



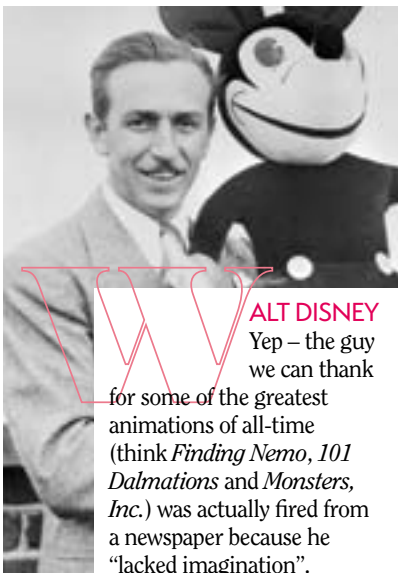
STEVEN SPIELBERG
The producer of *Super 8* and *E.T.* (to name a couple) was rejected from film school three times, but that didn't stop him from going on to become an Oscar-winning director.



THE BEATLES
Surely you've heard your parents (or your grandparents) singing along to this kinda low-key band called The Beatles... Who are we kidding? They were all everyone talked about back in the day! Well, they nearly never happened. So many record labels didn't want to sign them, and one even told them "guitar bands are on the way out". Shows how much they knew.

MICHAEL JORDAN
This NBA

legend was cut from his high-school basketball team. Sure, he probably locked himself in his room and had a good cry afterwards, but he dusted himself off and had a hugely successful career in the sport.



WALT DISNEY
Yep – the guy we can thank for some of the greatest animations of all-time (think *Finding Nemo*, *101 Dalmations* and *Monsters, Inc.*) was actually fired from a newspaper because he "lacked imagination".



OPRAH WINFREY
Oprah hosted her own TV show for, like, a gazillion years, but before she hit success, she had a rough childhood and was fired from being a television reporter because she was "unfit for TV". She sure showed them!

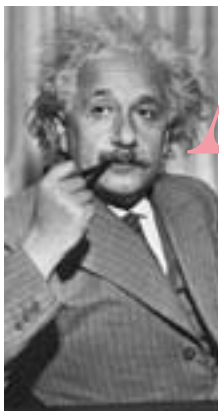
IS failure THE KEY TO success?

IT SURE SEEMS LIKE IT FOR THESE FAMOUS FIGURES. . .

ANNA WINTOUR
After working as a junior fashion editor at *Harper's Bazaar* for just nine months, Anna was fired because her shoots were a little too edgy. Now she's the editor-in-chief of *Vogue*. Talk about a step up!



ALBERT EINSTEIN
We all know Einstein discovered special relativity while in a "menial" job (thanks, *Big Bang Theory*), but what you may not have been aware of was that this genius didn't learn to speak fluently until he was nine.



Writers' block

- » John Grisham was rejected by 16 agents and 12 publishing houses.
- » Twelve publishers rejected J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* manuscript.
- » Stephenie Meyer wrote 15 letters to agencies when looking to publish *Twilight*. Nine rejected the story, five didn't even reply to her, and one gave her a chance.
- » Stephen King's first book, *Carrie*, was rejected 30 times! He threw it in the bin, but his wife took it out and encouraged him to try again.
- » Twenty-seven publishers rejected Dr Seuss' first book, *And To Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street*.