

	Company: <b>Westland</b>	Media Evaluation:
	Publication: <b>The Telegraph t2</b>	Page No : <b>9</b>

## LUCK, BUT NOT BY CHANCE, SAYS ASHWIN SANGHI IN HIS NEW BOOK

**W**ith his fifth book hitting shelves just before the holiday season, Ashwin Sanghi is certainly feeling "bloody lucky". For the first time the writer of thrillers like *The Rozabal Line*, *Chanakya's Chant* and more has ventured into non-fiction with *13 Steps to Bloody Good Luck* (Westland, Rs 100). A t2 chat.



staying aloof and not understanding which connection of yours could bring you good luck is a major hindrance.

Second, not having the courage to go and tap that network. Unlucky people usually don't take this step because they are afraid of failure and have the fear of rejection and hence can never leverage their networks.

**You say the 14th step to good luck is, 'lucky people are those who are able to see how lucky they are'.**

I have seen far too many people who actually do

have it all, but when you sit with them you will get the impression that they don't. You need to see and acknowledge how lucky you are. When I started writing and got rejected, there was a point I thought I would never get a publisher. I had to self-publish my first novel but I never took it as a negative. Even today I preserve every encouraging email and tweet, so that I can read them when I am down.

**All world leaders were lucky people.**

### QUICK FIX

**Luckiest Bolly celeb:** Amitabh Bachchan.

**Three things that ruin good luck:** Lack of positive attitude, inability to remain open to new things, not leveraging your network.

**One of your biggest fears:** For a long time, it has been 'what will people think of my writing?' This explains why *The Rozabal Line* was first published under my pseudonym, Shawn Haigins. But the fear is no longer there.

**Your good luck charm:** My positive approach towards everything.

### Agree or disagree?

They were people who understood the value of some of the issues I have spoken about in the book. John F. Kennedy took advantage of the fact that his wife Jacqueline was fluent in French and leveraged this fully, which compensated for him not knowing the language — that is a trait of a lucky person.

Indira Gandhi maintained a positive attitude despite the Emergency. Luck is

very much about attitude as well. The greatest stories are of those who were often told 'oh my god, he is so unlucky'. But they turned their failures into their fortunes. Look at Rajinikanth. He was a bus conductor. Or Amitabh Bachchan, who was criticised by all for his height. Thomas A. Edison has rightly said, 'I haven't failed. I have only discovered 10,000 ways that did not work.'

**People often say, 'I work hard, I am optimistic and grateful, yet I am not lucky'. What would you say to them?** Probably there is something else that is going on that prevents good luck. Working hard is not necessarily working smart. Often people don't realise that in the corporate world, it is not just hard work but also having a cordial relationship with the right people that helps you to move ahead. A lot of people overlook this just the way they overlook planning. Did you know Amish Tripathi wrote the first few chapters of the *Shiva Trilogy* while juggling a day job? He used to spend two to three hours in his car commuting and that is when he would pen his thoughts down. You must know how to make the most of a bad situation.

**Swati Tewari**

*The luckiest person I know/ know of is....*

Tell t2@abp.in