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Speaker 1 ([00:00:08](#)):

Magic lies with the trails. You're listening to the journey on podcast with Warwick Schiller. Warwick is a horseman trainer, international clinician and author, whose mission is to help people achieve a deeper connection with their horses through his transformational training program. J

Warwick Schiller ([00:00:34](#)):

Welcome back to the journey on podcast. I am your host Warwick Schiller. And today I have a guest whose journey looks quite a bit like mine. He's from Australia. He moved to the U S thought that he wanted to have a competitive career in a Western discipline there. And then at some point in time figured out that that wasn't exactly one to do. And so this gentleman's name's Will Rogers. He went, he came to America originally to be a cutting horse trainer and he worked for a guy named Lloyd Cox. Who's one of the best cutting horse trainers in the business. Lloyd Cox has won over \$7 million in the cutting, but after all he realized that might not be what his his journey was meant to be. And he's good friends with a previous guest of my, on the podcast, Tristen Tucker, and he ended up going to somewhere in Northern Europe, maybe Finland or Sweden, somewhere like that, and trained horses with Tristen for a while. And he now trains dressage horses in German Germany. And he has has a great story, a great outlook on life. And like I said, a very similar journey to mine. So let's get a, will Rogers on the podcast and find

Warwick Schiller ([00:01:59](#)):

Will Rogers welcome to the Journey On Podcast.

Will Rogers ([00:02:01](#)):

It's an honor to be here mate. I am looking, I'm looking forward to this you know, fellow countrymen, somewhat of a, I wouldn't have it.

Warwick Schiller ([00:02:09](#)):

It's a similar path, but it's somewhat similar as an effect. We, you know, left their home country. going to follow our Dreams, et cetera, except I think you might have taken a few more turns in the, in the room than me. You you originally were interested in the cutting room. You,

Will Rogers ([00:02:28](#)):

Yeah, that's, that's kind of where I, my original passion when I started to get more serious into horses, I sort of got fascinated with it and, and just sort of really went deep on that over my teenage years and early twenties. Yeah. So did you compete in cutting in Australia? Yeah. Yup. Yeah. Yup. I trained a few horses of my own and sort of work with quite a few guys learning as much as I could from everyone in Australia.

Warwick Schiller ([00:03:07](#)):

Who, who were your influences there? Cause there's a lot of rules. Like the cutters there is such good horseman.

Will Rogers ([00:03:13](#)):

Yeah. Well, I started off mainly with Phil Webb

Warwick Schiller ([00:03:17](#)):

Really for web since I was a kid.

Will Rogers ([00:03:20](#)):

Yeah. He was, he was really good. Took me under his wing. And then I spent some time with Aaron Wheatley and a few older, older guys not so well known horse men and cutting horse trainers and everything like that. So sort of quite a, a variety of people. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([00:03:48](#)):

And then at some point in time, you said, I'm going to be serious about this. I'm going to go to the states and like we all do and work for someone. Tell us.

Will Rogers ([00:03:57](#)):

Yeah, well, I, I ever since I was pretty young, I always knew that, you know, you, you have to go to where the best are the sort of learn what it's all about. And my sort of, I was very ambitious and I was kind of thinking, I want to try and get to the top of the, this whole deal. And I, I went to a Lloyd Cox clinic in Australia when I was, I don't know, 14 or 15, and I'd seen some training videos of his and everything. And from the minute I saw him work also, I was like, this guy's just, he's the best as far as like, I'd never seen anyone that talented that much timing and feel. And just the style in which he did everything. I just sort of thought, well, that's that's what I'd like to do.

Will Rogers ([00:04:55](#)):

That's, that's the style I'd like to do. So I kind of my dream was to go to the states, work for him and try and be his apprentice until I, I was, you know, as good as him essentially. But when I got there sort of, he already had someone who was his assistant trainer and he was initially gonna leave before I got there. And then he decided to stay on and that didn't actually work out there to be the sort of opportunities there for me. But I then ventured on to different different stables as far as like, you know, that people are in dual Rey and the homes is yep. I went and worked there in Colorado for a year and a half. And I really love that. Like, yeah, Colorado's such a beautiful place up against the mountains there. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([00:06:02](#)):

And so then what happened because, you know, if anybody's seen the pictures of will these days, he doesn't actually look like a cutter anymore. So what, what, what happened there? What happened after that?

Will Rogers ([00:06:14](#)):

Well I think, I think all along there was sort of a thread of, I just wanted to be exceptionally good with horses and cutting was my chosen sport at that time. And I wasn't always interested in who won or who was so-called the best on the day or whatever. I was always interested in. The it's sort of, you know, the art history, so to speak, you know, who, who, who had the most sort of style and finesse and ethic in what they did and the smartest operator and that sort of thing. And when I was in the states, I, before I went to the states, I'd met a mutual friend of ours, Kristen, Kristen Tucker, previous podcast guest. Yes. Yes. And we've got to know each other maybe about, I don't know, maybe a year or so before I left to go to the states and I was training, cutting horses down the road from him.

Will Rogers ([00:07:22](#)):

And he was starting young horses and dressage horses and fixing race horses and all that sort of thing. And you know what Cowboys are like as starting out as a cowboy, I didn't sort of have a whole lot of respect for a dress as rider. It was just a different code. And a lot of people, a friend of mine was telling me, oh, this dress and he's good, you know, he's, he's really something you should go around there and meet him. And I was like, ah, yeah, yeah, yeah, we'll see. And I'm sure enough, we met on a fishing trip of a good friend of ours and Trista and I sort of instantly sort of hit it off. We were both sort of a bit cut from the same cloth, you know, extremely, yeah. Extremely addicted to seeking knowledge, finding out the best ways. And he was the first person I'd probably ever met that.

Will Rogers ([00:08:21](#)):

He was looking for way more than everyone else. And he, he was already part way on that journey. And I was kind of I'm 10 years younger than trust. And so he was, I sort of started to go around there and hang out with him all the time. And we'd started work horses together a lot. And I just became really fascinated in the way he was with the way of starting horses and the different things that he was doing at that time. It was pretty basic compared to what he and I are doing now, but I still could really see that it was the beginning of something much more kind of thing. And, and that was kind of exciting. The disappointing thing was he was into dresser and I was into cutting. And at that time, it just sort of didn't seem to our timelines didn't look like they were going to match up in the future.

Will Rogers ([00:09:21](#)):

He was going to Europe and I was going to the states and we sort of thought, well, maybe we'll catch up somewhere, but that might've been it. You know? And after being in the states for a couple of years, we kept in contact and he kept saying to me, you need to come over here. We could really do something special here in Europe. You know, there's a lot of opportunities and so on. And I think after a couple of years in the states, I, I got to a little bit of a point where I'd realize that the people who I looked up to the most and in what they were doing, you know, they were 20 years ahead of me and they looked a little bit tired of it. They didn't look like the passion was there. It was a bit going through the motions. And I'm sure you've probably experienced that in the reigning world. It can get a bit repetitive kind of thing.

Warwick Schiller ([00:10:18](#)):

You know, there's a, I mentioned it before on the podcast, but there's a an Italian that is probably one of the best. He is one of the best runners in the world that lives here in the, in the U S and he has a podcast and he last year and his podcast, he had a guest on there who he had worked for when he was younger, who is also one of the best riders in the world. And also one of the best care horse trainers in the world. And they were talking about the cutting and both of those guys said, by wish, if I could do it all over again, I'd start out with the cutting, because he, they said, you know, like to do the reigning at the highest levels, you've almost got to turn them into robots. And it's completely about you know, complete of BDS to everything you're asking me to do. And what you're asking me to do makes no sense to the horse. Really. There's no reason. I mean, branding and dressage, I think is similar in that way to where there's, there's no reason for the horse to do it. Isn't a reason to stop here or turn here or move then. But you know

Will Rogers ([00:11:19](#)):

There's not an external motivation kind of thing in any form. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([00:11:23](#)):

Yeah. It's just obedient. And this guy was saying that he'd spent a week or so in Texas with oh, what's the Kiwi cutter plan Allen, I think. And he was just fascinated. He goes, you know what he said, if I didn't have a huge business and kids that are going through college or whatever, I'd quit right now and start the cut. And he said, it's just those horses. Just you know, they so bright eyes, this real horses, you know, they're not just a shadow of a horse or whatever. And so in that, and I've come to that conclusion, not that I want to do the cutting, but you know, for a while now it's been like, you know what, I'm not really, I used to be passionate about the ranting and now I look at the world a bit differently and I still think it's, I still think it's, it's cool.

Warwick Schiller ([00:12:14](#)):

And I just have the utmost respect to those guys to get those, to, to do that stuff. Especially at the level they're doing these decks and the last just jumped up there. And we went to a big show in Arizona, recently in the Derby was on one day and there was a hundred and something runs in that that's going to take 10 or 11 hours. And I sat there in the stands and watched every single round. And it was just, it's one of the best ratings I've ever seen, but it's just jaw-dropping as to how far they can

Will Rogers ([00:12:42](#)):

Take a horse in such a short time. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([00:12:44](#)):

Yeah. But, but, you know, there is a lot of repetitiveness to it and yeah, so that's kind of where I'm at with that. Now my wife's still, he's passionate about it, so I'm helping her with her horses and, and I'm, I'm trying to see if we can, you know, she's a competitor, she competes in the non-pro, so she doesn't have to push those horses to the very edge of their limit sort of thing. And I'm still trying to figure out if we can, you know, have the relationship and have the connection and still have the raining at the same time. And so far it's working, but I think it takes a particular type of horse to do that.

Will Rogers ([00:13:23](#)):

Well, I think, I think that's actually that's the future in, in, I think in, in all sports, because I think that you know within, within all sports, there's, you know, there's, there's a lot of good things and there's a lot of not so good things. And I think that the future of equestrian sports or horse training in general, you know, there, there needs to be, you know, like a lot of the things that you're working on. I'm, I'm also very much thinking along the same lines. And I think trying to find how the horse can kind of get a sense of accomplishment from what they're doing, because I've been helped, helped, and supported and developed to where they can show what they're capable of. Because I think at the end of the day, all of us as much as growth is uncomfortable at times once we have grown and we have developed, you know, no one, no one wants to turn back the clock and say, oh, I wish I was a little more underdeveloped and less capable, you know?

Will Rogers ([00:14:36](#)):

And I, and I think that in the horse sport world, if it's done well, you know, these horses really really expand, you know, they, their, their ability, their confidence, their intelligence, their their just ability to handle life better. And also that sense of sort of sense of you know, you know, when you see a champion horse, you know, it's almost like it's almost like they know it as much as everyone else, you

know, it's like, they, they transcend just a trained horse. It's like it because they embody embody it kind of thing. And that, that's something that I think everyone really admires, you know?

Warwick Schiller ([00:15:36](#)):

Yeah. So we get a little bit off track here, but that's all right. You would say you would, you were looking at these old cutters. I don't mean I would cut us older guys who had been, who were your heroes? And you're looking at me thinking, I'm not sure if these guys are just enjoying it anymore. They've got to the point in life where this is what I'm doing, and this is how I support myself on my thing.

