

Listen sixth

decide- say - work - start- do- have- love- turn- return- buy- develop- be- get

Today I want to tell you three stories from my life. That's it. No big deal. Just three stories. The first story is about connecting the dots. It [] before I [] born. My biological mother [] a young, unwed graduate student, and she [] to put me up for adoption. So my parents, who [] on a waiting list, [] a call in the middle of the night asking: "We [] an unexpected baby boy; do you want him?" They []: "Of course." This was the start in my life.

My second story is about love and loss.

We [] hard, and in 10 years Apple had grown from just the two of us in a garage into a \$2 billion company with over 4000 employees. We [] just released our finest creation — the Macintosh — a year earlier, and I [] just turned 30. And then I [] fired.

I didn't see it then, but it [] out that getting fired from Apple [] the best thing that could have ever happened to me. The heaviness of being successful was replaced by the lightness of being a beginner again, less sure about everything. It freed me to enter one of the most creative periods of my life and fell in love with an amazing woman who would become my wife. In a remarkable turn of events, Apple [] NeXT, I [] to Apple, and the technology we [] at NeXT is at the heart of Apple's current renaissance. And Laurene and I have a wonderful family together.

I'm pretty sure none of this would have happened if I hadn't been fired from Apple.

It [] awful tasting medicine, but I guess the patient needed it. Sometimes life hits you in the head with a brick. Don't lose faith. I'm convinced that the only thing that kept me going was that I [] what I []. You've got to find what you love. And that is as true for your work as it is for your lovers.