



Raja
CHARI

1
00:00:11,711 --> 00:00:15,715
[MUSIC]

2
00:00:15,715 --> 00:00:16,383
>> NOW, LOOKING BACK,

3
00:00:16,383 --> 00:00:18,184
I WOULD'VE TOLD MYSELF,

4
00:00:18,184 --> 00:00:20,820
"HEY, JUST PAUSE AND APPRECIATE

5
00:00:20,820 --> 00:00:21,821
"WHAT'S ACTUALLY HAPPENING

6
00:00:21,821 --> 00:00:24,624
"AROUND YOU AND THE MAGIC OF

7
00:00:24,624 --> 00:00:25,759
"THE MOMENT THAT YOU'RE IN."

8
00:00:25,759 --> 00:00:29,696
[MUSIC]

9
00:00:29,696 --> 00:00:30,897
MY CALL SIGN'S GRINDER.

10
00:00:30,897 --> 00:00:31,631
I'M CURRENTLY OUT OF

11
00:00:31,631 --> 00:00:33,333
EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE.

12
00:00:33,333 --> 00:00:34,367
MY WIFE HOLLY AND I ARE BOTH

13
00:00:34,367 --> 00:00:35,535

ORIGINALLY FROM CEDAR FALLS,

14

00:00:35,535 --> 00:00:36,736

IOWA, BUT WE'RE OUT AT

15

00:00:36,736 --> 00:00:37,604

EDWARDS NOW WITH

16

00:00:37,604 --> 00:00:38,905

OUR THREE CHILDREN.

17

00:00:38,905 --> 00:00:40,373

I'M CURRENTLY THE F-35

18

00:00:40,373 --> 00:00:41,641

SQUADRON COMMANDER AND

19

00:00:41,641 --> 00:00:42,742

WHAT WE CALL THE INTEGRATED

20

00:00:42,742 --> 00:00:44,277

TEST FORCE DIRECTOR THAT'S

21

00:00:44,277 --> 00:00:45,245

DOING DEVELOPMENTAL TESTS

22

00:00:45,245 --> 00:00:46,846

FOR THE F-35.

23

00:00:46,846 --> 00:00:52,185

[MUSIC]

24

00:00:52,185 --> 00:00:53,286

MY DESIRE TO BE AN ASTRONAUT

25

00:00:53,286 --> 00:00:55,688

HAS EVOLVED OVER TIME.

26
00:00:55,688 --> 00:00:58,124
EARLY ON IN LATE GRADE SCHOOL,

27
00:00:58,124 --> 00:00:59,092
I REALLY HAD AN INTEREST

28
00:00:59,092 --> 00:01:00,493
IN FLYING.

29
00:01:00,493 --> 00:01:02,061
AND THEN AS I LEARNED MORE

30
00:01:02,061 --> 00:01:02,996
ABOUT FLYING AND ACTUALLY

31
00:01:02,996 --> 00:01:04,764
GOT INTO THAT WORLD,

32
00:01:04,764 --> 00:01:06,433
THE TEST PILOT IDEA REALLY

33
00:01:06,433 --> 00:01:07,333
APPEALED TO ME BECAUSE

34
00:01:07,333 --> 00:01:08,101
IT WAS A VERY IDEAL

35
00:01:08,101 --> 00:01:09,569
COMBINATION OF ENGINEERING,

36
00:01:09,569 --> 00:01:10,804
WHICH I LOVE, AND THE FLYING,

37
00:01:10,804 --> 00:01:11,638
WHICH I LOVE.

38
00:01:11,638 --> 00:01:12,338

IT WAS ALWAYS SOMETHING

39

00:01:12,338 --> 00:01:13,173

IN THE BACK OF MY MIND,

40

00:01:13,173 --> 00:01:15,442

AND AS I MOVED INTO FLYING

41

00:01:15,442 --> 00:01:16,943

AND THEN FLIGHT TEST, I STARTED

42

00:01:16,943 --> 00:01:18,411

TO REALIZE HOW REWARDING

43

00:01:18,411 --> 00:01:19,345

IT POTENTIALLY COULD BE,

44

00:01:19,345 --> 00:01:20,079

AND THAT'S WHAT REALLY

45

00:01:20,079 --> 00:01:21,815

MOTIVATED ME TO APPLY.

46

00:01:21,815 --> 00:01:27,720

[MUSIC]

47

00:01:27,720 --> 00:01:28,488

SO I ACTUALLY KNOW EXACTLY

48

00:01:28,488 --> 00:01:29,656

THE TIME I GOT THE CALL.

