remind you that you carry your own compass—your courage, your curiosity, your truth.

Please keep rising, keep dreaming, and keep choosing growth. Your story matters, and I'm honoured that mine could be a small part of yours.

Please feel free to be in touch/follow for more inspiration, feedback, advice, or just a simple hello.

Let's navigate this chaos together as together is always better.

Pankaj Gulati: The Failure Guy™
www.pankajgulati.com

COMPASS IN CHAOS

*90 Inspirational Verses to Navigate Through
Corporate Chaos*

When corporate world spooks you with rejection, uncertainty, chaos and failures, where do you turn? **Compass in Chaos** is your guide through the storms of ambition, office politics, and relentless change.

Pankaj Gulati, popularly known as **THE FAILURE GUY™** blends emotions, feelings and poetic rhythm with real world corporate experience to help you:

Lead Boldly, Adapt Swiftly and Rise above the Storm.

Whether you're stepping out of campus corridors or steering boardroom battles, these verses will light your path with well researched insights and remind you that resilience isn't about avoiding chaos—it's about finding your rhythm within it.

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