

J K Rowlings

PBS Radio Lecture Review

Wednesday – January 3, 2013 – 0519 PST

On New Year Eve 2012 I was blessed to hear the graduation speech to Harvard University graduating class given by J K Rowling, author of the Harry Potter series that became a popular movie franchise and number of best selling novels.

What amazed me about her graduation speech was how I could relate to so many things she said in her lecture.

Being a woman of great success I would of never believed she had to climb the mountains she did to achieve her great success.

The three things that stood out to me about her speech were  
(1) her statements about overcoming Failure,  
(2) her experiences as an Amnesty International Worker and  
(3) the need for Harvard graduating class to give back to society.

(1)

While grateful for my many talents, the ability to draw and write, being financially poor makes me regret the day I was born.

With almost every endeavor I attempted in a life of sixty years earning no money, I have to accept in some way I was a failure.

Hearing Ms Rowling struggles before finding literary success makes me see a beauty in my many failed business ventures.

Ms Rowling's spoke of her hard time blessings of having friends and family members to financially support and believe in her.

In my journey through my quest for success I had no family or friends who believe in or financially supported me.

My only partial blessing was living in a welfare state that helps the poor with soup kitchen that feed people and public welfare.

While me and Ms Rowling have both written many books, hers have had made her rich, my books have hardly ever been, and the ones that have been read received most negative reviews.

(2)

Ms Rowling's statement about working at Amnesty International moved my soul in a strange way and made me grateful for my blessings of being an American citizen,

Ms Rowling's spoke of one of many incidents that terrorize her spirit to this very day.

She spoke of an incident where a man from Africa stood up for a political cause. As a result of him taking a stand, the government of the nation murder his mother as an act of retaliation.

Ms Rowling's said her life has never been the same after working at Amnesty International, she said she will never again take for granted the blessings of the legal system that is in her country,

In many ways I am grateful for the legal system we have, in other ways I am not.

Living in a land that justified slavery in the past and poverty and homeless today, there are many things that can be improved in the United States.

My horror stories as a poor black man growing up in the 1960 and 1970's are sad, not as bad as what the man in Africa endure, but still very frustrating.

(3)

The final thing that moved me about Ms Rowling lecture was her request to the graduating class to give something back to society and the community.

Describing Harvard graduating class as elitist (my definition), people who never knew failure and having all their financial needs met.

Ms Rowling's spoke of their obligation to give something back to the community through financial gifts and volunteering to help the less fortunate.

As graduates who achieved great success up to now, she told them to be prepared for the failure all human beings have to endure.

Without a doubt Ms Rowling speech was one of the greatest speeches I heard.

In her speech she spoke of how many people forget what they heard at their graduation speech, not only was Ms Rowling speech one I will never forget, it torments my soul because I can relate to it so much.

The speech that I can writing about can be listen to at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wHGqp8lz36c>

A M Benjamin Services  
E Book Publisher  
San Francisco, CA  
1/2/2013