



Spiritual Entrepreneur in The Netherlands

Barbara Rogoski



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I was born an entrepreneur. I am an American living in the Netherlands for 18 years. I have always liked to be the first one to do something and always looking for ways to create new products and services with value, based on what I came across in the world.

But for the last 16 years, I chased after material gains as a very successful sales

representative for a fortune 500 company. I got the Rolex watches, sales awards, expensive holidays and bonus checks that mesmerized me for longer than I care to remember. Everything came second... my children, my husband and even my health suffered as a result of my obsession with the almighty dollar and all the materialism that surrounded it.

It was the same work and the same sales goals year after year with little space for entrepreneurial thinking. It started to get old after about 10 years, but I had developed the "golden handcuff" syndrome where they pay you such a high salary at some point, that it would be foolish to leave the company, as very few other jobs would pay as much. During this time I also was developing my interest in spiritual topics. I have an insatiable curiosity for all things spiritual. I read hundreds of books on the whole range of spiritual topics from meditation to channeling to mediumship, past life regression to life after death and everything in between. I attended workshops and seminars while still pursuing the sales job and material rewards. My little voice was telling me to leave the job and pursue a career in a more spiritual direction but an all expense paid trip to Hawaii and a huge bonus check shut that little voice up for a while.

But then a terrible thing happened. I was transferred to a new division that was insensitive, callous and demanding and significantly reduced my salary earning potential just to keep me in line with sales people that were 10 years younger than me. I had a terrible burnout breakdown as a result and it took about many months to come out of that dark night of the soul.

But then an amazing thing happened. I stopped to smell the flowers...

During that time I made the decision to take the spiritual path and see where it leads me. I left the corporate life behind to become a down to earth spiritual teacher and share my "Everyday Spirituality" philosophies with the world. I started my company called **Authentic Matters**, <http://www.authenticmatters.com>, and have created a spiritual development company that offers workshops and presentations on bringing spirituality into the business world, individual spiritual development and corporate consciousness. I have become a professional speaker to see if I can make a difference in the business world. My intention is to help people and companies remember what really matters: connection to self, soul connection to others, caretaking of the environment and all inhabitants and a Divine connection to something bigger than ourselves. As the company has just started taking off, I have big plans and dreams to become very well known and financially abundant while helping people reconnect with their spirituality. (I guess I still enjoy a new Rolex now and then.) I have a lot of ideas for product development and for books I plan to write. The entrepreneurial spirit in me is thriving as I forge a new path as a grounded spiritual teacher with a savvy business background. An English speaking professional speaker in the Dutch market on spiritual topics is something you don't see every day. I am not sure where I will be led, but one thing I am sure of, is that I AM being led in the direction of my destiny. I guess you could call me a "Spiritual Entrepreneur" with big dreams and a big vision for the future and am willing to go wherever this leads me.

Barbara can be contacted through her website:

www.authenticmatters.com

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