Will Rogers ([00:15:57](#)):

Yeah. And, and that, and also I just sort of thought, like if I'm going to spend 15, 20 years, you know, I want to be feeling good about, you know, allocating that time to it. And, and maybe there's more to, to working with horses than just the cutting sport kind of thing. And it, as much as I appreciate cutting it's, I'm so glad that I've done what I've done, because it's taken me on a whole different adventure that I'm incredibly grateful for. And so, so, so what happened is Justin kept contacting me and he said, look, come over to your, we could do some great things together. And I thought, what the hell he was living in Denmark? He was training out of a really good friend of ours place. Morton Thompson, very respected best as trainer and a great guy. And so I just, I just said, all right, I'll do it. I'll just, we'll just move to Denmark and see how it goes. So I got off the plane big straw hat with a feather in it. And I, I didn't

Will Rogers ([00:17:11](#)):

Own normal clothes almost. So I stuck out like, you know, you can imagine as, as you've probably experienced in some airports, you might've felt a little bit out of place or looked at quite a bit on your travels. But so I started out there with Tristen and we, we started to basically just take on any opportunity. We could training any horses because we sort of wanted to build up our name and reputation of what we could do. So we work with a lot of young horses, difficult horses Dressage horses, jumping horses. And we were in a bit of a phase of developing our horsemanship and our skills and our abilities. And in that time period, we work with a lot of very difficult horses that had all sorts of things go wrong. And this sort of because we're working with a lot of sensitive warmbloods and that sort of thing, it sort of shaped our approach to training and how we went about things. And we were just sort of in a very much trying to see how far we could go with what we're doing and probably a bit like, you know, just seeking knowledge, trying everything, learning from everywhere and trying to put it together and come up with something that, you know, w we were hoping for something that was you know, gonna give us an edge in, in the industry and give us a lot of opportunities kind of thing.

Warwick Schiller ([00:18:55](#)):

So these difficult horses, I've got my fingers up in inverted commas in here where they actually difficult horses, or were they horses that had been handled in such a way to create difficult horses?

Will Rogers ([00:19:08](#)):

Well, I, I would say that nearly all horses, if there's any difficulty, as you would know it, human interference, isn't it? Mostly, but I think it was a bit of a combination, you know, like you'd have horses with strong instinctive, genetics together with maybe not always very skilled people. And then, you know, you stack quite a few negative experiences together. And then, then you've sorta got, got the sort of horses we were working with a lot of the time, you know, traumatized or horses that a lot of people

that tried a lot of things with and failed and then you know, down to their last chance or, you know, that sort of thing.

Warwick Schiller ([00:19:58](#)):

Yeah. I think we've both been in that situation.

Will Rogers ([00:20:02](#)):

And it, I mean, it's, it's something that is turned out to be a great blessing because when everything you do doesn't work as, you know, all too well, then it, you have to dig deeper and you have to find more and you have to discover more. And so I think in that time period, we, we learned a great deal. You know, those horses kind of exposed us to our limitations and, and then caused us to expand. And yeah, so it was a good thing.

Warwick Schiller ([00:20:34](#)):

Great line right there. Those horses exposed us to our limitations. Let me write that one down. That is cool. And so

Warwick Schiller ([00:20:47](#)):

You guys doing any Liberty stuff at the time?

Will Rogers ([00:20:51](#)):

I had done a little bit when I was in the states and I didn't know what I was doing. I was just actually using I was using the principles of getting a horse connected to a cow on a horse. And then I just started playing with that. I, I didn't, you know, it was, it was pretty rough. Like it wasn't, like I knew what I was doing. I was just sort of making it up as I went, but that was in in America. But then in, in when I was in Denmark, I, I had this idea of having a Friesian mayor and then like beautiful Frasier and, and training pure Liberty horse, you know, grain as much as I could. And so I got a two year old man. And from there I started playing with a lot of Liberty, same thing. I didn't really know what I was doing. I was sort of making a lot of it up as I went, but that was kind of where that sort of passion started kind of thing. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([00:21:59](#)):

Who was doing the Liberty stuff first year with Trista?

Will Rogers ([00:22:03](#)):

Probably me, I think I mean, Justin's probably done bits and pieces of it in between, but I think it was maybe a little bit more my sort of passion from the beginning. But I think both of us had appreciation for it, but I think I was sort of maybe a little bit more interested in it in the beginning.

Warwick Schiller ([00:22:28](#)):

And did you just figure the whole thing out on you?

Will Rogers ([00:22:32](#)):

Nah I, I, if I, if I did, then I'd be a genius. In the beginning I kind of tried a lot of stuff and, and got, obviously I probably tried to watch different things and stuff, but that that's a little bit later in the story when I came across my mentor with that,

Warwick Schiller ([00:23:01](#)):

We'll get to that later then. So you move over to Denmark, you arrive at the airport with the cowboy boots and your cowboy hat with a big old feather sticking out of it. You interests in a train and some horses and these horses are exposing you to your limitations along that line. Where's the dressage stuff coming.

Will Rogers ([00:23:22](#)):

So, I mean, Tristan has as, as obviously, you know, a lot of a lot of his life been riding dressage and that's something that working together with him, he really sort of showed me really what, what was involved with it. And I, I became more and more fascinated it as I got to do more of working with it. And I think with the thing that I liked about cutting and the thing that I like about dressage are a little bit similar, even though they're very different sports that with a good am, I suppose, rainy, you can do the same, but like with with, with with a cutting horse, you can have a super talented horse, but you still have to help him with his form and style and the way he goes about things, you can have a big influence on, in the cutting. And that's why I love Lloyd so much because, you know, he gets those horses. They have such a smooth, slick style that

Warwick Schiller ([00:24:33](#)):

I have a look about them and then move that they make that. Yeah, yeah, yeah. And then like a border Collie work in a shelter.

Will Rogers ([00:24:39](#)):

Exactly. And, and that's, and that's how he works. And, you know, he gets, he gets, he enhances that. And so with dressage, what I liked is I liked the fact that exceptional writers can enhance the horse to their potential or towards their potential. And for me, this has always been a thing like I've always wanted to try and reach my potential. I want to help other people reach their potential. I, I want to go as far as I can go with what I'm doing. And when I saw a total list live in Arkin, I, that was when I was like, oh, okay, this is, this is next level sort of stuff, because that horse, I mean, obviously now that the quality of dressage is getting higher and higher, but at that time, you know, he was so far ahead of everything else. And I remember being in, you know, Arkins obviously the biggest show in Germany and thing, every single person, thousands and thousands of people just absolutely mesmerized by one horse resilient, the water question games. No, that was before that was, was on the way to that. I think it would have been 2010. And once I saw that, I was like, okay, I'm all in on this. Now, as far as, you know, this is, as far as writing goes, this is the highest level sort of, sort of thing. And that, that's where I really got hooked the trust and its influence and, and and then seeing total, that was kind of, yeah, really got me fascinated in that. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([00:26:29](#)):

And so then how did you, how'd your, your, your dressage career go on from there? I mean, did you stay working with Tristen or

Will Rogers ([00:26:40](#)):



Chris and I moved to the Netherlands. So we, at that time, the Dutch the, that I was seeing was at the top of the tree that, you know, totalis was winning everything and they had pausable and they had some other really successful horses in the breeding program. They are breeding a lot of the best horses down there. So we thought, why don't we go down there? You know, we, we don't need to stay in Denmark. We're not, you know, from Denmark, we can move wherever we want. We can, you know, go where the good horses are and where the opportunities are. And, and so Tristan had got an opportunity to go down there and train with some good people. And so I said, yeah, I'd love to go as well. And that we took our business businesses sort of down there. And we sort of continued sort of collaborating and doing our own thing.

Will Rogers ([00:27:30](#)):

And that was sort of another chapter of like experiencing these high caliber sensitive horses and also sort of the whole dressage sport. And during that time, my wife, who's a international grumpy rider from Sweden. She wasn't my wife then obviously she came down and she was coming down to work with Tristan and then one thing led to another and then we ended up together and then she's been a huge mentor of mine in the dress size, you know, like she's really been I'm interested in sort of help get me started and going. And and then sort of Anna has been one of my main mentors and trainers since then kind of thing. So that, that's kind of how that went.

Warwick Schiller ([00:28:34](#)):

So I'm going to question me at that, because there's a, there's an old saying, like, I don't know if it's in the branding industry or whatever, but you can't take lessons from somebody you've seen naked and not the truth, you know? I mean,

Will Rogers ([00:28:51](#)):

You can't take lessons well from someone you sing back.

Warwick Schiller ([00:28:56](#)):

Yeah. Cause it's you get the whole, you know, you're not just when you, when you're getting help from your spouse, when they tell you something too, you know, they tell you to do something and there's not just the, the information that they're telling you to do right there. There's every argument you've ever had in your entire life is a part of that. You know what I mean? So it's quite hard to, to take that I've been on it, I've been on the other end of the scale, trying to help my wife. And so I know from the feedback I get that sometimes,

Will Rogers ([00:29:31](#)):

Like it's, it's, it's, it's very, it's very difficult. And I think everyone, I have not met anyone. I always if someone says they train their wife or husband and it goes really well, then I'm very suspicious. How, what the story, because I've met people who have got incredibly good relationships, but when it comes to training, it's always a little bit a bit difficult, but look, to be honest with you, you know I think like everyone I've had had those challenges and, and, and I've helped my wife a lot. And, but at the end of the day, it's, it's always a work in progress we're trying to work towards, you know, being better students and better partners and all that sort of stuff. But she's, she's sort of got so much experience and really helped me so much then I think I have for her as well with what she's doing. And I think yeah, I mean to have a trainer like that under the same roof, you know, that, that sort of thing you can't pass that up.



Warwick Schiller ([00:30:39](#)):

Yeah. That's, that's, that's pretty cool, especially when it works. For sure. For sure. So you guys have moved you and traced and moved down to the Netherlands, you're doing stuff and your wife's names and Arizona. Yeah, that's right. And it comes in to work with Trista and you guys end up getting together, then what happens?

Will Rogers ([00:31:03](#)):

So we dressed and bought his own place. And we took over the full stable and basically I mean, I was sort of a little bit interest in shadow in a lot of ways. Understandably. So, you know, he's 10 years older than me. And I, I sort of was also trying to make a name for myself so that I could sort of continue making a living. And I sort of came to the realization that a lot of the sort of training that we're doing was, was based around, you know, helping help, helping people understand their horses better and also preparing their horses for success. A lot of horses, probably all over the world, but particularly in Europe, they just, what I would call very under-prepared for everything that happens to them. So they just run into a lot of trouble.

Will Rogers ([00:32:02](#)):

And the way I was going about things at that time was very much just trying to help prepare horses for success and build them up so that they could re cope with whatever environment was, was put in, and that they had enough knowledge and understanding to work through that. And so at that time when you're doing something different or new or not seen, so often you have a fair bit of resistance, you know, people are sort of say, ah, this is, this doesn't work. Well, I don't know, you know, I don't, I don't know if this has anything for me and I was getting a bit tired of that. And so I just, my wife and I started to think about like, how can we do clinics or performances that can change people's mind that they can see something and go, okay, this is for real, you know, we can't deny what we're seeing here.

Will Rogers ([00:33:04](#)):

And so that was where I started to come up with these sort of together with my wife and these show ideas where you combine, dress us with an extreme environment so that people can see that a horse can work just as beautifully and with you in the most extreme environment as, as they can, you know at home sort of thing. And so that's where these concepts of the beat show with the tops and combining the dressage is Liberty. And I don't know if you've seen the video with my wife, we had a freestyle motocross guy doing big air tricks over her while she's doing grand Prix, dressage and fire and all this sort of stuff.

