



Empty Ego: 'Life is the Present'
Community Background & Breakdown

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Dedication & Acknowledgements:

The ideas and concepts that have led to this point are far from my own. I'd like to thank my parents for pushing me to do better throughout my childhood - Without them I wouldn't know the value of personal development or be able to understand how challenges create strength. I'd also like to thank my close friends and partners; No matter the purpose behind their actions, they have always been key drivers of what I dedicate myself to, realistic or not. Finally, I would like to list some of the most influential people throughout human history that have shaped my beliefs, purpose, and ability to believe in myself throughout this project:

Alan Watts, Mark Twain, Abraham Lincoln, Nikola Tesla, Martin Luther King Jr., John F. Kennedy, Mark Cuban, Jim Carrey, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Seneca, Albert Einstein, Jim Rohn, Marcus Aurelius, Tony Robbins, Jim Qwik, and many more...

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Introduction:

Building an Empty Ego starts with consistently pouring out every last drop of judgment within yourself. Emotions dig deep. It is our job to seek them out as indicators for growth points instead of allowing them to drive our will. Our subconscious minds are more in control of how we interact with the world than our conscious minds. This can be seen through the attributes that contribute to our actions and reactions such as habits, mentality, and environment. Moving away from a fixed mindset and towards one focused on growth is the greatest step for personal development you can take. Use this energy to push yourself forward by taking the challenges of life as learning experiences. Don't become absorbed by self doubt when mistakes are made.

The acceptance of imperfection coupled with a determination to self-analyze is nothing new and has been seen throughout human history in many forms. As you would imagine, building it is not easy and takes time. It's important to surround yourself with like-minded people that are equally as understanding of your unique situations. Doing so will help push you in ways you may not have had the opportunity to experience previously. No one is perfect, but we're all imperfectly someone. Embracing this unique experience is the most simple way to define life's purpose. Regardless of what we want from life, spending time discussing topics with an open-mind can lead to some of the most enlightening experiences we have. What is there to lose - What are you waiting for?

“What is easy to do is also easy not to do...”

Jim Rohn

Part of what it means to be human is to go through the cycle of emotions and experience the cosmic glue that binds our actions together. It's not possible to be perfect, otherwise the definition would be incorrect. Similarly, it's not possible to entirely empty an ego. It will always be there, in some sense, but it is something we can focus on diminishing. This isn't to say you should constantly focus on being perfect and try to prevent your mistakes. Your uniqueness intrinsically makes you imperfect, which is natural. Being aware of this is imperative; Perfection should be seen as an imaginative driver for improvement, not a goal or expectation of the end result. No one can ever be you no matter how hard they try, and that's beautiful. You are special and deserve to blossom. If we develop our personality and understanding of how we fit into the bigger image, we can start to grow our roots into the soil around us and create grounding. Once we have grounding we can truly begin to grow and reach for the stars.

The Japanese philosophy of Wabi-Sabi revolves around this concept. The focus is on the acceptance of transience and imperfection. Plato also argues that perfection couldn't exist outside the realm of thought, and that anything created to a "perfect" degree would only be a replica guided by inner personal interests. With that, we should always be wary of chasing perfection as it can be even more dangerous than chasing other emotions or negatively implied human traits. "It is easier to carry an empty cup than one that is filled to the brim. The sharper the knife, the easier it is to dull. The more wealth you possess, the harder it is to protect." (Tao Te Ching by Lao Tzu, Chapter 9). Simply put, the weight of perfection is burdensome. Don't expect to be able to maintain something at a near-flawless level, especially considering how limited our life is. Enjoy the moment; life is the present.

Finding value in this knowledge and using it are two separate things. Being able to learn this philosophy and take away the understanding that there is value in imperfection is a gift. You'll soon be able to appreciate flaws in a new light rather than neglect them. This is crucial, since moving a step further brings self analysis into the picture. One of Socrates most well known dictums states that "The unexamined life is not worth living."

To go the extra mile and make use of this information in the best way you must look

inwards. Ask yourself what you have done to improve your mindset, habits, or environment recently. Question your motives, and seek the discomfort of your emotions. Find your true intentions. Socrates believed that “Ultimate wisdom comes from knowing oneself.” His idea was that the “self” is a part of the person that is intellectually willing. The idea continues and states that all good and bad intentions come from the ‘self’, and that the ‘self’ is the “seat of the soul”. With that, Socrates makes the point that if we were to constantly turn inward for knowledge, we would be guided by, and discover our ‘true self’.

