

Marshall Thurber's

Insights into the Julie & Julia Movie.

Background:

Julia Child

At six feet two inches tall Julia Child was outside the accepted height range of both the WACS (U.S. Women's Army Corps) and the WAVES (U.S. Women's Navy). The OSS (Office of Strategic Services) had no height restriction and Child began her OSS career as a typist at its headquarters in Washington, D.C. With Julia's Smith College education (1934) and her passion, she quickly became a top-secret researcher working directly for the head of OSS.

She married Paul Cushing Child on September 1, 1946. As a member of the United States Foreign Service, Paul was assigned to Paris. It was there that Paul introduced his wife to fine French cuisine.

Looking for something to do, Julia attended the famous Le Cordon Bleu cooking school in Paris and after graduation Julia and two other food-loving women, began to teach cooking to American women in Child's Paris kitchen. They called their informal school *L'Ecole des Trois Gourmandes* (The School of the Three Food Lovers).



The three would-be authors initially signed a contract with publisher Houghton Mifflin. They rejected the encyclopedic manuscript as much too big. After eight years of continued rejections, Alfred A. Knopf published the opus in 1961. The 734-page *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* received critical acclaim and became a best seller.

Lauded for its helpful illustrations and precise attention to detail *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* is now in its 49th printing. Considered a seminal culinary work, it is credited for making fine French cuisine accessible to the general public.

Julie Powell

In the movie Julie Powell is a thirty-year-old would-be-actress working in a lousy cubical based temp job answering the phone and living in a less than elegant apartment over a pizza shop in Queens. One day Julie comes home from work in New York City and finds solace in a bowl of Potage Parmentier.

The nourishment from this simple potato and leek soup not only soothed her battered and bruised soul, it also sourced her inspiration. She discovers an antidote to both her "soul-sucking" secretarial job and her fears that she might not have children. Julie commits to cook her way through every recipe in Julia Child's classic *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* in one year!



Starting In August 2002, Julie irreverently blogs her travails as she attempts to cook all of Julia Child's recipes. The blog quickly gains a large following. At the end of the book Julie signs a book contract with Little, Brown and Company. The result: *Julie & Julia: 365 Days, 524 Recipes, 1 Tiny Apartment Kitchen*, is published in 2005.

The Movie: "Julie & Julia"

Julie's autobiographical book was adapted into a movie by Columbia Pictures. Starring Amy Adams as Julie and Meryl Streep as Julia. Using the creative license of movies, "Julie & Julia" simultaneously intertwine two lives taking place a half a century apart.

Although separated by time and space both Julie and Julia are at loose ends. Then magic happens: they discover that by combining *passion, fearlessness* and *butter*, anything is possible.

Despite being separated by decades of time, Julie and Julia demonstrate certain common success traits and ONE key difference.

The Formula:

The common success traits are captured in this formula:

H U R R = R

The first **H** stands for Human. Both Julie and Julia were just themselves, no pretense just raw passionate humanness. When someone is openly **H**uman it is usually contagious; people respond to humanness.

The **U** in the formula stands for **U**nique. Both Julie and Julia shared their experiences in a human and passionate way and when passion and humanness are "mashed-up" a unique outcome results. Mixing your **H**umanness with your passion will keep you **U**nique.

The first **R** stands for Resourceful. Both Julie and Julia encounter many forms of resistance (both internal and external) yet neither let the roadblock stop them. They either ignored the barriers

or worked around or through them; Julie and Julia were **Resourceful**; they relied on their inner resources to surmount whatever block came their way.

The second **R** stands for **Resilience**. They both met with rejection and disappointment. It took Julia eight years to get her book published; Julie had difficulties with her cubical office job boss, her husband and “important appointments” that were cancelled.

In your process of sharing your **Humanness** and your **Uniqueness** you will find many times where you need to be **Resourceful** and **Resilient**.

If you do this you will become **Remarkable**. **Re-Mark-Able**.

Like it or not you live in Internet Age. Like it or not you are on average only 5.762 degrees apart from every other human being on the planet. Like it or not if you commit to *anything less* than **Re-Mark-Able**, your career is likely to struggle.

Hence the best success strategy for each of you is to commit yourself to being **Re-Mark-Able**. Why? Because **Re-Mark-Able** spreads quickly in the Internet Age. The world rewards **Re-Mark-Able**.

The ONE key difference between Julie and Julia

There is one HUGE difference between Julie and Julia. It is the result of the half a century of time difference. And this time difference favors you.

In Julia’s time (1950’s and 60’s) “Permission” and the “Agreement” of others was the norm.

Julia wanted a degree the famous Le Cordon Bleu cooking school in Paris. Julia needed “Permission” and the “Agreement” in order to be accepted as a cook. The head of the Le Cordon Bleu school intensely disliked Julia yet she resourcefully worked around her. Julia failed the Cordon Bleu degree exam. Julia was resilient and she eventually got it. Here again Julia was seeking “Permission” and “Agreement” of others.

“Permission” and “Agreement” shows up again in her desire to have her book published. Julia had rejection after rejection yet she continued to seek approval of a publishing company. Julia was living in the “Age of Permission.”

Like you, Julie lives in a different age. Yours is the “Age of The Bypass.”



Today's connected world doesn't require "Permission." It cares far more about **Re-Mark-Able** voices and unique insights. Permission is not needed in the connected Bypass world. Your value is in your **H**umanness and your **U**niqueness.

You don't need "Permission." to publish a blog. You just need a willingness to be open, insightful and honest. Honesty or integrity is critical; integrity is no longer a good idea it is a requirement for sustainable success in a connected age. Breach your integrity and you break the trust within your network. Integrity is **THE** foundational element for success in the connected age.

- Share your **H**umanness and **U**niqueness!
- Maintain your *integrity* no matter what.
- Commit to being **R**esourceful and **R**esilient when you meet the inevitable roadblocks.
- When you do this you will over time become "**Re-Mark-Able**" and you will succeed beyond your wildest dreams.