Warwick Schiller ([00:33:52](#)):

You know what I have seen that, but I didn't realize that was your wife. Cause I didn't see it in relation to you. [inaudible] Really, so the, the, the motorbike doing the back flips and stuff over the top of her while she's doing the grumpy Duracell and fire and flames and yeah,

Will Rogers ([00:34:08](#)):

Yeah. And all the chaos. Yeah. Yeah.

Will Rogers ([00:34:14](#)):

Because the, the thing that was the thing that was nice about that show that, you know that was the first sort of big international show we did. And people sort of walked out of there and you could just see the change in them. They just sort of, you could see them realize, okay, these guys are for real, you know, there are a lot of shelves and is out there, but whatever they're doing is working. So and that, that's where I started to realize this was a way to demonstrate, instead of talking about it and telling everyone and preaching to around showing it and then saying, okay, now let's talk about it. You know what I mean? So you, you sort of walk your talk a bit, you know,

Warwick Schiller ([00:34:59](#)):

So that Charlotte, that, was that something you organized or was it part of another, was it part of it?

Will Rogers ([00:35:04](#)):

It was part of an international competition and the night sort of we'd done something and it had got a lot of exposure and then we got invited to do these things. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([00:35:16](#)):

Was it like at nighttime or something like that? Wasn't yeah. So you guys the entertainment. Yes,

Will Rogers ([00:35:21](#)):

Basically. Yeah. So we were trying to combine sort of yeah. Basically entertainment, but, but sort of intertwining the education sort of thing.

Warwick Schiller ([00:35:34](#)):

You know, what I think is so cool about that is a lot of times at All, I don't know a lot of times, but what I've seen, cause I've got, I've got friends who, who do Liberty stuff and you know, they do a lot of horse entertainment. They will have them do stuff at Sasha as the entertainment, and I've been there for some of them and you can see some people are like, yeah, that's pretty cool. And you can see the others are like, yes, but that's not dressage. I mean, that horse is not biomechanically. Correct. And so they can kind of have a bit of a negative spin on it or, or that's not necessarily applicable to whatever, but I think it's brilliant. The idea of, of having, you know, grand Prix dressage in the entertainment to where they go, holy cow, you can do that. And then at the same time, I think that's brilliant, especially a brilliant way to, and it's not about sticking it to them. [inaudible], it's about opening, you know, it's about planting a seed And, and you've gotta be able to plant the right seed for it to

Will Rogers ([00:36:43](#)):

Right. For sure. For sure. And I, and I think and that was, that was exactly the idea because as much as, you know, performing with the horse in a difficult, like any sort of big environment, whether it's a big competition or show or whatever, it's always challenging. But a lot of people, what I was finding were, were letting the horse be the scapegoat. It's like, ah, yeah, he was tense day and he was this or that, or he was having a bad day. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([00:37:14](#)):

It's very easy to say that it is. I can't say my skateboard was a bad boy today. My BMX bike with a bad boy today, but it's easy.

Will Rogers ([00:37:24](#)):

Exactly. But look, I mean, there, there is, you know, of course there's challenges, but if your horse is tense in the warmup or at home, of course, of course, it's going to go over the edge of the show, but I think there's the thing that it's funny with that because it continued on to sort of the direction I'm going now a little bit with the performances and everything. I started to realize that the horse not, I started to realize I started, yeah. I started to realize that the host needs to be the star always. It's not about me or you, whoever it's, it's always the whole assess the shine. And to me a whole shines best when you see them doing the work and feeling comfortable enough to do the work because you've helped them, you've prepared them. You've got, you've got that level of trust and connection and you've been for them in there for them in those moments where they need it in the lead up. So that in the show you've, you've, you've, you've kind of you've covered all your bases and then the whole list can shine. And that's always my aim, you know, I always want people to walk out of there and feel like, yes, they might say this is nice or that, but I want the host to be the one that gets them, you know in the end. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([00:38:54](#)):

And how many of those types shows have you done? Like, is it a big part of what you do?

Will Rogers ([00:38:59](#)):

Oh, I mean, I've done quite a few. I've sort of, yeah, several, quite a few international shows, but I haven't I haven't sort of gone on the road and just, I've done it with actually quite a few different horses, you know, and sometimes I've only done set a horse up for one show and didn't do another one with them. So I've also enjoyed that process, but I, I'm sort of not someone who not that I think it's wrong or anything, but I dunno I'm a bit special in that way. I don't believe in that doing a show all the time. I'd I don't want my horses to lose that sparkle. I don't want them to look like they've been used and abused to too much. Good, done too many things. Been too many places. I want them to still stay fresh.

Will Rogers ([00:39:54](#)):

It's it's, it's at heart. I'm a bit of an artist in a way, because for me, it's not, it's the performance itself. If the horse doesn't shine, then I don't want to be there. I'm not going there for the money. I'm not going there for the accolades. It has to be that the, the horse kind of yeah. And I'm always disappointed if I've messed up with a preparation or miss something and it hasn't quite gone to plan. And I'm, I'm getting better with that these days, but that's really the thing that's important to me with it, you know?

Warwick Schiller ([00:40:32](#)):

And so would you say most of what you do, you know, you do those shows at times, but most of what you do is these days is, is training dressage horses.

Will Rogers ([00:40:42](#)):

It's a combination of training, dressage horses, and Liberty horses. So I've got this team of Liberty horses that I'm building. And this is sort of being a long-term dream for many years. So I've got 10. Well, I've got nine gray, modern sport, horse types, like warmbloods and one he's a warmblood warmblood cross canap stripper spotted a sport horse, and

Warwick Schiller ([00:41:17](#)):

Anybody who doesn't know what a stripper is. It's a, it looks like a Appaloosa warmblood basically. Yeah, it is an actual breed though, isn't it?

Will Rogers ([00:41:25](#)):

Yeah. Yeah. It's a Danish bread. Yeah. and with this, so, so this is my big life. It's been a big life dream of mine to be able to, to know what it feels like to be someone who can have a huge herd of horses working with you and going into that exploratory space of seeing what's possible kind of thing. And then sort of trying to inspire people through creating beautiful moments that, that people can kind of fully appreciate that wasn't fully appreciate what what's possible, what can be possible with them kind of thing. That's a little bit my, my idea with this kind of thing.

Warwick Schiller ([00:42:22](#)):

Now you've got, you've got the chain of gray horses. Did you tell me that you're trying to develop another team as well?

Will Rogers ([00:42:27](#)):

Yeah, well, they regret as well. Yeah. Now, because the thing is, the reason why I got the gray horses is because I was thinking about black horses or something like that. But the thing is with white horses in the shows and all that sort of thing, like they, they catch the light. You can see in a dark, you know, in a nighttime show when the lights are on, you can see all their expressions, all the nuances, all the details, whereas sometimes a darker colored horse. It looks like a silhouette. And when you have a herd of horses I think it's easy for them to all just kind of look a little bit like silhouettes kind of thing. And I want all my horses I mean, obviously I I'm biased, but they've all got their own personality and uniqueness. And I think that's what also adds to it a lot. So that that's a bit the idea with the gray anyway.

Warwick Schiller ([00:43:28](#)):

Yeah. Yeah. They certainly look good in the pictures. I've seen this. There's an amazing picture of you in front of, so you've got, I don't know how many is in that picture. They're all gray horses and you're standing and you're standing on the two in the middle backs in front of them. What is it? The French Alps behind the Swiss Alps

Will Rogers ([00:43:48](#)):

Young crowd, the top of top of Europe as I go

Warwick Schiller ([00:43:52](#)):

Really, it's an amazing picture, but those, I just loved the expression on those horses and they're all, they're all at Liberty. And what is that? Is that in the middle of a field or something?

Will Rogers ([00:44:00](#)):

Well, it's on, it's actually on top of a mountain, believe it or not. So if you, in that, I've got this photo over here on the wall. It, it, it drops down and in the valley they have two of the most beautiful lakes in the world. And then on the other side of that valley, I've got the, the biggest mountain range in that area and all the big snowcap peaks. And I was trying to find for that film for the aspire foundation, I was trying to find the most beautiful locations I could possibly find to do this with. And when we were down there this, one of these Swiss guys who had the hotel, he said, you know what, I've got the perfect

location. People fly from all over the world to film here for commercials and all that sort of stuff. It's really special. And I didn't even know it existed. And getting the horses up there was not so easy. I mean, it was pretty state, but it's a stunning location, like, yeah, incredible.

Warwick Schiller ([00:45:09](#)):

So how did you get the horses up there?

Will Rogers ([00:45:10](#)):

Well, we, we had small two horse trucks. But I mean, I, you know, I'm, I'm, I'm a boy from the Plains in Australia, you know, so driving horses up mountains is not something that I'm, you know, all that comfortable with. But thankfully, you know, the guy who was with the CGU where we're going and we're driving crawling up there and the horses sort of, for the most part traveled pretty well, but it's always a little bit sketchy taking horses where you don't know exactly where you're going and pretty steep and everything, but yeah, now it's a beautiful place, beautiful place.

Warwick Schiller ([00:45:53](#)):

And so that was for some filming for the aspire foundation. Yeah. So do you remember, do you want to tell us about that?

Will Rogers ([00:46:00](#)):

Yeah, so the aspire foundation is a foundation that I started up last year at the end of last year. And this is a little bit my future sort of direction, a big part of my future direction and a good friend of mine. A mentor of mine out of the horse world, instead of really suggested that, you know, this is starting a foundation for horses, could be something where I can really share my knowledge and experience and help a lot of people and horses in the world and combine that together with my performances and shows. And then essentially what I've always thought is the biggest thing in the horse world is at least from my opinion. And, and I'm sure you probably agree with this is that the horses wellbeing ultimately comes down to us, you know, as much as you can give them good food and accommodation and, and all that sort of thing, like really for us.

Will Rogers ([00:47:17](#)):

If we if we come to the horse from a good place, then that's where it all starts and ends, I think. And, and, and so with foundation, I sort of want to, I mean, I'm very inspired by you what you're doing, because I think you're having a huge impact on so many people and sharing so much incredible wisdom and practical stuff. And I think this is also what I want to do with the foundation, as well as help horses are in difficult situations as well. But I really feel that if we if we get more knowledge out there and it becomes more normal to be aware of, you know, how to understand horses better and, and go about taking care and train them better, I think this is just going to hopefully spread spread further, you know?

Warwick Schiller ([00:48:16](#)):

So what sort of the film that you're filming you were doing? Is that like a, going to be a film or was it like some sort of an ad for the story?

Will Rogers ([00:48:27](#)):

Yeah, it was, it was just a, it was a promotion, like, because I was going to do a live performances to present this foundation publicly, but then of course COVID hit and you know, that, that wasn't going to be the case. So then I sorta thought what about doing a film to capture the essence of what what this foundation will be about and a little bit introducing me to people as the founder and sort of spokespersons for a spokesperson for the foundation so that people can kind of feel, okay, this guy is a real horseman, so he's not just some person with good ideas and good intentions. He's also got some experience and, and you know, he's got something to bring to the party, you know? So that was, that was a bit the, the idea and Switzerland, you know, to me, the most beautiful nature in the world and to take, to take my horses down there, I've always had that sort of, I think, beautiful horses in beautiful nature with a beautiful connection. It sort of trumps everything I feel, you know?

Warwick Schiller ([00:49:45](#)):

Yeah. Well, that, that, that picture you can tell you're out there in the middle of the, nowhere on these six horse, you've got these six horses who were completely at Liberty, you're standing on the back of two of them and the Swiss Alps from the background. It's all those pictures from that series is just unbelievable.

Will Rogers ([00:50:03](#)):

Mm Hm. Yeah, no, it was a magic trick trip. Absolutely. Absolutely.

