## Jumping Over My Shadow: How I Overcame My Personal Limitations

Have you ever felt like you're holding yourself back from achieving your true potential? We all have certain limitations and fears that prevent us from truly living life to the fullest. For me, it was a constant struggle to overcome my own insecurities. However, I finally realized that the only thing standing in my way was myself. In this article, I will share my journey of "jumping over my shadow" and breaking free from my limitations.

#### **Understanding the Shadow**

Before we delve into my personal experience, let's first understand what the term "shadow" actually means. In psychology, the concept of the shadow refers to the unconscious aspects of our personality that we tend to hide or deny. These could be unresolved conflicts, unresolved fears, or even childhood trauma.

The shadow has a powerful hold on our lives, often dictating our decisions and behaviors without us realizing it. It acts as a barrier, preventing us from exploring our true potential and leaving our comfort zones.



## Jumping Over My Shadow: The Travel Diaries Of Kath Reade by Kath Reade(Kindle Edition)

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#### Facing my Fear of Public Speaking

One of my biggest limitations was a fear of public speaking. The mere thought of standing in front of a crowd and expressing my thoughts filled me with dread. It held me back from pursuing several opportunities in both my personal and professional life.

However, I knew I had to overcome this fear if I wanted to grow and succeed. With that determination in mind, I took a leap of faith and signed up for a public speaking course. It was a challenging journey, but with each presentation, I pushed myself to step outside my comfort zone.

The most important lesson I learned during this process was that the fear was only in my mind. The audience wasn't there to judge or criticize me; they were there to listen and learn. Once I internalized this understanding, my fear started to fade away, allowing me to confidently express myself in front of a crowd.

#### **Breaking Free from Limiting Beliefs**

We all have limiting beliefs that prevent us from reaching our full potential. These beliefs are often planted in our minds by others or result from negative experiences we've had in the past. Overcoming these beliefs requires a conscious effort to challenge and reframe them.

For years, I had believed that success was only meant for those who were naturally talented or lucky. This belief restricted me from trying new things or taking risks. However, one day, I stumbled upon a quote that said, "Success comes to those who are willing to take action, regardless of their talents." This simple statement sparked a shift within me.

I realized that success is not determined solely by innate abilities but instead by the actions we take and the mindset we adopt. With this newfound perspective, I started to take more risks and explore opportunities that I would have otherwise dismissed.

#### **Embracing Vulnerability**

Vulnerability is often viewed as a weakness, but I've come to believe that it is a strength. Overcoming personal limitations requires us to be vulnerable and open to change.

For a long time, I avoided vulnerability by sticking to what was familiar and comfortable. However, I soon realized that my growth was stagnating as a result. I decided to embrace vulnerability by taking on challenges that pushed me outside of my comfort zone.

I started participating in activities that I previously dismissed as "not for me" or "too difficult." Whether it was trying a new sport or taking up a hobby, each experience exposed me to new perspectives, skills, and opportunities for personal growth.

#### **Embracing Imperfections and Learning from Failure**

Failure and imperfections are inevitable parts of life, but they should not be sources of shame or discouragement. In fact, they are valuable learning opportunities that shape us into stronger individuals.

I used to avoid taking risks because I feared failure and the judgment that came with it. However, once I started embracing failure as a stepping stone to success, I became more resilient and open to trying new things.

Each failure taught me important lessons about myself, my abilities, and my aspirations. I learned to acknowledge my imperfections with grace and use them as motivation to keep pushing forward.

Jumping over my shadow was not an easy journey, but it was undoubtedly one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. By facing my fears, challenging my limiting beliefs, embracing vulnerability, and learning from failure, I was able to break free from my own limitations and unlock my true potential.

If there's one thing I've learned throughout this process, it's that the only thing holding us back is ourselves. Our shadows hold immense power, but we have the ability to overcome them and become the best versions of ourselves.

So, are you ready to jump over your shadow and embrace your own journey of personal growth? Remember, the power lies within you.



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'Wonderful!' 'Delightful.' 'Fascinating.'

Very rarely does a travel writer transport you so well that you immediately feel like you are right there. Jumping Over My Shadow, Kath Reade's travel diaries are so well written – rich, detailed, amusing, evocative and a total feast of deliciously fun adventure.

Kath Reade takes you big road trips across the USA, to island hopping in the Hebrides, across to the wild Atlantic coast of Ireland, north to Scotland, off to Paris, Florence and South Africa. The descriptions are detailed, the anecdotes charming and at times hilarious - you will be on board from take-off.

Kath Reade has had an amazing professional executive career, has been a civic leader and Chairwoman on various NHS Trusts rmanaging billion pound budgets ... and in her spare time she's a folk singer and poet... and now a travel writer.

Praise for Kath Reade's travel diaries.

'What fun! I find your descriptions to be so delicious. I close my eyes and I can see the canals, smell the Adriatic! Thank you for taking me to a place that calls to my heart, and to a time of pure joy in my own life. Bless you.'

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