

On The Cover

So what is the significance of the picture on the cover?

In March 2020 my wife and I had a vacation scheduled to San Francisco, California. That vacation was canceled due to Covid 19, and rescheduled for October 2020. At that time, in March, it seemed for sure that the pandemic would be over by October.

I have referenced this vacation in my book. This marked the beginning of my opportunity to actually slow down and write this book. In October, 2020, as I was nearing completion of my rough draft, we had a decision to make. Should we go on the October vacation, or forfeit the money? We weighed our options, and decided to go for it.

We stayed a couple blocks away from Fisherman's Wharf, near the infamous pier 39. One morning we were walking the boardwalk, just in front of pier 39, and I saw this guy holding a trophy, with a photographer taking pictures. I recognized the trophy, but was a bit confused as to why he had it. It was the USGA Open Trophy. His name is Matt Cardis and he explained he was doing a documentary. Matt is a photojournalist, and an avid golf ambassador, and he had gotten permission from the USGA to take the actual trophy on tour. Matt asked me if I was interested in holding a piece of golf history. *Heck yeah!!* And so I had to sign a waiver, glove up, with nitrile gloves and cotton gloves over those. And his crew photographed me holding the trophy for Matt's documentary. Here is a link to his website if you are interested. The documentary is not on the site yet, as of November 2020. The US Open was in September (17-20), 2020, so Bryson DeChambeau, this year's winner, had hoisted this very trophy at Winged Foot in New York, less than a month previous to my getting to hold it. Matt is just beginning this project. He has to have the trophy back to officials before the US Open June 2021, (obviously), so look for the documentary to be out late summer 2021.

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Now I love golf, and I refer to the game of golf in my book quite often. Learning how to really play the game, which is very hard to play well, takes a lot of practice. Golf provides the perfect metaphor - in my opinion - for illustrating the complexities of change. So when I thought about what picture of myself I wanted on the cover, this picture came to mind. It was pretty cool to be holding the very same trophy held by Bobby Jones, Ben Hogan, Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Tom Watson, Fuzzy Zoeller, Payne Stewart, and Tiger Woods held in their actual hands, and saw their signatures engraved on the base of the trophy ~ this was not a replica, this was the real deal! It was a pretty cool experience, standing at Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco bay in the background. I'm not one that is so big on reading 'too much into coincidence', it's just that sometimes, when you're in the right place at the right time, cool stuff happens to you. So that's really the significance, this book represents all the cool stuff that can happen in life once we figure out how to get out of our own way. I am hoping that if you

are reading or listening to this book, now is the right place and time for some cool stuff to happen in your life.

Standing there holding that trophy, imagining all the golfers who have held that trophy, was a neat experience for sure. But there's really a much bigger trophy that I get to hold everyday, and that trophy is the "life I get to live". I'm not interested in being the best of the game of golf, although I sure have fun playing it, I'm interested in being the best at the game of life. As gratifying as I can imagine it might be, to be standing on the 18th green, at the US golf open, hoisting this trophy, and taking home millions of dollars, that is nothing compared to hoisting the trophy, and taking home the purse, in the game of life - *happiness, passion, satisfaction and purpose*. Now that *really* gets me excited!!

So there you go. Enjoy the book - and start making way for cool stuff to happen in your life!