Warwick Schiller ([00:50:11](#)):

So you've been on a bit of a, I dunno, somewhat similar journey to me and I don't, I don't mean related to horses, I mean, related to yourself. And I think that foundation's probably a part of that, but do you wanna do

Will Rogers ([00:50:28](#)):

Absolutely well? I was thinking to myself, I was actually thinking to myself today I was thinking we should just dive straight into this. We can skip all the past history because it's only it's only sort of a timeline, you know, I feel like I'm just just reaching where it's all at now kind of thing. And, and so I, I can, I can share, share with you because I've been, you know, just from a distance inspired by your transformation and the path that you've taken. Because it, to me, I, I completely admire people who can, can really change in terms of you know, can really open up and change. And I think along the way, and this is something that I've experienced in my journey with horses. Like, I think when you starting out, when I was starting out, it was just so determined to succeed.

Will Rogers ([00:51:34](#)):

It was, it was just to be successful, was, was, you know, what it's all about. And as I've gone along, I've, I've always thought, you know, I, I need to be, yeah. To get as good as I can learn as much as I can keep proving myself over and over and over and over and over again. And to get better opportunities to move up in, in in what we're doing. And the funny thing is I've reached a point where I've done a lot of things and yeah, a lot of things that I would have ramped, I would have never even accomplished. So thing. And I come to the point the start of this year, and I was absolutely miserable, completely miserable and got into a real deep depression. And I was just spiraling and not, not just like, it was a big combination of things, you know, financial pressures and a lot of commitments and you know, all sorts of things, staff troubles and all sorts of things, but it was almost like the universe was taking me to the place I needed to go.

Will Rogers ([00:52:50](#)):

I needed to get low enough and suffer enough to be ready. And I, I sort of, you hit a point where I was just like, I gotta do something, I gotta do something extreme. I gotta work on myself big time. There's, I've got to change something because I just can't keep on this this path, you know, and I think what I, what I, looking back at it, what I realized I've done over the time is, is just held on to all these things throughout my life, all the hardships, all the struggles, all the things that got me to this point, I started to carry them all with me. So I was getting to the point where I was going into any situation. And I was just carrying all the past with me as carrying all the struggles. And it just became unbearable, you know, just simply working with a horse or turning up and doing what I needed to do.

Will Rogers ([00:53:51](#)):

Just felt like I, you know, just didn't have the energy for it almost. I'd be, I was just struggling that much. And just when things got to about rock bottom I came across a video and it said something like I think the title was something like freeing yourself from negative thoughts and feelings and letting go or something like that. And I sort of thought, oh, well, that, that sounds a bit relevant to where I'm at at the moment. And it was an interview with Michael singer. Who's an author of the untethered soul. And I would highly recommend anyone who's particularly in a dark place. If you're in a dark enough place, you need to pick this book up because I don't think it's necessarily a book that anyone would pick up and really run with it, because I think that real transformation it's sort of like you got to get to a dark enough place to be willing, to want to transform. I want to transform, you know, and

Warwick Schiller ([00:55:10](#)):

That's my wife's favorite book. Like as far as any of that sort of thing, she goes to, that's the one when I read that one, that made more sense.

Will Rogers ([00:55:18](#)):

So, so basically, you know, just for everyone listening the, this book is I've always had a little bit like I've grown up as a Christian in a sort of Christian family, but, and I've always believed in God to some extent, but as I wouldn't say that my, my faith has been strong at times and other times, not really at all. I'd have to be honest. And when when I came across this book and I started to, and I started to listen to interviews from him and everything, I was just like, oh my goodness, this guy is not selling some, you know, approach to you know, he's not selling anything, an agenda or anything like that. He's, he's revealing the truth of existence to, and the sort of secrets to living life almost. And I, I started to look into it more and I was like, okay, this is, this is where I need to go, because I think the thing with, you know, a lot of spiritual teachings, I've always been

Will Rogers ([00:56:35](#)):

And a bit, ah, that's not really my thing because it's a bit, yeah. too weird or Range, or they use confusing language and you end up feeling more lost than, you know, found kind of, And with this, with this book it was just like his eloquence in simplifying the most complicated things and just helping You understand what life's all about. It Just it opened the door to me. And so I, I went to the Swiss Alps by myself. My wife was thankfully very accommodating to allow me to go, we've got a 14 month old son and she said, look, you know, you need to do this. You need to go. And so I went down there by myself with this book and I just, I went down there for yeah, three weeks. And I, I hiked each day and I was, I was reading through this book and it, it was the Turning point in my life. Like, I feel that there's Sort of before this, you know, awakening, So to speak and then after, and I realized that Like that's why I almost



think that the past the past got yeah. The media here and that's all it, did. You know what I mean? Like, it's sort of almost like I can appreciate that the things from the past, but it's almost like Not really that relevant anymore. You know what I mean? Like exactly what you mean. And, And I think, and for everyone listening Out there, I've Sort of, you know, I mean, I haven't been training horses as long as you have mate, But I've, I've been pushing hard my whole life. I've just been, had the throttle down going, you know, trying as hard as I can, but I've also struggled a lot Along the way, and I've just kind of thought that's normal and you just got to soldier on and yeah. Get on with it. But the, the biggest thing that I've realized is that Destination or no achievement, or no, when you get this or when you get there or when you make it Enough money, none of that none of that's that important if you can't live the journey. Right. And, and it sounds, Everyone's, it's, it's obviously such a cliché Thing, but when I realized through this book that the thoughts that are I was having in my head was not who I was, that I, the

Will Rogers ([00:59:21](#)):

Observer of my thought, I'm the sort of soul inside that watches my brain activity or puts, you know activates my engages with my brain once I realized that that was going on. And at the end that I could let go of a lot of these thoughts that was so huge to me because it had been so many years before since I would say that I could work a day with my horses, with people, with the absence of judgmental thoughts or, or negative thoughts or resisting what is taking place in life, you know? And that, that, that, that, that was just, yeah, such an incredible freeing experience. And of course I'm daily trying to work on it now, but what's been your experience with that work as far as was there any particularly pivotal moment that were you sort of, was there a certain rock bottom you had to hit,

Warwick Schiller ([01:00:39](#)):

You know, good question. I think I'd been at rock bottom for quite a long time on the inside, on the outside. Everybody thought I was happy, go lucky and all that sort of stuff, but just had a whole lot of self-loathing I'd say, you know, like putting on yourself all the time and, and yeah. And I, and yeah, and it's funny you have those, you know, you're having those struggles, but you don't, I don't think, I wasn't aware I was having them, even though it was where I was having them at an put that

Will Rogers ([01:01:16](#)):

Well, you, so you say it's so familiar, it's hard to imagine what it would be like another way

Warwick Schiller ([01:01:22](#)):

Still in a different way. Yeah. And you know, I'm a big fan of Brenae brown and you know, she talks a lot about vulnerability and I did a was it a horse expo in Madison, Wisconsin, few years ago. And I, at those horse expo, sometimes you, we will do a, you know, a session where the horse, but sometimes they'll have you do a talk session while you're in there, like a lecture hall sort of thing. And there's old, there's one, I use a lot when I have to do that and I just call it everything I learned in life that I learned from horses. And it's basically life experiences I've learned from horses that apply to other parts of life, you know, and every, you know, I might do it once every six months or so, depending on the horse expert. But every time I do it, it's a little bit different in this one I did at this horse expert.

Warwick Schiller ([01:02:13](#)):

There's a couple of hundred people in the room and I admitted stuff to these two people that I probably hadn't ever admitted to anybody before. Possibly even myself. And what, what caused that? Just because the it was, it had been, and I guess, yeah, but when I was done, I walked back to my booth and

Barbara shorter, you know, Barbara Shulty is yes. Yeah. She's been a previous guest on the podcast. I walked back to my booth and I went past her boot and I'd only just met her that morning. And she said, oh, how did it go? I said, I am exhausted. I feel like I've been run over by a train. And she goes, why? And so I said, you know, I, I kind of spat out some stuff that I, I don't think you've ever sped out before.

Warwick Schiller ([01:03:02](#)):

And I spread it out to a couple of hundred strangers. And she said, yeah, well, when Amy Brown says vulnerability is the ultimate bad-ass or whatever, you know, and it was about, and that weekend there was so many synchronistic things happen. It wasn't funny after that, like we just crazy weird synchronistic. And then about a week after that I had this, I was having a conversation one night. It was the, it was the Saturday night of a clinic. I'd done a clinical day. And I was at a, at a friend's house that night. And it was a group of us sitting around talking, and it was almost like they'd planned it, but one of them asked a question that triggered me a bit. And another one asked a question that triggered me a bit more on the third one, asked me a question that triggered me a bit more. And all of a sudden the room just shifted like 45 degrees. It was like, I got dizzy. And then I just started bawling my eyes out. And I'm like, who the hell are you people? And what planet are you from? It's like, I dunno, it was, and

Will Rogers ([01:04:01](#)):

You sort of had a release kind of thing. Like,

Warwick Schiller ([01:04:04](#)):

Yeah. Yeah. I had, you know, Renee brown talks about when she had her nervous breakdown and her therapist calls it a spiritual awakening when it was one of those things, whatever it was, you know, then that, I think it had been brewing for a long time, but that I that vulnerability, that being able to share stuff does something to you. But I also, I think getting stuff off your chest does something to you too. So I think, and it's not just the vulnerability to others. I think for me, it might've been the vulnerability to me. Yeah.

Will Rogers ([01:04:37](#)):

The transparency kind of thing. Like

Warwick Schiller ([01:04:39](#)):

I actually admitted, not only did I admit to myself that that was what was going on, I admitted to other people. So I think that might've been the start of it, but I mean, looking back the start of it was way before that, but nothing ever, nothing had really happened up to that point down. It's kind of like training a horse when you just, you're just doing the basics, knowing the basics and doing the basis. And then one day bam, they all, they all gel together to where something cool happens and you didn't actually train the cool thing. It's just a, it's just a filling to place folds into place because you stuck to the basics so much. And I, I, yeah, I think I'd just had things going on for quite a long time, but so your trip to the Swiss Alps was that that was pretty recent, wasn't it?

Will Rogers ([01:05:26](#)):

Yeah, it was, it was not longer, not longer at all. I think I left in the middle of middle of April come back the middle of may. And the interesting, interesting thing I was, I was having a bit of a sort of realization today because I was thinking about how I was thinking a bit about you because we're doing this podcast.

And I was thinking about how you, you saying on one of your podcasts that, you know, you've spent what eight years of your life, one way. And then however many years after that sort of a, somewhat of a change man or transformation and, and how the blessing of that is, you know, you've got a great recollection of what it was like before and, and how it is now, and the difference in, so you can kind of, you can talk to people on both sides of the fence, so to speak.

