

Gail: Hi. It's Gail Mercer MacKay here, founder of Mercer-MacKay Digital Storytelling, and the Six-Figure Freelance Writer. And I'm here with my good friend Nancy Watt, and my other good friend, Holly, who is running the video camera today.

Nancy: And three dogs.

Gail: Oh, and three dogs. Three dog day, and three dog night. We want to talk to you this week, we're coming from Muskoka, beautiful Muskoka in Ontario, just north of Toronto. And we're at Nancy Watt's cottage. She invited me up a couple of days ago, and said, "Hey, you know, we can work virtually, from anywhere, because we run our own business. And why don't we hop up to the cottage and work from here for a few days?" And so, I kind of asked Nancy to participate in this video today because I wanted to get you excited about your own potential, for running your own business, for doing the kinds of things that we're doing, which is just working from anywhere, hanging out with friends when you work, and still getting things done, and having a lot of fun along the way.

So, tell the ... tell our watchers-

Nancy: Sure.

Gail: ... and some of them already know you, Nancy, but tell them what it was like for you, four years ago, before you ever started working for yourself, and how things are now.

Nancy: Full of fear, and trepidation, and insecurity has, four years later, evolved into checking email for two hours, and then having breakfast with friends on the dock. And then, working for another couple of hours, writing a blog, throwing that off, and then stoking the fire on a beautiful day. It is, for me, it has never been about the job. It's always been about the nature of the work. And I've always wanted to do what I love. I've always wanted to take that leap and try it, but, for multiple reasons, was always reticent to do so. But now, with the guidance of this woman, and a bit of gumption, and being able to swallow a huge lump of fear, I just tried it. I just tried it.

Gail: Yeah.

Nancy: I, there was absolutely, ultimately, really, very little for me to lose. All I was going to do was fail. And, one of the great things about Gail is that she reframes failure into not just that, but more of a revelation. And, I ... what I learned, my biggest take-away, was that failure and the missteps, or just the speed bumps along the way, are necessary, and have proven, for me, anyway, to be the greatest learnings. Like, and I'm making mistakes everywhere I go. But it's fun! Like, I-

Gail: And you're making money!

Nancy: ... and I'm making money! The mistakes are necessary to make money. And, I really ... I love, love making money. I like doing that.

Gail: And doing what you love to do.

Nancy: Absolutely. Absolutely.

Gail: So, you know, I guess what I want to leave you guys with today is, whatever you want to do in life, you've got to take action. You know, the biggest thing, I think, with Nancy, when we first met, is just that fear about ... and Amos and Tucker are agreeing with me-

Nancy: Tucker needs to throw a ball now.

Gail: They agree with me. But you've gotta take action. And, yeah, you're going to make some mistakes along the way, but you've gotta take action.

Nancy: Right.

Gail: So, whatever it is you want to do, whatever you really love and want to do, just do it. Just take action. Don't be afraid of failure. And until next week, I'm Gail Mercer MacKay. Believe, be brave, and go write. Thanks for watching.

Nancy: We've got to throw this ball, now!