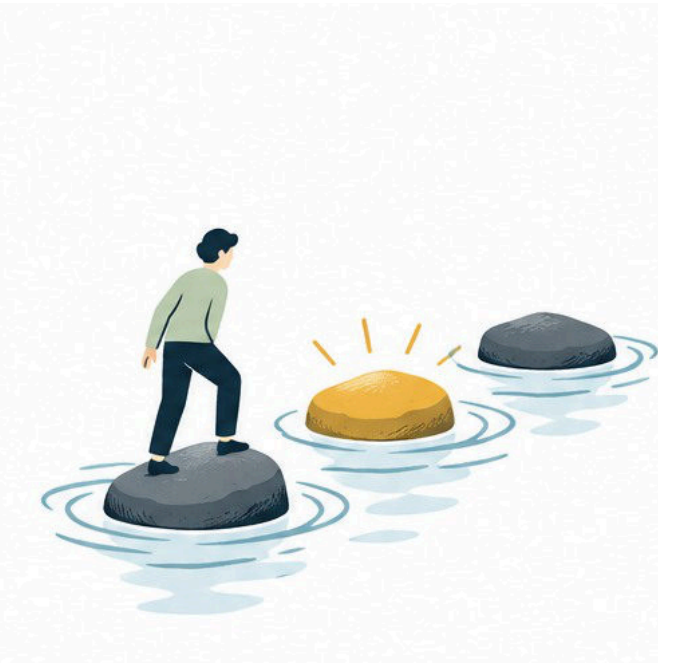
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PHILOSOPHY FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

Life Secrets

18 ILLUSTRATED IDEAS

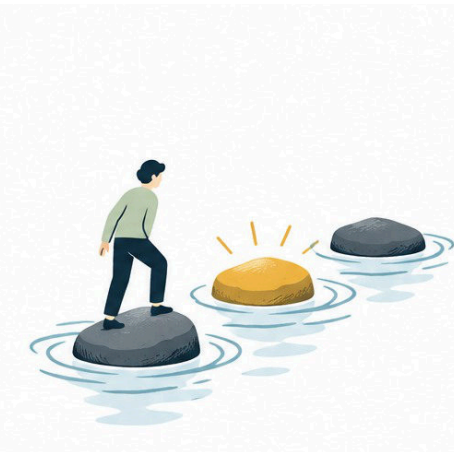


Small philosophical ideas for the choices you make every day.

CHAPTER 02

Action

A decision can begin with one affordable investigation.



A clear intention

A visible next action

Information to learn

An intention becomes useful when it has somewhere to land.

Many plans break at the point where an abstract ambition meets an ordinary Tuesday. This chapter makes the next step smaller, the surroundings more helpful, and the return after a difficult day easier.

A decision can begin with one affordable investigation.

ONE IDEA / CONNECT IT TO YOUR LIFE

Make the next move visible

"Become disciplined" asks you to change your identity before you can begin. "Open the document and write a rough first sentence" gives your body something to do. Broad intentions are useful for direction. Visible actions are useful for movement. Confusing the two makes an ordinary starting problem feel like a character flaw.

A next move should have an object and an ending. You should be able to tell whether it happened. Small does not mean trivial: a brief action can reveal information that thinking alone cannot provide. But it must belong to something worth doing, rather than become a clever way to stay busy.

IN AN ORDINARY LIFE

01

A broad ambition

02

A visible next action

03

Something to investigate

TRY THIS

Pick one stalled project. Write a next step that takes less than fifteen minutes and ends with something visible: a paragraph, a question sent, a comparison, or a date selected. Do it before improving the plan.

Sam writes "find better work" on his list every week. He replaces it with "choose one role and underline three skills it asks for." By evening he knows what information he is missing. He has moved from a wish to an investigation.

TAKE THIS INTO YOUR DAY

What would progress look like if someone could watch only the next ten minutes?