Will Rogers ([01:06:41](#)):

And also what I was realizing and some of the stuff I've been learning and working with recently, I just realized that talks about in this book, that the greatest obstacles and challenges in your life are where you have the most spiritual growth kind of thing. Now for everyone who is a bit uncomfortable with the word spiritual, I've also had a little bit an uncomfortable relationship with that initially. But what, I don't know if you agree with this word, but what the spiritual sort of means to me is just your internal life, how you feel the inside and how that affects everything on the outside rather than how the outside affects you on the inside kind of thing. And so I just sort of see it as just your inner journey, how you feel on the inside, what people don't always see. And I was just thinking about how I was thinking that I wrote it down here. It seems to be that in our life that the biggest sort of mission we have or whatever is to transcend our personal struggles and traumas or challenges that we've held onto in our life and sort of get to the other side of that and share that with other people, because, you know, like you've sort of talked about, you've been shut down for many years. And for me,

Will Rogers ([01:08:15](#)):

I've, I've had a number of struggles of just sort of resisting things and, and resenting things or feeling I'm not good enough or just different things that I've carried with me and held onto and getting to the other side of those things. And I'm not saying I'm perfect or anything like that, but feeling what it's like to be on the other side of that is to me, the, the biggest thing, because like, as a horse trainer, I don't care how good a horse Terranea. If you're not right on the inside, you're nothing come of what you could be kind of thing. And also your life is nothing compared to what it, what it could be. And, and I've just sort of, that sort of really inspired me to, to try and incorporate this into the way I approach everything. And as far as like also helping people, because I just realized if, if you're not right on the inside, you're just going to essentially taint or project that onto everything you do. And it's, you can actually do something about it. And it's not as hard as, as you might think. You know what I mean?

Warwick Schiller ([01:09:35](#)):

Yeah. I know exactly what you mean. It's funny while you were talking, then I'd just been scrolling through the notes in my phone because I knew I'd written down Renee Brown's definition of spirituality. Okay. Yeah, yeah. And what I'd say is actually it's got a definition of authenticity and of spirituality, but her Brenda, her, her definition of authenticity is the daily practice of letting go of who we think we are supposed to be in embracing who we actually are. Choosing authenticity means cultivating the courage to be imperfect, to set boundaries and to allow ourselves to be vulnerable. She said, spirituality is a deep held belief that we are inextricably connected to each other by something bigger than us say what that thing is, but we're all inextricably connected to each other, by something bigger than us. I should go back and read the notes in my phone. You know, I'll have an idea or here's something, I'll write it down the notes in my phone. And then I forget I ever wrote it down. And I was just scrolling through there looking for that. And I'm thinking, oh, there's some gold in here. Yeah. I need to turn it off.

Will Rogers ([01:10:40](#)):

Yeah, for sure. For sure. Well, I think I, one of the biggest things for me with, with this on a daily daily level, what I've, I've come to realize, and I know you've talked about this with some of the things you've been doing, but like I've always been sort of going out with what I'm doing, having an outcome in mind and really pushing for that outcome. And, and of course when you an outcome that you want, you're attached to it and it can, it can cause you to, to feel pressure to reach that outcome. And, you know, things aren't lining up with that outcome, you know, you can make bad decisions or errors in judgment because you're attached to, oh, I have to get it like this, or it has to be like that. And the, the biggest thing that I've been working, one of the biggest things I've been working with my horse training is just accepting what is, and working with wherever the horse is that day from the very beginning.

Will Rogers ([01:11:53](#)):

And from moment to moment moving in the direction I want and staying there with it and not, not resisting. What is, you know, like I think one of the biggest things I've learned with Liberty horses is, is that when you have a big number of horses, it's, it's very often that you've got, you know, if you've got six minds, you're thinking about that means six different things that happening at one time. So, you know, there's chances are, something's not going right somewhere. And if you're attached to it going, right, it can bother you. And if a lot of little things bother you, it makes it hard to be able to stay present in the moment and, and kind of right there with it kind of thing. And by accepting what is completely and not trying to worrying about how it should be or how it was yesterday or how I want it to be just, it's just freed me to be in the moment and just know, okay, from here, I'm just going to work with what is, and, and I mean, it's probably a simple thing. You probably been working with this for, for quite a while now. But for me that that's something that so powerful because, you know, in the moment, if you're doing the best you can in the moment, because you're completely there and without judgment, then the next moment's going to be better. And the next moment it's going to be better because you're handling each moment just right. Kind of thing, you know?

Warwick Schiller ([01:13:27](#)):

Yeah, I think, but it's, you know, it's just such a, such a balance. You know, I remember I was watching American idol a couple of years ago and they got down to the final 12 was something, or other than that, they had these like concept thing where they each sing a song. And then the next day they have to come up on stage in front of the judges and the judges tell them what they think, whether they stay on or go and we're it in the final six or whatever it is. And one of the judges is Lionel Richie. And there was this kid who didn't have a lot of competence himself, be it a great deal of talent. He was bloody awesome. And I forget the exact line that Lon Richie said to him, but he said something like being successful is having absolute belief yourself and whatever the complete opposite that is, you know, like having no faith in yourself at all, and absolutely having complete belief in yourself and trying to stay somewhere in the middle.

Will Rogers ([01:14:26](#)):

I mean, it's funny, it's funny you bring up the balance thing because that's, that's, that's so much of my time is consumed with that. Like I just, it seems to me like with everything, especially with the horses, it's, it's like finding that balance point and keeping it within their minds, within their bodies, within whatever you're doing is just the art. It's just the masterful art, isn't it? And it's obviously the way of, of life as well, but it's, I love what you've I was watching some of your principles of trainings videos leading up to this, and they're fabulous by the way, I recommend every single person who wants to work with horses needs to watch those videos, because I think you've condensed you know, some of the best

information for people there, you know, because those principles they, you shouldn't, it's almost like they're too good to put out for free. Do you get what I mean? Like, in terms of the value of those, if you apply them correctly, if you don't know some of them it's transcends, you know, you could have a thousand lessons than not pick up some of those those principles, you know? But one of the, go ahead, sorry you go.

Warwick Schiller ([01:15:58](#)):

I was going to say the funny thing about when I filmed the first, at least the first season of that was I had a hard time filming it because I had come to realize that I taught all my horses to be quite obedient and that most people would think they were great horses, but they didn't have that much expression on their face. And that's what I had to work with, but I was aware how bad they were, even though most people would look and think, Hey, they look great. I was aware of what was missing. And then I've got to make this bloody TV show thing, talking about the principles of training. And, and I almost don't want to do the things with them. I did with them before to get them to that way. You know, it was I was existential crisis filming it as, as the seasons went on and I'd start to change some things. It was a bit easier, but that, cause I've done three seasons, but the first season yeah, I was, and I looked back on and go, that's complete and I would really start to live again and do them all.

Will Rogers ([01:17:01](#)):

Well, it's funny, it's funny you say that because I'm sort of getting to the point where I sort of feel I'm maybe ready to sort of put content out there for people. I've sort of been resisting it for a long time to put in, in public out and I admire what you've done. And I admire the fact that, you know you've, you've, you've shared so much stuff for so many years and it's not easy when you put things out there because every man and the dog can see everything and judge it and talk about it. Oh, that's no good. And you know, and, and also, like you say, even when you're doing something like that, you filming those, those videos to you, you know how exactly you'd like it to be, or after the fact you wish you had done it this way, but to be fair to you, you know, like the message is clear in those, those films and, and those videos.

Will Rogers ([01:18:03](#)):

And it's, it's funny because I was, I've been thinking about it a lot with like the principles, the techniques, the process you use, the how you are, how you feel as a person, how you are on the inside, all those things woven together, trying to find the balance in all those things is, is really the, the path to mastery and you kind of need all those pieces. And each one of those areas is such a deep pool. If you dive deep, you can get lost in technique. You can get lost in process. You can get lost in your personal journey or the principles. But it's just nice that you've got that out there for people, because I think you're very good at you know, researching and studying high quality proven tested principles or knowledge and formulating it in a way that people can can sort of can take it in, you know, and, and I think that's I respect what you've done there because you know, not, not, everyone's going to read everything or watch everything, but if they pick up a few of those principles at the least, it's going to help a lot of horses to, you know, to start with, you know,

Warwick Schiller ([01:19:37](#)):

Thank you. I am, you know, everything's a bit of a blessing and a curse and I've always been, you know, I'm very analytical. I've always been stuck in my head. I don't feel, I think. And I, I think that having my brain work that way I think I'm good at picking up patterns. And that's where I figured out these 12

principles, because I'm, I'm grouping. Okay. That's like that different, but it's the same. And that's kind of how I come up with them. And so that, that is a

Warwick Schiller ([01:20:07](#)):

Blessing, but it's also a curse too, because I'm too much in my head and not enough in my hat really. And so, yeah, it's, once again, it's all a bit,

Will Rogers ([01:20:16](#)):

I think I've been a little bit, I think I've been a little bit the same too. I think in a lot of ways, there are some pretty big similarities between us because I've been a collector of knowledge, my whole life, a seeker, you know, like if I compare them, I compare myself to tryst and he's he's someone who's a creative genius in his own kind of way. And I just realized pretty early on. I'm not, I'm not him. You know, I, I like if you leave him out in the dust, dusty arena by himself, he'll come up with all sorts of stuff. If you leave me out there without some inspiration or some things I can put together on, I'm not in the same league, you know, but I've always been obsessed with finding the best knowledge where, you know, seeking out the best principles, techniques, approach all that sort of thing.

Will Rogers ([01:21:08](#)):

And actually that's something I wanted to talk to you about. Like as well with my Liberty training, I have a mentor from Australia is named Sam Watson. And he's from WWI and he's been my Liberty mentor essentially. And he's he and his family have. They were the ones that have sort of helped me the most with understanding process principles like the, the depth of, of things. And like Tristan helped me a great deal with my horsemanship, but I think when, when I went to learn from these guys they, they help deepen my, my awareness and process and knowledge. And without them, you know, a lot of the stuff I'm doing with my Liberty horses, the zero chance may getting to the level that I want to get to without that, you know, it's years and years and years of carefully, well thought out process and experience and trial and error that they've sort of shared with me. So I'm eternally grateful to them for for the impact they've had on me too. You know,

Warwick Schiller ([01:22:27](#)):

You know, it's, we're talking about the years and years and years of stuff. And, you know, the thing is for me, I, you know, people like say like buck Brandon or Martin black, those guys have started the, and thousands and thousands of horses. And, and I haven't. But the thing is that I, once I figured out the principles, I'm not saying I have all the answers, but once I figured out the principles, I could come across a problem that I'd never encountered before. And I go, okay, and I can just break it down. So that's the, you know, that's that, and that, that right. Brain sort of thinking, you know? Yeah,

Will Rogers ([01:23:12](#)):

Yeah. But, but I think, you know, it's funny with that. Because everyone has their strengths and weaknesses and, and I have a friend of mine her name's Yvette blocker, she's she has a company called Featherlite horsemanship and she she's someone who's got incredible feel that natural feel and, and, and you know, you're envious of it because it just become, it seems so effortless, you know, she just follows that field the whole way through, you know, and she's, there aren't many people I've ever met that quite like that to that level, you know, but the thing is, you know, you can have all the feelings in the world, but you also need process and understanding and to be able to break things down. And of



course that's always the challenge, you know, wherever you're really strong, you're going to generally be weak just as equally somewhere else.

Will Rogers ([01:24:17](#)):

And I think the beautiful thing about this whole journey of life is that it doesn't matter where we start out or where we came from or what the story is. We have, if we, if we're willing to keep developing, we can kind of balance, balance things out. And, and that's the most exciting thing for me now because I just sorta realized like, what's possible, you know, if, if I, if I'm someone who is good on the inside and, and can bring that to every situation and also, you know, understands the PR the principles, the process, the technique, and willing to, to spend the time with the horses and, and, and and so on, like what sort of level can you reach with, with all those sort of things. But like you say, it's a balance, like you, can't just be really strong in one area and think that you're going to get all the way you've sort of got to cover all your bases. And that takes a hell of a lot of dedication and commitment. Doesn't it, it

Warwick Schiller ([01:25:25](#)):

Takes a number of lifetimes, doesn't it?

