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KRYSALYX GLIDE

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STORIES OF BECOMING

ANDRE AGASSI: THE DREAM YOU WERE CHASING. WAS IT EVER YOURS?



A remarkable journey from a childhood of expectation to a more purposeful life.

Andre Agassi had what many people see as the ultimate success story. He was a tennis prodigy, a global star and a multiple Grand Slam champion. To the outside world, it looked like a dream life. But behind the trophies was a more complex reality.

Agassi's story is not just about winning. It's about identity, expectation and the search for something that felt genuinely his own.

A LIFE SHAPED BY EXPECTATIONS

Agassi's relationship with tennis began long before he could choose it for himself. His father, Mike, was determined that his son would become a tennis champion. From an early age, Andre's life revolved around training, discipline and high expectations.

He became exceptionally talented and quickly rose through the ranks; by his early twenties, he was a global star, known for his powerful game and unmistakable style. He had achieved what his father had envisioned and what much of the world now admired.

Yet in his own words, Agassi later admitted that he had never truly loved tennis. He had become successful at something he had not chosen for himself.

WHEN SUCCESS ISN'T ENOUGH

The tension between the person the world celebrated and the person he felt himself to be grew over time. The demands of competition, constant travel and public attention took their toll. Agassi's performance eventually declined, and by 1997 he had fallen to 141st in the world rankings.

It was a difficult and humbling period. His professional identity was under pressure, and so was his sense of self. The challenge was no longer just about winning matches. It was about understanding who he was, what he wanted from life and whether tennis still had a place in it.

> *"I HAD ACHIEVED WHAT SO MANY PEOPLE DREAM ABOUT. BUT WHOSE DREAM HAD I ACTUALLY ACHIEVED?"*

THE TURNING POINT

With support from people who cared about him beyond his results, Agassi began to see things differently. He returned to the top of the sport, going on to win five more Grand Slam singles titles, including the 1999 French Open, which completed a career Grand Slam.

But the bigger shift was in how he viewed success. Tennis became part of a broader life, not the only measure of who he was.

A BROADER SENSE OF PURPOSE

Agassi's experiences helped him discover a wider purpose. He committed to education through the Andre Agassi Foundation for Education, which supports young people and families in underserved communities.

His journey became about more than sporting recognition. It reflected the person he wanted to become and the contribution he wanted to make.

WHAT WE CAN TAKE FROM HIS STORY

Agassi's story reminds us that success and fulfilment do not always arrive together. Sometimes we follow a path because it is familiar, because others believe in it, or because we have invested so much in it that changing direction feels impossible.

A new chapter does not have to reject everything that came before. It can mean taking what you have learned, recognising what no longer fits and making more conscious choices about what comes next.

YOUR GLIDE REFLECTION

1. Is there an area of your life where you feel you are following someone else's idea of success?
2. Have you become so associated with a particular role that it's hard to imagine a different path?
3. If you were starting again today, what would you choose because it genuinely matters to you?

ONE STEP TO TAKE

Over the next seven days, identify one expectation you've been carrying that deserves a closer look. Write down whether it still fits who you are today, and one small action that would bring your choices closer to your own priorities.

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