How They Did It

Secrets, Tips, and Inspiration from Top Lottery Winners
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Introduction

I want to thank you and congratulate you for downloading the book, “How They Did It – Secrets, Tips, and Inspiration from Top Lottery Winners”!

This book contains only the most amazing information, strategies, tips, and inspirational stories about the lottery and lottery winners who seem to have tamed luck and changed their own lives. Lottery is a world-renowned game which creates hundreds of new millionaires and changes thousands of lives every year!
Everybody knows that you have an astronomically low chance to win the lottery just by sheer luck. The question is, is luck all it takes to win? In this book, top winners and those who won the lottery, some not just once but *multiple* times, will share a thing or two on how they managed to accomplish such an impossible feat. It’s a fact that you have as much chance as they do to win, so how come they’ve won and you haven’t? Read on and find out for yourself what you can actually do to change your fate!

Thanks again for downloading this book. I hope you enjoy and learn a lot of valuable lessons from it!
Chapter 1 – The Ultimate Game of Numbers

Ever wondered how the entire game of lottery started? Where did all the money for the prizes come from? Well, let’s look first at the very beginning.

Did you know that without the lottery, there would be no Great Wall of China? Well, at least part of the funding for the Great Wall came from the lottery. In the beginning, and perhaps up to now, lottery games are held by governments to raise funds for public projects and for the development of government property. An early trace of a lottery game can be found in the period 205-187 BC in China. In the Han Dynasty, the Chinese empire introduced the game Keno which is very much like the lottery as we know today. Although lotteries and several forms of gambling are outlawed in some governments, they cannot deny that it is through lottery and gambling that some of the most marvelous historical wonders are done.

Forms of lottery-like gambling are referenced in many historical texts from different civilizations. The earliest form of lottery-like gambling began in ancient Greece in the 8th Century BC. Greek poet Homer referenced a lottery-like gamble “casting lots” in his classic epic novel, The Iliad. Lottery-like gambling was also evident in 450 BC which was called the Celtic Era. In Rome, Augustus Caesar probably used lottery to fund repairs for infrastructure damage.

The first lottery game that was open to the public came about in 1434 in a Dutch town of Sluris. However, winners were presented with various prizes instead of money. Lotteries began giving cash prizes to winners in 1444 in what is now called Belgium, Holland, and France. You can say that this early form of lottery was for a good cause since the money raised from them was used to aid the poor and fund government interests. These lotteries were much preferred over the mandatory taxes for raising funds for public necessities. The lottery-like game dramatically gained popularity as the years went by.
Today, the lottery is probably the most popular form of gambling in the world. Millions of people around the globe buy lottery tickets every day, and in turn, the game has turned hundreds to thousands of people into millionaires. Maybe the most important factor as to why the lottery is so popular is its rewards; a single jackpot winner can win hundreds of millions of dollars! This staggering prize system is what drives millions of people to buy tickets each day and hope that somehow, they might get lucky. However, among all forms of gambling, it is also the hardest to win.

In a game like poker, skill can be incorporated with luck in order to increase your chance of winning. When it comes to the lottery, though, everyone would most likely agree that skill or strategy is not a factor in winning. These people try to analyze the game through the use of the mathematical concept of probability, which is also a very logical way of looking at it.

**Myth: You are more likely to get struck by lightning than to win the lottery!**

The above lottery myth has been debunked. Using statistical records (and common sense), Iowa Lottery Commissioner Ed Stanek disproved this myth in an issue of Public Gaming International magazine in October 1997. Stanek happens to have a doctorate in physics, and according to the statistical data collected by NASPL, 1,136 people won a million dollars or more while 4,520 more people won $100,000 or more in North American lotteries. And this was just in one year alone (1996 to be precise)!

So if the myth is true, then there should be more than 5,656 people killed that year, right? The good news is the casualties from lightning strikes are not as dire as the myth claims. During the same year, only 91 people were killed by lightning, thus giving a measure of comfort (unless, of course, you happened to
be one of those who got struck by lightning). Still, it does not make the lottery any easier to win.