Will Rogers ([01:25:28](#)):

Yeah. A hundred percent, a hundred percent.

Warwick Schiller ([01:25:31](#)):

And it's funny, you mentioned Sam Watson before. I've never heard of Sam Watson and what's what, so I'm going to present it a horse expert this weekend. Okay. And, you know, they always read, had a bit of a blurb when you come out in the rain or whatever. And, and they, a lot of times, you know, recently they'll kind of go, oh, one of the world's finest horsemen were a chiller. I'm like, oh, bloody hell. You've never heard of the world's best horseman. You know, they're somewhere in WWI or whatever. And I was so glad that your mentor, I've not heard of because

Warwick Schiller ([01:26:03](#)):

You know what I'm, I mean, I'm quite out there in the public space these days only because I'm good at explaining stuff.

Will Rogers ([01:26:13](#)):

Well, I think, I think, you know, you, there's a bit more going on than that, mate, but if you want to, if you want to narrow it down to that, you can,

Warwick Schiller ([01:26:21](#)):

No, I'm really that's that, you know, that's, you know, I've got friends who are like the one they, like you were talking about who were really talented, that they really had to teach it because they don't know what they do. There's just so much feeling.

Will Rogers ([01:26:35](#)):

And, and, and, and, and, and what, you know, the thing about that, sorry to interrupt you. The thing about that, that I, and I've, and this is just something for people to, I think, to think about is like, when you watch someone and you're working with horses and you sort of think, oh my goodness, I'd love to



be like that, that, that that'd be, that's what I want. I think the thing that I wish someone told me this earlier on is that someone who, someone who has that, what we're talking about that field or whatever, that's, who they are being, that's, that's the biggest part of it. It's not their technique. It's not, this is not that it's who they are inside. That allows that. And I see that with you. And I'll be honest with you. If you look at your stuff from earlier on to now, you know, I see a totally different person, but I also see a totally different feeling with your horses.

Will Rogers ([01:27:33](#)):

So you, you, you that's that you can see that with you and your horses, the feeling there is is more and more and more and more, and it's who you are too. You're being kind of, and that's the same thing for me, what I realized is like, you know it's, it's who I am inside, that, that, that is where the feeling comes from. And like you say, I've always been in my head a lot as well. But I think all of us inside have got a bit of that magic. It's just where we're getting blocked by our thoughts and now brains a bit, you know?

Warwick Schiller ([01:28:09](#)):

Mm. Yeah. Hmm. Yeah. That's, that's the, yeah, that's something I'm trying to work on, but yeah, it's, it's, it's all a big, it's all a bloody great balancing act, you know, it's interesting. I've tried to, you know, we've, so you and I have been chatting every once in a while for a year or so now. And, and, you know, I think from our first conversation, we got pretty deep right off the bat, you know, you kind of cut through the and said, no question. But I think there's a reason why you haven't been on the podcast before we haven't been on the lineup before is because I think the universe is waiting for you to go to this place

Will Rogers ([01:28:51](#)):

That's right. A hundred percent. It should be I, I have to tell people work contact me. I was, when was it, we've talked about it a bit, like earlier on in the year or something, and you said, oh, would you like to be on the podcast sometime? I said, yeah, absolutely love to. And, and then of course I was on my way to rock bottom quietly behind the scenes. And then when I just come back, I've been awake back from the Swiss apps. And I was thinking, I just sort of incorporating this stuff into my daily life and working with the horses and so on. And I was thinking, gee, you know, it'd be, be a good, good time for, to do that podcast now while, while this is sort of you know, just after the transformation or whatever, and sure enough I think that day or whatever, I get a message from is like, so when are we going to do this podcast or something? And it's yeah, it's a funny it's a funny one, isn't it?

Warwick Schiller ([01:30:00](#)):

Yeah. It is a funny one. And, you know, I was just going to say that you've probably encountered this, helping people with horses, but they, you, you, some people don't want to do the work, but you, you find someone who does want to do the work and then they'd do the work for a while and makes the horse so much better. And then they kind of rest on their laurels and they just go along and the horse starts to get worse. And a lot of people, when they do that, and you point it out, they're like, oh, stupid meet you. And it is the human condition because I'm the, exactly the same way. I'm not, I wouldn't say I've hit rock bottom recently, but recently I haven't been in the place I had been. But the reason being is because I stopped doing the work, I stopped meditating and like, Hey, I feel good.

Warwick Schiller ([01:30:48](#)):

I don't need to do that anymore. I'm busy. I've got stuff to do now. I'll do it tomorrow. And I'll do it tomorrow. I'll do it tomorrow. And tomorrow has been going on for about a year now. And just recently

have just started back and it's bloody hell. It's not like riding a bike. It's, I'm, I'm back to the very struggling beginning part. But but I understand, I understand that. So I don't have any negative. I have the observation of I'm struggling. I don't have the negativity owns bloody hell. You're struggling. I'm like, oh, here we go again, this, this, this takes time. And then it'll, you know, it's just good practice.

Will Rogers ([01:31:29](#)):

It's funny. It's funny you say that because this last week I had a couple of days where I was starting to get triggered by things and starting to field some of the old thoughts and feelings coming, coming up a bit. And and it's, it's obviously, you know what it's like when you're in a good place and that starts coming up, you're like, oh, this is not this. I don't want this. How do we let it go and get rid of it? I want to get back to where I was at. And one of the things that sort of came to my mind was that actually in a way we, we, the biggest trap is that we always think that something else is more important than how we feel on the inside and, and it, and it's sort of like, ah, yeah, but you know, I've got all these things to do.

Will Rogers ([01:32:23](#)):

I can't be not now or whatever. And, and what, I've, what I've sort of done a little bit myself. And, and I'll, I'll share with you a bit like in the morning this is, it's a pretty basic setup, but I'll just sort of meditate and I'll just sort of, and this is something I'd actually like to share with people as well. And I don't know if you've talked about this, but meditation is also a thing that can, you know, if you're not that familiar with, with meditation, it can also seem a bit like some thing that certain people do. And it's, it's, there's all different confusing ways. But in this, in this book, the untethered soul, it just basically talks about that meditation is just letting go of your thoughts. That's all it is. It's not, it's no, it doesn't matter how you do it.

Will Rogers ([01:33:14](#)):

If you, if you let go of your thoughts, then that's, that's what it's about. And when you let go of your thoughts, if you think of all those thoughts, as things that are disturbing your stressing, your frustrating, your, whatever, it might be in the absence of those, you can feel clear and when there's no negative things or traffic going on, you can feel clear and then you can start to, to feel good. Got you. And, and, and from there you're, you're, you're, you're you're in the moment without all the judgment and, and, and struggles and everything. And what, what I've been doing is through this book is it's sort of like letting go of all my thoughts and just getting in that meditative state and that good place. And then for me, I don't know what you found. Probably it's a bit similar, but because I've been probably have had a fairly negative self dialogue going on inside and stuff. I, I've also just been, trying to think of all the things I'm grateful for towards the end of my meditation, just to try and bring me out of that sort of, what would you call that, that, that sort of it's a little bit, we've talked about this before that sometimes the, the, the little bit negative Australian cultural upbringing might be a bit part of it that sort of very much so. Yeah. but You're, you're, you're, you're doing your own tall poppy syndrome. Yeah, exactly. Basically. Yeah, exactly. Yeah, exactly. You bring in everything down, you kind

Will Rogers ([01:34:57](#)):

Of thing. But, but then, then also like, you know, getting to that place where I'm grateful for all the things that are in my life, which is then take me to that place where I start to feel better. But then what I've been doing is, is just thinking about death in that respect of thinking about if I'm gonna die at the end of this week, how am I going to live each day leading up to the weekend or whatever. And one thing that just for everyone listening that in this book, it talks about at the end of it talks about death and the

importance of it. And, and that, like, if, if we didn't have death, life would go on forever and everything would be meaningless. And so death shines the light on life rather than sort of the shadow over life kind of thing.

Will Rogers ([01:35:53](#)):

It sort of reflects back at us, you know, like, you gotta appreciate this. It's, it's not forever. You know, you got to make the most of it. The only thing is, is that we act like we got forever. And when death is sort of shines a light on your life, you, you start to realize, okay, I got to drop all the things that are stressing me or unimportant or, you know, and, and that, that just sort of helps me to try and get me into a place where when I go out into the day, the people in my life or the things in my life, I can, I'm not saying I'm good at it or perfect, but you can sort of have a level of appreciation for it all, isn't it? You know?

Warwick Schiller ([01:36:34](#)):

Yeah. I don't think you started at good at it, but awareness of it is the, is the, I think awareness of it is the key, but, you know, there's a, there's a thing that floods down on Facebook every once in a while. And it's, it's written by like a hospice nurse, and it's a list of things that all people that she's been, you know, they've been helping with their end of life stuff things that they all say, and you read that and it's like, it's like a slap in the face, you know, it's, it's, you know, people get to the end of their life and realize, I wished I'd had done more of this. I wish I had a demo or this, and you read that list. And you're like, yes, I could, I could do that right now.

Will Rogers ([01:37:14](#)):

Yeah. It's, it's, it's it's a, it's a funny thing because one of the other big takeaways and lessons from this whole thing for me has been just realizing that who we think we are is, is just made up in our mind, even our memories and everything of our past everything, or just a collection of thoughts in our mind. And in this current moment, you know, like it's a bit like with us, we were both born in Australia and everything. We're not in Australia now. We're a long way away from Australia. It doesn't mean we're not, we don't have a connection to it in some way, but like, I've come to realize that, you know,

Warwick Schiller ([01:38:01](#)):

You,

Will Rogers ([01:38:03](#)):

When you go through your life, you kind of like, I've always had a bit, this thing where I grew up in the Bush, in Australia, in the middle of nowhere a bit. And you sometimes I've been in situations here in Europe where you feel like, what the hell am I doing here? Like if they knew where I came from and what the real story is that they wouldn't have me here, you know? Yeah. You know, everybody has imposter syndrome. Yeah. But, but, but also just realizing that, that that's, you know, who I was not who I am now got nothing to do with now, you know? And, and that sort of I think that's a freeing thing because if you've got a bit of a background, I, I haven't had a bad life at all by any means. But I think, you know, there are a lot of people out there that are struggling with carrying some stuff around and realizing that you're not who you have been, or you don't have to be, that is just such an empowering sort of way to move forward. You know? Like because where I want to go has nothing to do with where I came from. You know what I mean?

Warwick Schiller ([01:39:11](#)):

Right. There was, I don't know if you know who Gabrielle Matta is. I read something the other day and he said, trauma is, trauma is not what happened to you. Trauma is what happens inside you because of what happened to you.

Will Rogers ([01:39:28](#)):

Mm. What you hold onto. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([01:39:30](#)):

Well, not necessarily what you hold on to, but what's what's. Yeah. W w you know, you're not, you don't necessarily consciously want to hold onto it.

Will Rogers ([01:39:38](#)):

You don't know, you don't intentionally hold onto it, but somewhere along the line it's yeah. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([01:39:44](#)):

It stays in there and it doesn't necessarily have to be it doesn't necessarily have to be all that big, a deal for it to be trauma. In one of Brenae brown book, Brenae Brown's books. It's really distinct. She's a, she's doing a workshop with a group of sexual assault survivors. They're all women, and they're all sexual assault survivors. And the first day she's talking about trauma and she talks about all these symptoms, these feelings that she gets in a body and stuff. And then, so they start at the next day. And one of the ladies says, oh, can I, can I say something? What we normally do in these groups is start out the day by naming our attacker giving him a name and a name, actually naming your attacker. And Renee brown says, oh, I can't do that. Cause I'm not a victim of sexual assault.

