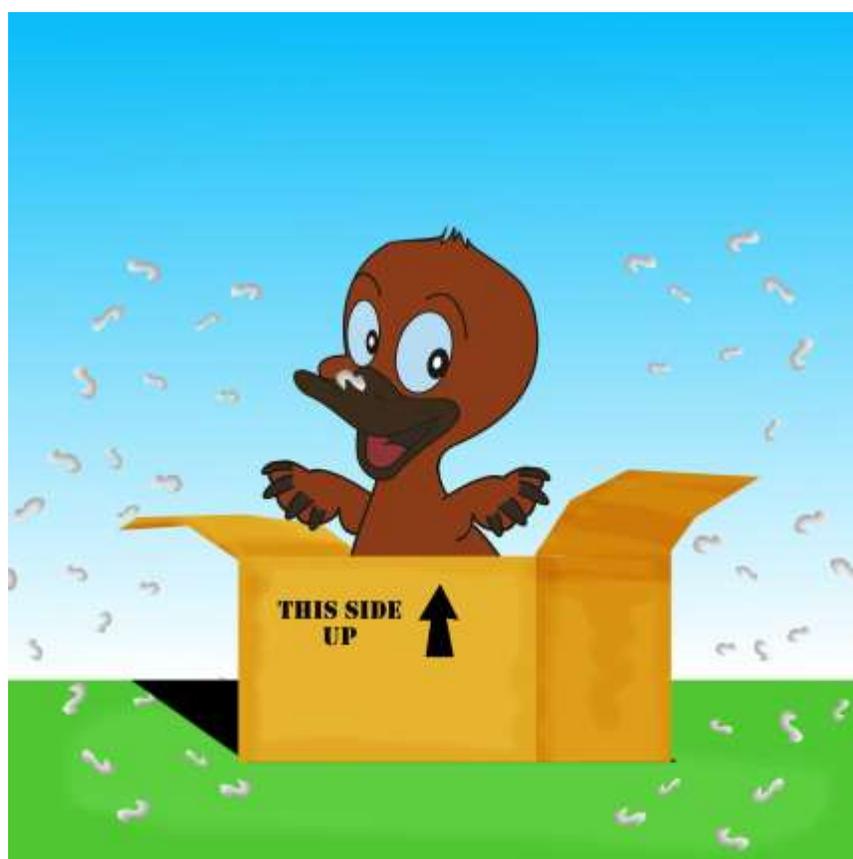


Dare to Be Peculiar

The everyday guide to living a life outside the box!



An eBook by

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“You are not normal.” The anesthesiologist announced as he was prepping me for the delivery of my third son. I smiled. I KNOW I am not normal.

Normal is average.

Normal is expected.

Normal is ordinary.

I expect my children to make the declaration. I try hard not to appear normal when dealing with them.

I expect my friends to make the declaration. I gave up the attempts of being normal around them years ago.

I have even gotten used to hearing the declaration from people that spend time with me. I have never been known much for my “in the box” thinking.

This particular declaration came from the anesthesiologist that was working with my doctor for the delivery of my third son. I had known him a total of ten minutes.

His declaration made me realize that maybe I am even more “not normal” than I had come to believe.

I came to another realization about that time . . . being normal is over-rated.

The world wants to cram me into ordinary. The more I accept the limits and limitations of the world the less opportunities I have to become all that I am designed to become. The world wants me to stop pushing and to stop growing and to settle into less than what might have been.

The world wants to cram you into a box as well. The world wants you to accept the limits, the limitations, and the rules THEY create.

I dare to keep pushing – will you dare to join me?

Simple Steps to Break Down the Wall in the Normal Box



- Take time each day to write out praises and thanksgivings for the big things and for the little things . . . and while you are at it add in all the things in between. Writing out the praises and thanksgivings gives you a moment to contemplate them. Sharing the light of your day drives out the darkness that may be trying to sneak in.

- Choose to feed your mind with positive things. The airwaves and internet are FULL of entertainment. Few feed the

good wolf, and anything not providing fuel to the positive is (by default) fueling the negative. Isaiah warns us to not be the kind that views blood. I know in my personal viewing habits that idea eliminates a LOT of what had been ordinary and customary. Choose words of hope and inspiration. Listen to praise and worship. Watch the positive and the hope. What you put into your eyes and your ears fills your mind, takes root in your heart, and eventually drives your direction.

