

# It Couldn't Be Done

By Edgar Guest

**Somebody said it couldn't be done  
but s/he with a chuckle replied  
"Maybe it couldn't,"  
but s/he wouldn't  
be one to say so till s/he tried."  
So s/he buckled right in  
with the trace of a grin  
on her face.  
If s/he worried she hid it.  
And s/he started to sing  
as s/he tackled the thing  
that couldn't be done,  
and s/he did it!**

This is a motivational poem that encouraged me to never give up. A main theme of the poem is to **believe in yourself**. The poem is also a warning not to listen to negative, discouraging, pessimistic people.

I learned (memorized) this poem in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. I am grateful to my teacher for that because it inspired me then, and continues to inspire me now. (And of course, I've changed the 'he' to "s/he" because that's how I am.)

There are always lots of folks around telling people what they cannot do, who they are not, how it's impossible to attain anything much because there's so much competition, that if you can't win or be the best, it's not worth doing. I've always felt that if I was called to do or try something, it was worth doing. I don't always need to be first, or the best. Sometimes I do things just for the fun of it in the moment. Sometimes I try things just because I'm an experiential learner.

Even in business I realized the power of focusing energy on your strengths, calling, vocation, or goals - and not getting distracted by naysayers or competitors. As a DEI consultant I've noticed how often people focus all their energy on what they don't want, rather than doing what they really want to do - and being who they really want to be.

Those naysayers, the "No's", the "Can't do's" - are distractions from the Yes!, the Can Do! At a minimum take the step in the yes direction that calls you... and if the Universe continues to support you in that direction - if your inner compass keeps calling for that Yes, - take the next step and the next, and the next. And do it with a grin - with joy - with a song - just for the love of listening to and being your full, empowered self.