Warwick Schiller ([01:40:43](#)):

And the lady's like, yes, you are. And I says, no, I'm not. And he says, but you told us yesterday that you have all these, you know, these sensations and things from trauma, she goes, trauma is the same. It doesn't matter what happened to you. It's what it's, it does the same thing to you inside. And she wasn't, and I'm not trying to, and she wasn't trying to listen sexual assault or anything like that. But what she was saying was they thought she'd actually been sexually assaulted because she said, I have these symptoms of trauma and they let it happen to you too. But it doesn't, some people have terrible things like that happen to them, and it doesn't necessarily have to be all that terrible for that. And that affects you the same way. It affects you the same way. So, you know, I used to think that I had the perfect childhood and I've got no right to be screwed up. And then you start to learn just little things that happen and how, you know, if they're not resolved they build up inside you.

Will Rogers ([01:41:43](#)):

Yeah, exactly, exactly. No, a hundred, a hundred percent. A hundred percent.

Warwick Schiller ([01:41:50](#)):

Well, we've covered some ground haven't we? I supposed to ask you a lot of questions. I bet you can whip them out. Holly. You've probably already been over some of them books. What book you recommend we've been over that Michael singer, untethered soul, any others?

Will Rogers ([01:42:10](#)):

I mean, I think another one that sort of is complimentary to that would be the power of now. I think I think if I had just read the power of now, I wouldn't have I wouldn't have got the depth of understanding as I did from the untethered soul. So I, I, the untethered soul and then the pair of now they compliment each other. Pretty well, I think, yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([01:42:41](#)):

My son is 24 and I started reading the pair of now when he was about two. Okay. when you were asking before about my journey, I got about 10 pages into it, the first time and maybe 20. And it was the second time. And, and I, yeah, I probably tried to read it about 10 times. I haven't, I don't think I've even read it since I've, since changes have happened. I've, I've listened to his other book and new worth. I listened to that a lot on, on my

Will Rogers ([01:43:16](#)):

I, I want to listen to that one. I haven't listened to that one.

Warwick Schiller ([01:43:20](#)):

That's, I've, I've listened to it over and over. Like I'll listen to it and then I'll yeah, I'll be out in the tractor. I'll listen to it again and I'll listen to it again. Yeah. You know, listening to him, Eckhart. Totally. He's he's got this very German voice. Not saying Jimmy voice is adult, but he's he's, he's got this in a German accent and he just he's got no emotion. He just talks like this. And there's some great stories in there. Like oh, he talks about these two Buddhist monks walking along the road and it's muddy and there's, this girl comes along and she, she wants to cross the road, but she's standing there looking at the mud, like don't really want to get my dress wet or dirty. And so one of the monks picks her up, carries across the road and sits down anywhere they walk on for another four or five hours. And about four or five hours later, the monk who didn't pick the girl up, he says to the other one, he goes, you know, we're not supposed to do things like that. Why don't you do that? And the other monks is I put that girl down five hours ago. Why can't you?

Will Rogers ([01:44:37](#)):

Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([01:44:37](#)):

Another one is two monks. So there's a novice monk and an older mark in there. They're sitting down in the, in the forest somewhere. And, and the, the young amongst is how do I reach enlightenment in the old amongst? Is can you hear the sound of that stream in the distance? And the younger monk kind of listens and goes, yes, I can. And they old amongst is start there. And the younger monk says, well, what if I couldn't hear the stream in the distance? And the old amongst his start there, there's a lot of really cool stories like that in, in a new way.

Will Rogers ([01:45:21](#)):

Well, I think, I think the I think the thing that with the untethered soul, what I really like is because I've, I've watched some things of Eckhart Tolle and, and I've always thought, ah, yeah, I mean, he says some trues, but it, for me, I wasn't probably aware enough or didn't know enough to kind of translate what he was saying sometimes. And once I got into the untethered soul, when I listened to what he was talking

about, it's like, Aw, okay. That's what he means by that. Or that's a bit, a bit of a different way of explaining it, but it just helped. But I think he's talking about like being in the present moment. I think he's, he's so good at talking about that because one thing I've been practicing a bit is like, I've always had a lot of little jobs or duties that I've never not wanted to do around the house or here and there.

Will Rogers ([01:46:19](#)):

Typical, you know, a bloke who just wants to train horses and doesn't want to be bothered with a whole lot of other things. And I used to have a lot of resistance to a lot of those things. And what I realized is that if you don't resist, whatever you're doing, you can actually go into a state of like just peace and meditation almost while you're doing something you don't want to do. The only thing you have to do is decide that you're okay doing it instead of not okay with doing it. So instead of the thoughts going, oh, I don't want to be doing this. You just let that go and experience the present moment. I've found that if you're not burning up any energy through the day, thinking about negative things, you just, you just go through the day like a breeze. But as soon as you start to resist what you're doing, you, you start to struggle and suffer and

Will Rogers ([01:47:19](#)):

Such a simple thing, but like what, what I, what I realize is like, I can, I can go through a day now and not every day, but I can work horses all day nonstop and feel like I hardly done anything. Whereas before it felt like I'd just gone through a marathon of work climbing a mountain.

Warwick Schiller ([01:47:42](#)):

No, it's no more physical effort. No, it's not. It's just your, yeah. It's, it's kind of like the cold showers and the ice baths. I do. They're the same way if you, if you reject them, if you don't accept them, bloody hell, it's cold and it's painful. Yeah. And but if you accept it and don't judge it, it's not, not near as bad before. And that's one of the reasons I do on these because it's, and it's a mental struggle to, you know, you get that getting, no, I don't want to come on and getting, nah, can I skip today? And that sort of stuff, you know?

Will Rogers ([01:48:21](#)):

Yeah. Well, I think there are great. Like, I just, I'm not as hardcore as you, but I just turn the shower and cold for the last bit. And that that's sort of a mod pretty mild cold water exposure guy.

Warwick Schiller ([01:48:37](#)):

I was, I was too, and I'm no bloody expert now, but it's, you know, it's a practice that I, that I keep up. I, you know, I left the freezer plugged in a bit long last night and I got in this morning, the freezer was about the water was about four degrees Celsius. It was, I didn't, I had to concentrate this morning to stay in there. That's about 30, 42, I think Fahrenheit. But yeah, it was a bit colder this morning than I normally do. So I had to I had to focus a bit and I had to, I had to heck to talk myself into it a bit more getting in.

Will Rogers ([01:49:13](#)):

Yeah. Well, it's interesting because like I didn't realize before that, if you resist things in your mind, it's just like, you're resisting something physically you're, you're burning up your internal energy source or whatever you got access to and closing it down almost throughout the day. And then you've got to work

on just struggling kind of thing. And I, I didn't realize that if you let your resistance go things that you don't burn up energy, that you have energy that you're free, that you're clear. And, and that's just been for me a huge one because I'm sure there must be a lot of people out there that are going through the day feeling like they're going up a mountain with a big backpack on when they could be just strolling up there, you know?

Warwick Schiller ([01:50:10](#)):

Yeah. Most certainly, you know, one of these questions that you selected was if you could spread a message, what would it be? Would you say that would be it right there?

Will Rogers ([01:50:19](#)):

Well, it's gotta be one of them for sure. I mean, I think I think probably it's hard to narrow down to one of course, but I think there's something about if, if you can understand the distinction of that you how can I, how can I sort of condense this down that all the sort of peace and joy and happiness that, that you want in your life doesn't come from achieving anything or getting anything or winning anything or reaching a certain point it's, it's available to, if you do the internal work and then that will internally reflect on everything else kind of thing. And that's not, that's not a good way of putting it, but it's just the way I explain it now, but that's yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([01:51:25](#)):

You know, I don't know if I've talked to you about, I've talked about it in the, on the book podcast before, but I read a book a few years ago called backbone and it's a men's, self-help sort of a book. And it says at the start of it, it says most men spend most of their life trying to get four things at the same time, because if I can get all four of those things, I'll be happy, material wealth, occasional success, health, and love. And that's the big four that's hard to get. And he said that the ones that do get it, they get there and they kind of go, is this it? I thought when I got here, I'd feel different. And he says, there's three things you really got to have to live a full life. You've got to have a purpose. You've got to know what your purpose is. And that's your, my next question for you here. You know what your true purpose is? You gotta know what your purpose is. You have to have a deep and authentic spiritual belief. And he says, that does not necessarily mean religious could be fishing. And number three is you've got to get rid of the.

Warwick Schiller ([01:52:33](#)):

And so, so anyways, so what's a, and I know there's a really good quote of Jim Carrey that floats around the internet there's meme in. It says something like he said, I wish everybody could be wealthy and famous. So could know that that's not what it is, but the trouble is, if that's what you think is important, you would have to become wealthy and famous in order, in order for you to figure out that it's not. And who's going to do that. Like how many people actually get to be wealthy and famous?

Will Rogers ([01:53:04](#)):

Well, I think in the, in the untethered soul, I think he just explains it so well about the fact that your brain decides to let go of the negative thoughts when you reach or the, the challenges you have along the way. You know, let's just say you have a goal and you reach that goal. The reason why he feels so good is because your brain says, I'm happy with this. I'm going to stop all my complaints about not being where I wanted to be, because I'm where I want to be right now. And I'm going to let you feel good for a



bit, and then you feel good for a bit. And then all of a sudden it says, yeah, but what about if maybe I'd like to do this, or I get this, and until we get that, I'm not going to be happy.

Will Rogers ([01:53:55](#)):

So it really just comes down to, you know, if you let go of the negative thoughts, you can get the same feeling to some extent as reaching your goal and target. And that's the thing for me, you know, like, I've come to realize, like, I've had a lot of milestones where I've had those moments where you're like, yeah, but then the next morning you wake up and you're already setting yourself the next mountain to climb. And then as I've gone along where it got difficult for me, as I started to make my mountains bigger and I started to limit my happiness, because it, the, the path there was going to be tougher, more challenging, more time, more complicated, more commitment, you know, and then when I get there, I'll be happy. And it's, it's it's not the way.

Warwick Schiller ([01:54:40](#)):

Yeah, definitely not. So let's ask this question. What do you feel your true purpose is?

Will Rogers ([01:54:49](#)):

I mean I dunno, I don't know how it'll play out, but at this point is for what I feel is that it will be I have the feeling that helping people and horses is always going to be a big part of it, but where it goes will be interesting to see, because like, like as I've been doing this, this sort of internal work, I just realized that, you know, that's where it's at. You know, all the stuff in the daily life is either enhanced or not. And I brought down in the in the absence of, of that sort of work. And so your internal work, you know, is, is, is the answer to everything in a way. And, and so I don't know how it's going to take place, but I really want to incorporate it in my horse training and teaching. And, and yeah, I think it's something, something along those lines, helping people kind of get to that place a bit, you know,

Warwick Schiller ([01:56:10](#)):

I did something else we have in common, cause that's that's kind of where I've got to. So I think one of the questions that we haven't covered, I haven't asked all the questions, but you've covered all the things in here. What advice would you give others who are about to enter your occupation?

