

Why failing is still a hundred times better than not even trying

Thanks for subscribing to this newsletter. This is issue #1, and I guess I should start the series with some sort of origin story.

Well, it just so happened living in Los Angeles that you run into celebrities all the time. And this guy, I'll call him James, wasn't exactly a celebrity. Rather, a Hollywood writer. This was before the famous writers strike.

Anyways, James has to take a day job every once in awhile because he told me how much he made as a writer. It wasn't shit. No wonder they went on strike.

Writers write the fucking shows yet they don't get paid shit. They're pretty low on the totem pole.

And yes, you may have seen some of James's works. He's done quite a few TV shows.

So I had the idea for a TV show. It would have had to be on HBO or Cinemax because it would be too explicit for regular TV.

I called it "Dark Tales," but later found out that some asshole already grabbed the darktales.com domain. Thus, I had to change it to something else.

Well, I liked Romanticism and half of the Romantics were on opium. How about "Opium Tales?"

Perfect.

I'll learn cartooning and start hammering away at some of the characters and backgrounds myself. Yes, it will be animated. No way I'm making this live action without millions in funding.

And now that I know that writers don't make shit, I'll produce it myself. I'll need to come up with a quarter million for the pilot, sell the pilot, and get funding for the rest.

So, I hired a business guy for that. Turned out I didn't scout him well enough. He didn't do shit and ended up being a complete douche on top of that.

So I was left with 9 scripts and a bunch of character sketches by yours truly.

That ended that. (Or did it?)

A decade and a half later (in San Francisco), I run into this absolutely gorgeous young blonde. She's a co-worker of a friend. And I just had to talk to her.

We ended up becoming pals. And I don't know how but cartooning came up.

She wanted me to draw her.

Sure.

Allie

So I drew her, not as a cartoon but an art sketch. Yes, if you can cartoon, you can art sketch.

She loved it so much that one thing led to another and I ended up with a gorgeous blonde less than half my age sitting nude on my bed while I was armed with a pencil and sketchpad.

I eventually wanted to add color so drawing turned to watercolors. I chose watercolors over oil painting since the Mrs and I lived in a cramped 600 square feet space. No way you can safely paint oils in that tiny of a space without having breathing problems.

If you know oil painting, you'll know what I'm talking about. Watercolors - you clean the brushes with water. Oils? You're using chemicals to get your brushes clean.

Roxy

Then around the same time, I meet this gorgeous young Latina. And I get close to her even faster than I got close to Allie.

This girl is Roxy. She sees my works of Allie and the next thing you know, I'm painting her as well.

It's been five years since. Those 2 girls are my main two models today, and 50% of Opium Tales, the business.

The moral of the story is simple - if you fail at a skill set, so what? It's not like the skill set evaporates.

Cartooning led to art and now I got two smoking hot young ladies as two of the closest people to me today. Plus four other lovely ladies that I occasionally paint.

Take chances, my friends. Don't ever be afraid to try anything new. Even if you fail at it, you'll always have it. And you never know when your "failure" will lead you to something better.

Where can we find Roman Riva?

Follow me at @opiumtales2 at Twitter. I was banned by the woketards for asking the wrong questions, and while banned, some douchebag got opiumtales so thus, I'm stuck with @opiumtales2. I'm back because the woketards no longer run the show.

I also teach you how to go from stick figures to gorgeous naked ladies here - <https://roman-riva-art-academy.teachable.com/p/how-to-draw-beautiful-nudes>

Next up - I'm doing a \$10 book on the same topic that I hope to get done by the end of the summer. It's about the two things I'm awesome at - getting beautiful women out of their clothing and drawing them. Well, more the latter but if you read between the lines...