Acknowledging this connection between our habits/subconscious mind and our ‘Self’, we can begin to see the importance of taking care of your ‘Soul’. To have a good life, Socrates argues that we must constantly self-evaluate to ensure that we are following our own path led by the actions of our ‘True Self’, and not the ideas/motives of others. A culmination of knowledge, wisdom, and virtue grows within the individual as they develop their personal experiences of the universe around them. Socrates also thought that this development could not happen exogenously, but would only happen endogenously. This means that an individual must strive for the extension of their soul through the exploration of oneself to understand their purpose. Building yourself by focusing your attention, energy, and resources would go on to create beauty through the personification of your own being. No longer will you be connected to the actions and thoughts of those around you, as you would begin to develop your own way of thinking that is strictly guided by your inner self, or “soul”.

“No problem can withstand the assault of sustained thinking.”

Voltaire

"Where does Empty Ego come in, as a platform?", you may ask. While Empty Ego is just an attitude, It's also a way of approaching life and with time, it could become a beacon of light in the dark for thousands of people in the process of finding their own path. We hope to take this mindset, expand upon it, and share it more fervently than ever before. Our potential to change mentality across the globe is incredibly possible and it all starts with one idea. Thanks to a plethora of brainstorming, an incredible amount of trial and error, along with a supportive community that truly cares for the concepts being shared, we can spread like wildfire. How do we plan to bring people together while helping them enlighten themselves? It all starts with a community, and we've chosen Discord for its attention to detail, ability to express, and the capabilities of its software.

While Discord may seem like a simple text and voice application, it can act as much more with the addition of bots, custom channels, thorough planning, and some creativity. Our community on Discord is meant to act as the heart of our operation, bringing people from across the world together to share their ideas and be heard. Initially, Discord was simply a way for us to help people communicate about specific topics ranging from art and gaming to philosophy and motivation. Over time, it's turned into a powerhouse that aims to create a place for free speech while providing a safe environment that individuals can grow into. At the core of it all will be Discussions, Polls, and Events. Discussions are a way to bring important conversations into the community and deliver them in a way that allows people to speak their mind. Polls have the potential to change the future of our community and its development - they give major decisions to the population to be voted on so . Finally, events are a way to make things fun and create value for our members by bringing people together to create memories. Discord is just the tip of the iceberg. In the future we hope to implement public/private game servers, tons of giveaways, and much more interactive forms of communication. As the first step in a much larger process, Discord doubles as a way to help us gain more momentum as we begin developing content.

While the creation of unique content may not be a simple task, it is definitely a valuable resource for any community. Bringing your idea to the eyes of hundreds, if not thousands of similar people through the use of videos, e-books, and blog posts is an incredibly effective way to grow. Although our topics may range, our core philosophy stands at the center of any content we plan to release. Ideas are likely to start on our blog and expand through other channels of media depending on the depth of the information being shared. That means you can expect to

see YouTube videos, podcasts, and more being shared along with our text posts, creating a web of information across the internet. This should stand as an effective form of search engine optimization, giving us a shot at a high rank on platforms like Google. As the content grows we'll gain resources that cost us nothing to share with the public, providing our followers with information meant to help them build their personal philosophy without any cost to us. With time, we will begin generating revenue from ads and content subscriptions which will be put directly back into the project, allowing us the opportunity to go further than we could imagine without this step.

Research and development for this idea has been dealt with similarly to how we would start a business. As you can tell by reading this article, we're going through each step with due diligence and sharing it publicly to give a glance into the future of Empty Ego. Although this document encapsulates the overall scope of our platform, it doesn't go into the nitty gritty. It is suggested that you browse through the other documents shared to get a better grasp on the expected path ahead. While the above details have shared the general idea, reading further will give you an overall understanding on how we plan to be successful on this journey. Of course, all ideas will have a cost, and we're aware that it's impossible to come out on top without a method of consistency. Creating a loop of user feedback and support will be the core driver for our long-term survival.

To begin, Empty Ego hopes to become a running non-profit that helps its community develop their own skills and portfolio through active participation. In the long run, it is our goal to partner with multiple foundations targeting motivated people to assist them with accomplishing their dreams. To do this we must first successfully build a professional community that stands out, and offers high quality content. As this branch grows, our members will be given opportunities to join the team and begin writing, designing, and developing for the platform as a whole, creating an active area for those interested to gain experience. This will build a system for us to moderate, which in turn creates space for moderation and community engagement positions. Again, this can't be done alone; as users commit to becoming part of our population, some may find it in themselves to act as representatives of Empty Ego and build their community and social media management skills. This goes even further as development continues. With proper respect for the systems and a constant attention to our impact on the world around us, we have the potential to create something larger than ourselves and team up

with other non-profit businesses and corporations that believe in pushing the boundaries of personal growth.