Will Rogers ([01:56:26](#)):

Yeah, well, that's a, that's a good, it's a good question because one of the dilemmas I have with this is that and this is the, the, I dunno, it's the tricky part about people learning, I think is that you don't know what you need until you've banged your head up against the wall enough times. And it's the saddest part because there are so many people that I've, and I've tried to force it down their throat because I've gone down the wrong paths and wasted my time and tried this and tried that and not saying that I know everything or anything like that, but I've had enough experience to know what where certain paths lead you. And I suppose that the thing you want to give people coming up or getting into it, the wisdom so that they can start from a higher point.

Will Rogers ([01:57:21](#)):

So they don't have to, you know, go down this exact same path as you have to learn the same lessons. And I think what pairs with that is, if I was saying to someone working with horses, I think you need to find a mentor or train or horseman or rider someone you work with that you learn and stay with for

quite some time, so that you build up and you have to be careful who you select because this person is one of your formative people. And if you have to tie, kick around until you find that person fair enough. But when you do find someone who, you know, has a great depth of knowledge and experience, spend enough time with them until you have enough of that with you, that then you can go and learn from other people. Without what I say, the most common thing with horse people is that they have a whole lot of stuff and that doesn't fit together. And I learned this from this guy and that, and blah, blah, blah. And they don't have a process. They don't have solid principles. They don't have techniques that lead into other things. And they go around and think that pick all the cherries from all the trees in the world. And in the end, they'll have this masterpiece, but in the end you just have a whole lot of confusion quite often, you know?

Warwick Schiller ([01:58:51](#)):

Yeah. I've talked about that quite a bit because people tend to cherry pick the easy stuff. And then, you know, there's a lot of hard work in everybody's program. But what was funny when you started talking about trying to shove this stuff down people's throats, because you've made all these mistakes and, you know, you want to, you want them to not have to do that. There's another will Rogers that you're probably aware of. And so if you guys at home listening don't know who the other will Rogers was, will Rogers was an American stage and film actor, a vaudeville performer, cowboy, humorist, newspaper columnist, and social commentator from Oklahoma. And he was born in 1879 and died in 1935. But one of his famous quotes is there are three kinds of men, the ones that learn by reading the few who learned by observation and the rest of them have to pee on the electric fence for themselves.

Will Rogers ([01:59:50](#)):

That's appropriate. That's what this will Rogers was trying to say. And that's what that's funny. That's funny. Yeah. It's what, what, what about you in that respect? Like, because you've had a lot more, like you've done a lot more clinics. You've been around a lot, you know, if, if you because what I sometimes think about is how do you, how do you advise someone coming up? Because, you know, what do you think?

Warwick Schiller ([02:00:23](#)):

The, the question, you know, these questions came from Tim Ferriss, tribe of mentors book in the full question is what advice would you give others who are about to enter your occupation? And then in parentheses, it says consider, and that can be difficult. Considering a lot of us have an occupation, the people he's talking to in a lot of occupation, that's not normal. Well, I don't even know what my occupation is anymore. Cause I don't train horses, you know? But if I was, if I was going to advise people and training horses, my usually my first advice is exactly what you just said. Find someone who you like them. You like them, you like their outlook on life. And you'd like their finished horses and learn their process. Start to finish on several. I mean, even if you're not going to train horses, but learn, learn their process from start to finish before you start trying to cherry pick stuff, because what you will find. And then if you can learn someone else's process too after that. But what you'll find is everybody that's good somewhere in their process, early on. There'll be some stuff that you do that you think this is absolutely crap. I mean, this is not relative to anything and it's not till you get to the end of the process. Do you realize why it's so important? And so if you never follow

Warwick Schiller ([02:01:39](#)):

Someone's process completely, you'll tend to think those little things that the stat in that foundation, they just like, oh, you're being pedantic or whatever, but it's not there now, if you do someone's process, you'll figure that out. But if you do you go through two people's processes, you'll figure out, oh yes. It's, it's not just the first guy. It's a fact. Because that's, that's a hard thing you can't, you know, that's an electric fence pin thing, you know, you can't tell someone that, that those little things in the beginning the big things in the end. And so the one, and once you've done that a bit, then you understand how a process goes together.

Will Rogers ([02:02:19](#)):

This is, this is an interesting thing, right? So with the horse, we can, we have the, the opportunity to facilitate their experience, so to speak, you know, they're, they're working with us and we're deciding the path and how it works. So to speak, obviously the horses communicating along the way, going through it with us sort of thing. But with the person they can, they start out and they go, oh my God, this is not for me. I'm off. You know what I mean? And so, you know, you can't, you don't a lot of the time always get the opportunity. Whereas with the horse, you can help them have the experience that they are. Okay. Right. That's what he meant by that. Now I understand the value of that. Whereas with, with the person, like you say, if you're going somewhere and you haven't even do some boring sort of basic stuff, and you're like, ah, let's, let's get to the, let's get to the real stuff. I mean, I'm tired of doing all these sort of little, little basic things, but like you say, until you've been through till the other end, you just don't know. And that's the hardest thing when you don't know, you think that there's some Disneyland situation somewhere that you miss. You've just got to find it. But the Disneyland happens at the end. Once you've done all the work and the process kind of thing, you know,

Warwick Schiller ([02:03:45](#)):

Disneyland, this process was highlighted in the movie, the karate kid, you know, when he thought he was painting the fence and wax in the car, wax on wax off, you know, and it's all these boring BS. And later on, those are the foundations of his moves. He needed to beat the other dudes. So,

Will Rogers ([02:04:04](#)):

Yeah, that's true. Yeah. So, I mean,

Warwick Schiller ([02:04:06](#)):

That would be something I would tell people, gonna enter this occupation. And the other thing I would do, you've already done it is tell them to read the untethered soul or something like that earlier on, because you, you touched on it before that your internal dialogue is part of who you are and it's a part of how you perceive everything and this horse does this thing wrong. You can either go. Yup. Okay. Or you can get mad at him a hundred. And that's all that getting mad at him. It is, it's your stuff. It's not, it's a reflect, it's a reflection of you. It's not a reflection what they're doing at the time, because you can a hundred percent, you can interact with that moment completely differently and have a completely different outcome. So that's not the horse. Like I said, at the very beginning, when we had all these difficult horses and I said, were they difficult? Or were they led to a situation in life where their only, only way out was to be difficult?

Will Rogers ([02:05:03](#)):

Yes, yes, yes. I mean, for them, they were doing what was working for them. But for, in a conventional sense, it was difficult. But one thing that's interesting about that is if you if you were to be some young

upcoming person and you're in a pretty good place or relatively good place, the thing that I can't help, but think is that without the discomfort, without the strong, you know, motivation, some of these things don't seem that important. That's the thing that scares me. And that, that's where I feel like the biggest blessing of my life recently is being in such a bad place when I came in contact with this book, because it's so easy to read a book, and this is something I you know, a guy called Bob Proctor. You might've heard of it. Yeah. I, I, he's a, quite a famous life coach or something like that.

Will Rogers ([02:06:03](#)):

And he tells a story and I thought this was so true. He said, he said, there are a lot of people in the world who read books. He said, and if you ask them how many books they read it and whatever, they they'd tell you, and they'd be all proud of it and everything. And then you say, how much have you applied from those books? Have you read any single one of those books and applied everything that, that person told you to apply? And, and, and he said, he said, what you'll find is that most people are very knowledgeable, but when it comes to the application, there's very little taking place. And he was, he was told from his mentor when he was young, he got that book think and grow rich as a gift. Yeah. And he, and he said to him, I want you to read this book every day for the rest of your life and apply what's in this book for the rest of your life.

Will Rogers ([02:07:00](#)):

And that's all I want you to do. And he said, if I, if you do what I say, you'll have all the success you've ever dreamed of any. And he's, as he's doing this interview, he's 80 something years old. And he's got this old leather book that looks like it's gone through hell and back. And he says, I still read it every day. And he said, I've been applying this knowledge every day. And I just, it just, it just and I don't look at there's nothing wrong with learning everything, but I, one thing I was just thinking about is as I'm guilty of reading things and not applying them just as much as anyone else's, but I realized there are some important things that you just should not read, unless you're going to imply them. You know, it's just, it's sort of, it's sort of a sacrilege to the knowledge almost, you know what I mean? Like, yeah. I dunno. That's just something I've thought about it. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([02:07:50](#)):

I was finding that think and grow rich is written by Napoleon hill. And when I was, oh, my late twenties, I think I had someone give me a set of cassette tapes of Napoleon hill. And it was the, the, the 25 principles of personal success or something like that. Okay. I had a tape deck in the truck, you know, I listened to all those things. I listened to them multiple times. Didn't use any of them, but listen to them. But then later on in life, much later when things started John well and getting better and better and better, I look back and I went, huh, I didn't listen to what he said, but I'm now at this place because I see what he, what he did was Napoleon hill grew up in a small coal mining community in West Virginia. And he went to secretarial school, Taft, secretarial college, and learned how to type. And he went to work for one of the richest guys in the world at the time he was he wasn't a Vanderbilt, you know, he either had trains, timber coal, one of those sorts of things, you know,

Will Rogers ([02:09:05](#)):

Is it Del Carnegie's isn't that right? It

Warwick Schiller ([02:09:07](#)):

Might've been delicate. Yeah. It was a Scottish

Will Rogers ([02:09:09](#)):

Descent guy.

Warwick Schiller ([02:09:11](#)):

Anyway. So he, he, what he did was he went to work for him. And over the next 20 years, got to meet all the most influential people in the world and spend a bit of time with them and asked them questions and what, what was the secret to their success? And he wrote down all these things and he compiled the common denominators. Well, what I figured out was later on when I got somewhat, you know, go things the way I want them to go and look back and oh, yes, I did that one. Yes, I did that one. Yes, I did that one. I didn't know I was doing at the time. So I kinda came about him the same way those guys did. They just, how they, they, they, they, how they felt or what, you know, just instinct or what it, I don't know when it was that I didn't do it because someone said to do it, I read the book, nominal, listen to the tapes and then totally disregarded know some of it, I thought was just crap.

Warwick Schiller ([02:10:03](#)):

Like one of the things he used to do was he'd say, I always send out my little personal assistant, my mental assistant. If I'm going to go to the store, I tell my assistant to find me a parking spot in the front. And when I get there, there's always one right there. That's just the pair of positive thinking. That's manifested that's, that's, that's quantum physics that, you know and at the time when I, when I listened to that, that this guy's a whack job, you know, and then, and I, then I realized looking back now that I'd been that long before that, anyway, I had a manifest, a car crash and all that stuff, you know? Yeah. Yeah. It's all very interesting stuff. Well, congratulations. You're the winner. We've now been going for two hours and 10 minutes, and I've never been over two hours before.

Warwick Schiller ([02:10:48](#)):

So will Rogers is the longest, so far. He's the longest podcast. That just means you're the most interesting. Well, there you go. Well, I'll take that. I'll take that. Nah, nah, it's, it's an honor to be on, man. Hey, thanks for being on here. So people want to find out more things will Rogers where do they they can't just Google you because they'll come up with the, the humorous, yeah. I mean, will Rogers performance sources on Facebook or Instagram and aspire foundation on Facebook or Instagram. And we have the aspire-foundation.com the website, if you want to find out more about that. Okay. We we'll put all this stuff in the show notes too, but yeah. Cool. Cool. Well, awesome. Well, it's been, you know, as usual, it's been a huge pleasure talking to you. I always enjoy our conversations. Likewise, man. Thanks for joining me on the podcast and for you guys at home. Listening, thanks for joining us. Hope you enjoyed that as much as I did and we'll catch you on the next episode

Speaker 1 ([02:11:53](#)):

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