On May 18, 2013, a single ticket in Florida beat the odds and won the highest Powerball jackpot in history—a staggering $590.5 million.

The Powerball is one of the highest-paying lottery games in the United States, along with Mega Millions. The game is played in 44 jurisdictions and it costs $2 to play.

The Powerball website dictates that the chance of winning the jackpot is astronomically low at only 1 chance in 175,223,510. To understand how this number works, we must first understand how the game is played. A game of Powerball can be played by first picking five different whole numbers from 1 to 59. If you would list all the possible combinations for the first five numbers—(1, 4, 6, 7, 8), (2, 6, 8, 9, 10), and so on—you will end up with more than five million possible combinations (5,006,386 to be exact, and that’s only the first part of the game)!

The next step to playing Powerball after picking your first five numbers is to choose another number from 1 to 35; this will be your “Powerball.” Now, to calculate the amount of possible combinations (including the first five) with the Powerball, we multiply 5,006,386 with 35. And the result is 175,223,510 possible combinations!

That’s incredibly low. And at first glance, it seems too improbable that you might as well give up and not play the game at all. Still, whether you choose to purchase a ticket or not, there will be a winner, and it is easy to say that the winner had as much chance to get the winning combination as you did. If you chose not to play, then the first and most important difference between the two of you is that the winner decided to buy a ticket despite knowing the odds of winning were unbelievably low.

It is almost guaranteed that lottery winners didn’t win the game on their first try. Some of them probably even purchased more tickets in order to increase their chances of winning, even by a microscopic amount.

The game of Powerball is quite enticing, with $2 being the general value of one ticket and with hundreds of millions of dollars as the potential reward. It seems like a “why not” kind of investment right?

Another very popular lottery game in the United States is the Mega Millions. In order to play Mega Millions, players must first pick five different numbers between 1 and 75, and then pick another number between 1 and 15, or select easy pick. To win the Mega Millions jackpot, you must match the first five winning numbers AND match the sixth number from 1 to 15. In addition to this, there are several other prizes you can win.
Here is the complete data of the Mega Millions prizes along with the corresponding chance of winning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Win</th>
<th>Gain/Loss</th>
<th>Odds (1 in)</th>
<th>Probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 of 5</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>$999998</td>
<td>515333</td>
<td>0.00000134037975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 of 5</td>
<td>$100000</td>
<td>$9998</td>
<td>648976</td>
<td>0.00000154089031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 of 5</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$88</td>
<td>12245</td>
<td>0.0000081868886117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 of 5</td>
<td>$7</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>0.002770083102493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 of 5</td>
<td>$4</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>0.009009009009099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of that</td>
<td>$4</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>0.017957142957143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected value of ticket: $1.78380648038819</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Looking at all these numbers, you are given an overall chance of 1 in 14.7 of winning anything, so there is still a good chance that you will get your investment back by simply matching the sixth number!

Each ticket costs only $1 to play and is half the price of Powerball tickets. This is because the prize pool can be significantly lower in Mega Millions as compared to Powerball. The jackpot for Mega Millions starts at $15 million while the jackpot for Powerball starts at $40 million; that’s more than 2x!

*Rule number one: Always play!*
Chapter 2 – Richard Lustig: The Man Who Won 7 Times

We all know that winning the lottery is close to impossible. Even with the help of mathematics and statistics, this is accepted as fact. The odds are, in fact, too low to win that to us, lottery winners seem to be too amazingly lucky that the notion of winning is hard to conceive. We can even consider ourselves very lucky to know somebody who would win the lottery.

If you think a person who won the lottery is extremely lucky, then how about someone who won twice? Now that’s totally impossible, right? Wrong.

