



# Elucidation

In this edition of the Elucidate X bi-weekly chunk of prose, **Gordan Domlija** reflects on the growing number of people going through a change in work circumstance and offers helpful, practical advice.

## The importance of having a Plan B

For work, for life, it has never been more important to have a back up plan.

It was my birthday this week, a time for reflection and gratitude, for family, friends and an abundance of new opportunity.

I met with hundreds of people while setting up my own business, ElucidateX, many of whom are brilliant and inspiring entrepreneurs. What struck me however, is how many of their stories started from a negative, the catalyst for change being a far from happy experience.

At the same time I continue to meet people quietly 'let go' from their jobs, disposable to their employers. Not all old and expensive, restructures and cost saving initiatives can affect anyone.

My takeouts?

1. Don't think it can't happen to you
2. Don't panic if it does
3. Expect the best, prepare for the worst

Remember, if you are in a corporate job, companies don't need an excuse to remove you, and even if they did, check your employment contract, most people have probably already breached an IT or social media policy without realising. Just because contract clauses are not evenly and consistently applied, it doesn't mean they won't be.

So, it is best to be prepared.

# The Practical Stuff

(particularly relevant for migrant workers)

1. Keep the lights on! Make sure you have a financial runway to cover short term costs. Costs are not sympathetic to your change in circumstance.
2. If you are suddenly out of work as an expat on an employment visa, you could have as little as 30 days to leave the country. Have a plan A, B and C on where you will be at the end of this short window.
3. If you have children, do all you can to minimise disruption for them - some companies will cancel your dependent passes meaning children are thrown out of school, so prepare by understanding your student visa options.
4. If you have pets, know who can look after them short term and where they will go long term.
5. Importantly, know who to call for advice. Someone who knows the visa and legal process inside out - in my experience a good accountant is worth a hundred lawyers.

# The Future Plan

(Universally relevant)

While a dramatic change to your work situation may not be imminent, it is worth using the security afforded by salaried employment to think about what you would like to do next.

1. Evaluate your skills and passion, assess what you value and what value you can offer.
2. Research! Is there a demand for your product or service, what does the target market and competition look like.
3. Talk to people about your idea, refine, adjust, pivot as you learn.

If you find yourself at a crossroads, you have already done the groundwork and saved yourself time and money.

You may never need to use it, but it could open up a whole new world of opportunity for you, on your own terms, in your own way.

There is literally nothing to lose and everything to gain.

## If you would like to discuss further

I hope you found this useful and informative. Provocative, even. I would love to hear your thoughts and comments, or set up a time to further discuss how to help you make your media more effective. .

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Gordan is a highly successful, awarded and transformative CEO. He has worked in global and regional roles in London, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Singapore. He is a renowned humanist leader of people, he is on a mission to make the world a better place through every action and behaviour. Amongst numerous accolades, he is the twice winner and current holder of Campaign Asia-Pacific CEO of the Year.



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