



WHY YOU'RE STANDING AT the Fork in the Road

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Lay out Editor Liz Beard. Cover art and concept by Kay Juricek.

How many dreams are lost or delayed due to the fear of failure? Security, personal warmth, winning—it's a cultural bombardment. From the time you pick up your first little league baseball bat to the time you reach for your first retirement check, you are pressured to do well. "Doing well" generally is defined by someone else.

In a country of 250 million people, it's a sin to be average.

At one time or another, we all allow ourselves the luxury of letting our minds drift to the possibility that we are cut out of something beyond what a college degree can offer. Too many times the dreams stop there.

For others, opening a business, going into politics, writing, or just packing up and leaving is just a step away. That step simply is the decision to do it. Trying.

Some, of course, fail. But others make it happen.

In this issue, we look into several career areas that fantasies sometimes touch on. The stories may seem negative, but we did not have the desire to dress up any of the ideas. This, to our knowledge, is what you're up against.

Here too is the need to read between the lines. The possibilities for minorities and women in many areas remain more difficult to achieve. The burden of poverty and in a sense, the hopelessness that many Americans still face, traps more people that statistics on the subject can ever tell.

To those of us who are privileged—and if you're in school you're privileged—we hope to relay this message:

Considering the projected job market in the coming years and the incredible number of people who will graduate from college during the next five years (in every career field), these seemingly impossible fantasy careers are no more impossible or risky than what you may now be doing.

Michael F. Zangari
Special Editor

B. J. THOMAS

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