

The I Love Lucy Mindset



Lucille Ball

Quite by accident, an email revealed the secret to a I Love Lucy mindset.

It's a longer post than usual, but hang in there. It's worth it.

The original black and white televised I Love Lucy show only ran from 1951 until 1957. Fifty-five years later in 2012 it was "voted as the best TV show of all time" in a survey by ABC News and People Magazine. When you think of all of television history, this is remarkable to remain in the minds of so many for so long.

The TV rumor is that I Love Lucy has never been off the air since it ended and is playing somewhere in the world everyday. The zany character and antics of Lucy Ricardo are classic comedy few have been able to imitate.

Many think of Lucille Ball as an early TV comedian. She had impeccable comedic timing as you can see from her famous *Vetameataveamin* performance.

Few know that Lucille Ball was actually a major and powerful Hollywood studio executive.

For most of her early film career she was known as the Queen of the B actresses. Her big break as a major actress never happened.



In 1940, she married Cuban band leader Desi Arnaz. Together they formed their own studio known as Desilu, which was something quite unheard of in those days. By 1948, CBS approached her about developing a TV idea from her radio show character as a wacky wife.

Lucy agreed on the condition the husband's role be played by her real life husband Desi. The studio balked at the idea of Cuban and a redhead and thought the American public wouldn't buy it. Desi and Lucy then created their own pilot episode under Desilu which was rejected outright by CBS.

I Love Lucy Mindset tip #1: When you believe in yourself and what you do, go for it

Lucy and Desi then took their pilot on the road as a vaudeville act to rave reviews. CBS quickly conceded.

Both Lucy and Desi wanted to remain and film their show in California, but CBS and sponsors didn't want to pay the extra costs for filming and editing in order to meet early East Coast scheduling. When both agreed to take a pay-cut to cover filming costs on the condition CBS would relinquish the show rights to Desilu studios, CBS readily agreed.

By 1957, CBS realized their strategic error, bought the rights back for a million dollars and Lucy and Desi in turn used it to purchase the old RKO studios for Desilu productions.

I Love Lucy mindset #2: Know your audience and be yourself

In 1953, Lucy was expecting her second child and CBS was in an uproar over having her continue her TV role. After negotiations and input from religious leaders, she was allowed to continue filming, but the word “pregnant” had to be replaced with the word “expecting”.

Lucy’s pregnancy was closely followed by viewers and media, and she and Desi decided to write the event into the series. Media attention became very “hot” and even challenged the coverage of the campaign and election of Dwight D. Eisenhower as president.

The program featuring the TV birth was scheduled for broadcast the same day as Lucy’s own C-section delivery.

On January 19th 1953, 29 million TV viewers watched the swearing in ceremony for President Eisenhower, and 44 million watched Lucy Ricardo give birth to little Ricky.

I Love Lucy Mindset tip #3: Doors always close and new doors always open

In 1960 after Lucy and Desi finished their last episode of the Lucy-Desi Comedy Hour, Lucy filed for divorce.

She was an equal partner and had always been actively involved with Desilu. In 1962, Lucy bought out her ex-husband’s rights at his request.

Lucille Ball was now the first woman to head and personally control a major television studio. Desilu continued with other TV mega hits of the time including Mission Impossible, The Untouchables and Star Trek. In 1967, Lucy sold Desilu to Paramount Pictures for 17 million dollars.

Lucy would remarry and have a devoted life partner, for 27 years, with

Gary Morton. She also continued to perform in various Lucy character spin-off's into the 1980's.

I Love Lucy Mindset tip #4 Always give your best because you never know what your legacy will be

Lucy was nominated for 13 Emmy Awards and won four

1960 Lucy is given two stars on The Hollywood Walk of Fame – contribution to motion pictures and the other for her work in television

1977 The first to receive the first Women in Film Crystal Award

1979 Golden Globe Cecil B. DeMille Award

1986 The Lifetime Achievement Award , Kennedy Center Honors

1989 Governors Award, The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences

Posthumously:

1989 the Presidential Medal of Freedom and The Women's International Center's Living Legacy Award

Time Magazine included her in their "100 Most Important People of the Century"

1990 a "Lucy Tribute" was created at Universal Studios in Florida

2001 honored with a commemorative stamp by the US Post Office

2001 inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame

I Love Lucy Mindset tip #5 Your words will resonate in emails long after your gone

"Luck? I don't know anything about luck. I've never banked on it and I'm afraid of people who do.

Luck to me is something else: Hard work – and realizing what is opportunity and what isn't."

– Lucille Ball

Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucille_Ball

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desilu_Productions

Thoughtful

Mind

Quote

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=nm#search/%22Lucille+Ball%22/151f2fa04378dc67>