49

00:01:29,656 --> 00:01:31,257

IT WAS 9:07, BECAUSE I WAS

50

00:01:31,257 --> 00:01:32,292

IN THE MIDDLE OF ABOUT TO

51
00:01:32,292 --> 00:01:33,359
START BRIEFING A FLIGHT TEST

52
00:01:33,359 --> 00:01:34,694
MISSION OUT AT EDWARDS.

53
00:01:34,694 --> 00:01:36,696
AND SO CHRIS AND BK CALLED ME,

54
00:01:36,696 --> 00:01:38,331
AND THEN AS SOON AS I HUNG UP

55
00:01:38,331 --> 00:01:40,233
THE PHONE, WENT AND BRIEFED

56
00:01:40,233 --> 00:01:41,501
THE MISSION, FLEW THE MISSION,

57
00:01:41,501 --> 00:01:42,635
DEBRIEFED THE MISSION--

58
00:01:42,635 --> 00:01:43,670
AND ALL THAT WHOLE TIME

59
00:01:43,670 --> 00:01:45,205
KIND OF HAVING OBVIOUSLY NOT

60
00:01:45,205 --> 00:01:47,173
LET MY WINGMEN OR ANYONE ELSE

61
00:01:47,173 --> 00:01:48,675
KNOW IN THE TEST MISSION

62
00:01:48,675 --> 00:01:49,943
WHAT HAD JUST HAPPENED.

63
00:01:49,943 --> 00:01:55,682

[MUSIC]

64

00:01:55,682 --> 00:01:57,083

I THINK MY DAD WAS

65

00:01:57,083 --> 00:01:59,185

A HUGE INFLUENCE IN THAT.

66

00:01:59,185 --> 00:02:00,153

SO HE HAD IMMIGRATED

67

00:02:00,153 --> 00:02:01,120

FROM INDIA.

68

00:02:01,120 --> 00:02:02,222

HE HAD DONE THAT BY BEING

69

00:02:02,222 --> 00:02:04,090

THE BEST ENGINEER HE COULD.

70

00:02:04,090 --> 00:02:05,492

AND SO THAT, TO ME,

71

00:02:05,492 --> 00:02:07,293

AS A YOUNG CHILD AND-- YOU KNOW,

72

00:02:07,293 --> 00:02:08,795

HE BEING MY ROLE MODEL

73

00:02:08,795 --> 00:02:09,796

WAS SOMETHING THAT JUST

74

00:02:09,796 --> 00:02:11,364

NATURALLY HAPPENED.

75

00:02:11,364 --> 00:02:12,298

I GREW UP WITH THE MENTALITY

76

00:02:12,298 --> 00:02:13,266

THAT EDUCATION TRULY IS

77

00:02:13,266 --> 00:02:14,100

A GIFT NOT TO BE

78

00:02:14,100 --> 00:02:15,235

TAKEN FOR GRANTED.

79

00:02:15,235 --> 00:02:17,070

AND HAVING HIM AS AN ENGINEER,

80

00:02:17,070 --> 00:02:18,004

THAT JUST QUITE HONESTLY,

81

00:02:18,004 --> 00:02:19,639

IT WASN'T ANYTHING ELSE TO DO.

82

00:02:19,639 --> 00:02:23,243

[MUSIC]

83

00:02:23,243 --> 00:02:24,477

WHEN I WAS IN YOUNG

84

00:02:24,477 --> 00:02:25,478

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, I'D PROBABLY

85

00:02:25,478 --> 00:02:26,746

TELL MYSELF JUST TO RELAX

86

00:02:26,746 --> 00:02:28,648

A LITTLE BIT AND ENJOY,

87

00:02:28,648 --> 00:02:30,283

AND DON'T BE STRESSED OUT.

88

00:02:30,283 --> 00:02:31,017

I DON'T REMEMBER A WHOLE LOT

89

00:02:31,017 --> 00:02:32,252

OF IT, BUT FROM WHAT MY MOM

90

00:02:32,252 --> 00:02:33,319

RELAYS TO ME, I WAS APPARENTLY

91

00:02:33,319 --> 00:02:35,655

A VERY UPTIGHT CHILD.

92

00:02:35,655 --> 00:02:37,857

AS I MOVE INTO LATER PHASES

93

00:02:37,857 --> 00:02:38,858

OF MY LIFE, I THINK

94

00:02:38,858 --> 00:02:40,193

WHAT I WOULD TELL MYSELF--

95

00:02:40,193 --> 00:02:41,895

"STOP AND APPRECIATE

96

00:02:41,895 --> 00:02:43,363

"THE STATE THAT YOU'RE IN."

97

00:02:43,363 --> 00:02:53,573

[MUSIC]