



# Luck Is No Accident: Making the Most of Happenstance in Your Life and Career

By John Krumboltz PhD, Al Levin EdD

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Unplanned events—chance occurrences—more often determine life and career choices than all the careful planning we do. A chance meeting, a broken appointment, a spontaneous vacation trip, a “fill-in” job, a hobby—these are the kinds of experiences that lead to unexpected life directions and career choices.

Newly revised and updated with fresh examples and current issues for today's challenging times, *Luck is No Accident* actively encourages readers to create their own unplanned events, to anticipate changing their plans frequently, to take advantage of chance events when they happen, and to make the most of what life offers. The book has a friendly, easy style about it, and is packed with personal stories that really bring the ideas into focus.

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- Sales Rank: #398124 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Impact Publishers, Inc.
- Published on: 2010-08-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.84" h x .43" w x 6.04" l, .60 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 176 pages



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## Editorial Review

### Review

“...a practical guide to adapting to (life's) many twists and turns... This book celebrates unpredictability and teaches us to love it and live happily with life's ‘surprises’... that adaptations to the unexpected, the willingness to risk, and the resilience after failure are at the core of every successful career. The many inspiring stories and principles in this book show that our lives are totally unpredictable, yet, paradoxically, within our control, when we take advantage of unforeseen encounters and events.”

—**Howard Figler**, co-author, *The Career Counselor's Handbook*, author, *The Complete Job-Search Handbook*

“I once wrote that most of my best research ideas came about simply 'because I happened to be at the right place at the right time.' This book points out that more than dumb luck may have been involved; Krumboltz & Levin show how successful people often are adept at putting themselves in the right place at the right time—and then follow through by behaving in ways that take full advantage of that initial good fortune.”

—**Elliott Aronson**, author, *The Social Animal* and *The Jigsaw Classroom*

“The student who runs out of money before graduating from college, the mid-career engineer who gets caught in corporate downsizing and the recently divorced single parent are likely to believe that their ‘luck’ has run out. Yet they could be on the edge of a career and life breakthrough if only they can see the value in seemingly random events. Dr. John Krumboltz and Dr. Al S. Levin combine the wisdom of their distinguished work in career development for people like that, who need what's found in Luck Is No Accident.”

—*The Master's Advocate*, October-November 2009

“...a guide to being prepared for when life throws wrenches at your plans, and how to turn a surprise into a full-fledged opportunity...plenty of tips for meeting (surprises) head on...a very useful read for those who want to be prepared for their big break.”

—*The Midwest Book Review*, California Bookwatch: November 2010

### From the Publisher

#### LUCK IS NO ACCIDENT Features:

- The first career book to admit that life doesn't go according to plan.
- The most realistic approach yet to life and career planning — Prepare for the unexpected.
- Packed with personal vignettes, practical advice, exercises, worksheets.
- Written by internationally recognized, pioneering career development professionals.
- Reader-friendly, warm, down-to-earth style.

### About the Author

**John D. Krumboltz, PhD**, Professor of Education and Psychology at Stanford University, is a Fellow of the

American Psychological Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has received the prestigious Leona Tyler Award in Counseling Psychology (1990) and the Distinguished Professional Contributions to Knowledge Award (2002) from the American Psychological Association, as well as designation as one of only five "Living Legends in Counseling" by the American Counseling Association (2004).

**Al S. Levin, EdD**, Professor of Counselor Education at California State University, Sacramento, was formerly Assistant Director of Stanford University's Career Development Center, MBA Career Management Center, and Lecturer at Stanford's School of Education. Dr. Levin has authored numerous career development publications, led training workshops, and made presentations at professional conferences throughout the United States.

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#### **Ernest Ainsworth:**

This Luck Is No Accident: Making the Most of Happenstance in Your Life and Career book is not really ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book is information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. That Luck Is No Accident: Making the Most of Happenstance in Your Life and Career without we recognize teach the one who looking at it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't be worry Luck Is No Accident: Making the Most of Happenstance in Your Life and Career can bring if you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' come to be full because you can have it within your lovely laptop even cellphone. This Luck Is No Accident: Making the Most of Happenstance in Your Life and Career having great arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

#### **Scott Harrington:**

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