Winning the lottery twice or thrice has, in fact, already been done by SEVEN-time lottery winner, former singer, and drummer Richard Lustig, 59, of Florida.

Before his first win, Lustig is whom you could consider an average American. Living in an old house, Lustig and his wife used to place buckets to catch the water leaking from the ceiling when it rains, just like a dramatic movie scene. “At that time, we were like everybody else, we were living paycheck to paycheck,” said Lustig.
The Lustig family was just average. No one can say they are unfortunate, and likewise, no one can say they were fortunate—that is, until one day, Richard Lustig’s son was born.

Like any responsible father, Lustig was faced with a financial dilemma as insurance doesn’t cover all the medical bills for the birth of his son—again, another dramatic scenario straight out of a movie. Now you can call them an unfortunate family, but not for long.

Just two weeks after his son’s birth, Richard was in for a very pleasant surprise. Little did he know that he was about to become $10,000 richer, from his very first lottery win, and the timing couldn’t have been better.

First things first, Lustig paid off the hospital bills and invested in the repair of their roof. Now, everyone can say they are a fortunate family, but it didn’t stop there!

Calling the Lustigs a fortunate family may be an understatement because for the next few years, Richard Lustig managed to win different lottery prizes with over a million dollars in accumulated winnings!

“I didn’t even realize that I had a method until my fourth win. Even though everybody else was saying ‘Oh, you’re just a lucky guy, there’s no such thing as a method.’ I’m saying, ‘I won four times. How can you say that’s just luck?’” Apparently, these events are far too peculiar to be just pure coincidence, meaning that what Richard Lustig said was entirely true. How can winning the lottery four times be labeled as “just lucky?”

In fact, winning the lottery once is just lucky, but four times? Now that will get you thinking that perhaps there is something Lustig does that nobody else did. But by this time, it is still mere speculation.

Until his fifth win, that is. In 2002, Lustig won his biggest prize yet—a whopping $842,000!

So do people still think Richard Lustig is “just lucky?” Of course not!

Now everybody wants to know what Richard Lustig’s secret is. Everyone is almost certain that there is something he does that no one ever did before, and naturally, they want the same results. More importantly, unlike a lot of lottery winners, Lustig managed to avoid bankruptcy and preserved his wealth.

According to Lustig, the very first thing a lottery winner should do is to seek financial advice. “Get a financial planner, an accountant, a lawyer – make sure whoever you get is a reputable person, and then have them help you decide what to do with that money.” In hindsight, a lot of lottery winners should’ve thought the same way as he did. A lot of lottery winners, even those winning a
whole lot more than Richard Lustig did, end up being broke or being in a worse situation than before. “The first thing you should do is pay off all your bills, set up a future plan of investments and stuff to protect yourself for the rest of your life, and then you go out and buy the talking cars.”

Richard Lustig firmly believes that his system works, and based on the math and his outcome, there is a strong reason that everyone else should believe it too.

**Playing smart**

*Do not play for greed, play smart* – Richard Lustig

Richard Lustig claims that, even before his first winnings, he already lost a lot of lottery games before he started practicing the system that he was to discover after four wins. To him, the lottery is comparable to a full-time job and that it requires hours upon hours of attempts.

Do people have control over their own fate? Is it possible that somehow, there is a way to predict which numbers will come up? What are the factors in which these numbers are selected? Is it pure randomness? Not according to Richard Lustig.

A person can do something to increase his or her chances of winning; that’s basically Richard Lustig’s advice to aspiring winners. As of today, Lustig managed to bag a jaw-dropping 7 lottery game prizes! So why is believing in his system so difficult for a lot of people?

The winning numbers in lottery are always random, people say. The odds of getting your numbers picked are just equally as low as getting the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 picked in each drawing. This seems to be logical, but when it comes to Richard Lustig who has defeated the logic behind lottery itself, the odds can be twisted or bent.

