

**Love Risk**

## Love Risk

Dear friend,

Practical idea:

*To live a more fulfilling and interesting life, seek to love risk!*

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## Risk

Risk means to run into danger. A life with more danger is more interesting, challenging, and fun.

### **What's the difference between video games and real life?**

- Video games: no risk
- Real life: real risk

This is why I will never respect a video gamer as much as a soldier or individual who literally puts their own skin on the line.

In video games, there is literally no risk or downside. You can always restart. And the ways that video games are designed:

*Video games are designed for you to win.*

In real life, you put your own real skin on the line. And to win, advance, and succeed in real life, you put your name on the line, you take personal and financial risks, and also social risks.

To be frank if you're a video gamer, you will never "offend" anyone. You will never rustle the feathers of another.

In real life, if you're bold and brazen and pursuing your own inner-truth, you're going to piss a lot of people off.

*True bravery must be in reality.*

This is why you will never truly be able to be "brave" in virtual reality, or simulated reality.

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### **Why love risk?**

As humans, we love challenge, excitement, novelty, and danger. As children, we climb trees, we explore dark alleys, and try feats of strength and dexterity. Who stops us? Our overprotective "helicopter parents".

I was lucky enough to take lots of risks as a child. And all the risks I took made me braver, stronger, and less afraid of risk or "failure". Growing up, the word "failure" never existed in my mind.

Why love risk? It's simple:

*Risk is fun!*

With risk, there are real rewards and consequences.

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## **You won't die**

Many of us are risk averse, because we fear death, permanent disfigurement, or loss of social status, or economic wealth. Besides this – there's not much at risk in modern living.

In modern society, you won't starve to death, you won't freeze to death, nor will you die of thirst. Food is practically free, we have heating, and we have free water. What do you have to fear?

I believe that a Stoic-Zen-Warrior mentality is the best mental framework to have in modern living. This makes us seek risk and adventure – desiring to take entrepreneurial risks, take social risks, or even photographic risk (street photography is applied risk-taking with real humans, in real life). This makes us seek to travel to places that seem a bit scary or uncertain to us – pushing ourselves outside of our comfort zones.

Thus, to conquer risk-aversion:

*Vividly imagine the worst-case scenario, and recognize you have nothing to lose.*

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## **Love taking personal risks**

Distilled:

*When in doubt, take the riskier option.*

BE BRAZEN. ERIC