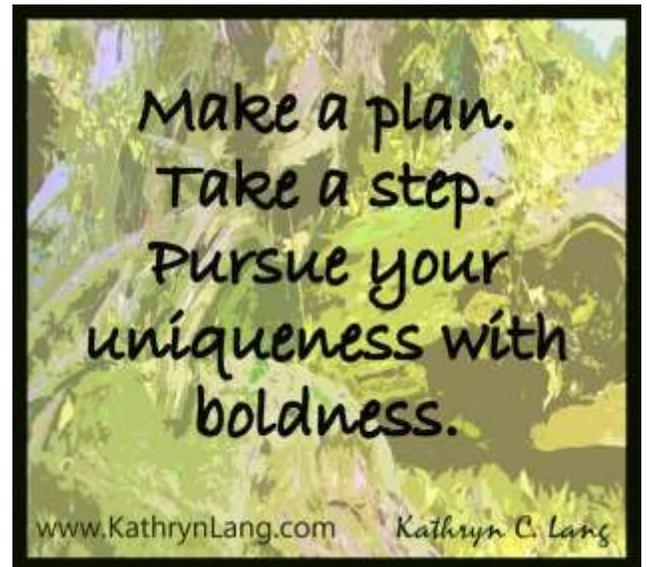
- Look for others that present a positive mind set and live in their own dream lands. You begin reflecting the attitudes and behaviors of the people you are around. Choose better – not bitter – for growing up a life of possibilities.

I will never fully stand in courage until I release the need to be accepted by the world.

- Speak the positive things for your life, in your life, and all around you. Words have power. They possess within them the gift of life or death. What are your words giving? Words reflect the heart. The things that you speak reflect the health of your heart. Words provide direction. Words will set the path for your steps. Use words to turn a stormy day into a rainbow hung. Wield words that change darkness into the breaking dawn.

- Smile. The simple act of a smile lifts up the countenance and lightens the whole face. Smiles are also contagious and will spread to those that they encounter. Smiling more will create a path to that dream land of hope and possibility.

- Let it go. Dream land overflows with space and time because the clutter has been released. Clear out your schedule so that you make room for the better and the best that has been designed just for you. Give away (or throw away) the excess things crowding the closets, the shelves, the drawers, and all the spaces. Create room for the blessings by letting go of the clutter.



The only time I want to feel the walls around me is when I am exploring the local caves. The walls of the world are through holding me back. Simple things, that keep me focused on the positive and the possibilities will keep me free from those walls.

I deserve to be a free range dream seeker – and so do you.

You are unique. Look around you – even within your family – you are distinct in so many ways. Despite the uniqueness that defines each individual, we all seem determined to be like someone other than the person looking back at us from the mirror.

That stops today.

Accepting Your Unique Place

- Stop thinking about the limitations. The radical life is reaching for the possibilities at all times and not looking around for the limits to the situations.

- Plan for bigger than expected. Instead of saying we would like more but we are going to try to get less, start off going for more and pursue even higher limits than that.

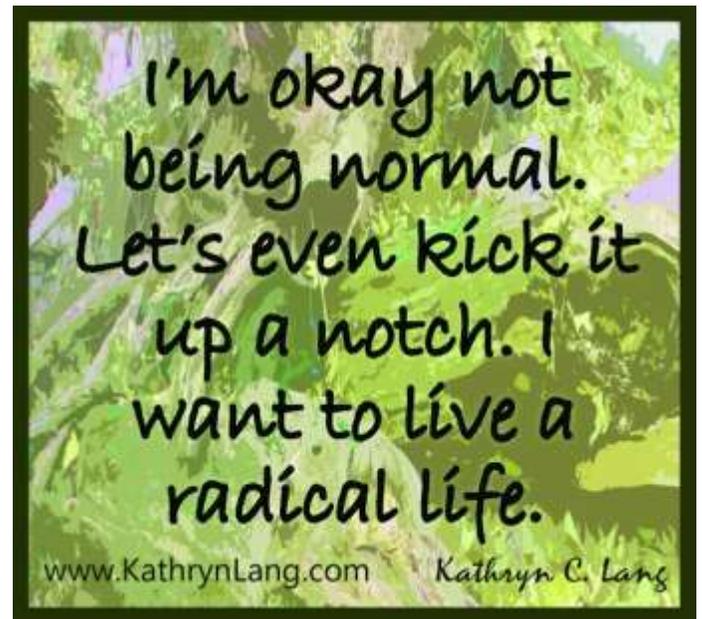
- Keep on going. Action begets actions. Once you step out into the radical action, just keep on stepping.

A radical life creates a world of potential. A radical life lays the foundation for star reaching. A radical life opens the doors of possibility.

I want to be radical in pursuing my unique place and I want to see you take that bold leap with me.

The bigger the dream the more potential it can create. I dare to dream big.

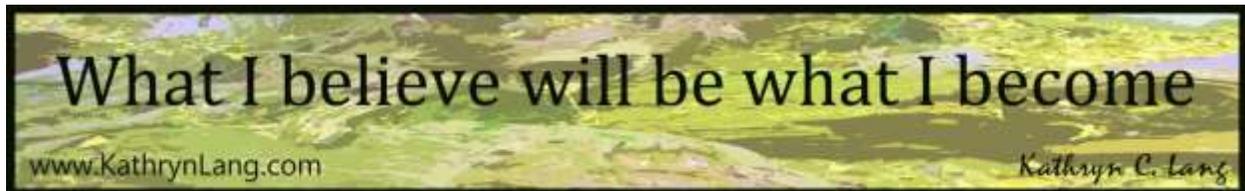
“Whether you think you can or whether you think you can’t - you’re right.” Henry Ford



The only thing standing in my way right now is me. My family does not have to be on board (although it does help). My finances do not have control (although I might have to expand my creativity to make up for it). My only gifts, talents, and abilities are not the determining factor.

It is up to me. What I choose to believe and how I follow through on that belief is the end all and be all of my journey.

What do you believe?



I want more – so I am daring to expect and believe more.

Expect More to Push Past the Ordinary

1. What I put in will determine (in part) what I receive back. Every time I look out my window I see something new and amazing – even though I have been looking out that window for over two decades – WHEN I am looking out to see what I can see.

2. The ordinary becomes extraordinary with the right shift. A meal is just food that fuels the body for the next movements – until you add family that visits once a year, or friends in town for a season, or laughter and sharing. With a little shift, the meal becomes an experience. Unlocking the potential of the extraordinary is as simple as choosing to see more than what is there.

3. One time through is not enough. I attended a different conference several months back. The director stopped me between sessions and asked me where I was attending next. I told him I was going to hear a mutual friend. “That’s the same speech she gave at the luncheon the other day.” He considered it a warning. I took it as a challenge. I can learn something new or something better from the same content if I am determined to glean something new.



4. I can learn from you. I may know it all (and according to my kids I THINK I know it all) but that does not lessen your voice. We are each on a unique journey and those unique experiences and directions provide a unique voice that can only be shared by one. I can learn from you IF I am willing to learn from you.

5. Action speaks louder than learning. What I choose to do with what I hear will have more effect on my journey than all the learning combined. I heard Bryan Harris mention how hopping from one class to another or seeking out different systems was a way for finding the “easy button” or putting off practical application for “pie in the sky” dreams. I MUST take action with the learning if the learning is going to be worth it.

6. Nothing new exists – only a new way to look at it. I am that new way. I am the difference. I am the element that makes my way and my voice and my presentation different from all the others. The more I take in and then filter through the “me” part, the more I will create.

7. It may not be what I think it may be. The reason I attended the event turned into something different (once I dropped the selfish focus). I open up a world of possibilities when I turn my attention out into the world instead of keeping it directed back at me.

I was never meant to be like everyone else. I am unique – uniquely designed or a place and a purpose that no other person can or will ever fill (including me if I never step into that uniqueness). I am a peculiar people, a royal priesthood, a chosen child.

It is high time I lived like it.

Are you ready?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



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“Words have power – and I work to share words that ignite hope and possibility in those they encounter.”

Kathryn Lang continues to grow her career as a wordsmith. She shares words in talks, teachings, columns and stories to provide the hearts that hear with some fuel for hope.

Take a moment to visit <http://www.kathrynlang.com> to read more of her writings. You can also contact Kathryn to speak at your next event or conference by emailing her at kathrynlang@kathrynlang.com.

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