- **Pick only the numbers that you choose yourself.**

  Lustig strongly recommends people to pick their own numbers themselves. This means you should not resort to random number-generating software or machines. Although there are many other big lottery winners contradicting this principle, no one can disprove its merits. Lustig believes that using quick picks will lower the odds of you winning.

- **Pick a set of numbers and stick with them all the time.**

  If you pick your numbers smartly, then have faith in them and hold on. We never know, sometimes when we finally decide to change
our combination, then they would come up—something you will regret for a very long time.

Also, Lustig is against using birthdays and anniversaries for a combination, as those numbers only go up to 31.

- **Research the numbers you’ve picked and see if they’ve won before.**

  According to Lustig, if you want to increase your chances of winning, you should avoid number combinations that have already won. The logical approach to this reasoning is that the odds of the same numerical sequence to come up more than once in a given time frame are significantly lower than those of having a new set of different numbers to come up.

  For example, if during week 1, the winning combination 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 came up, wouldn’t you think it’s laughably impossible to have this same combination of numbers come up for the next 2 to 4 consecutive weeks? Richard Lustig thinks so too.

- **Play scratch-off lottery, about 10 tickets at a time!**

  Lustig thinks scratch-off tickets are a good way to go, too. Basically, he says that with scratch-off tickets, you have a better chance of winning. Make sure to buy 10 tickets of the same type in a row to further increase your chance of winning. Furthermore, he strongly discourages discarding your losing tickets; they can still be mailed for a second chance drawing.

  “Most people buy a $1 ticket and win $10, and then they put the $10 in their pocket,” Lustig says. To him, it’s not the way the lottery game should be played. Instead, he said that if you win $10, then you should buy $11 worth of tickets.

  He considers lottery just like any business investment; you need to invest money in order to make money. He uses lottery winnings to buy more tickets, which would eventually yield even more winnings. This rinse and repeat process earned him a total of $98,000 after playing the Fantasy 5 game in Florida, so it’s not such a bad approach after all.

- **Buy as many lottery tickets as you can, but only what you can afford.**

  As a general rule not only in lottery but with budgeting as well,
never overspend. If you didn’t win this time, make sure you still have money for next time, and the next time, and so on. *Play smart*, as Lustig would say. You don’t want to spend all your college money or the money for groceries, do you?

Since Lustig considers lottery a form of investment, any reasonable investor will never go all-in at any one time. He advises players to set their own lottery weekly budget and consistently abide by it.

- **Do not wait for the jackpot to become immensely big before you start playing.**

It is a proven fact that there is a direct relation between the amount of the jackpot prize and the amount of people who will buy tickets. Simply put, you have a better chance of having a single winning ticket when there’s minimal competition, and a relatively bigger chance to get a winning ticket altogether. Remember the rule: *always play*. The more attempts, the more chances of winning.

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**More into lotto**

Lustig strongly disagrees with people who say that lottery is a game of pure luck. In fact, several other winners which include 2 professors and a few mathematicians state that lottery is a game of probability and that probability and luck are two different things. According to these winners, solely relying on luck in order to win the lottery is a grave mistake most lotto players make.

**Bottom line – Chapter 2, Richard Lustig**

Some people would argue that Richard Lustig is just extremely and incredibly lucky while others would disprove all of his methods because they think that the only reason as to why Richard managed such an amazing feat is because he *buys a lot of lottery tickets and plays a lot of scratch-offs.*

*Argument # 1: Richard Lustig is just lucky!*

In this book, we already did the math and calculated the probability of winning the Mega Millions and the Powerball lottery game. The odds of winning are so tiny, like a speck of dust, while the chances of losing a drawing are humongous!

So there is no doubt that a person winning the lottery is extremely lucky.
But no, Richard Lustig did not win just once; he bypassed that level of “lucky” and won 7 times!

Now that we’ve covered the issue about sheer luck, let’s address the second issue:

*Argument # 2: Richard Lustig wins by buying a lot of lottery tickets!*

Undeniably, Lustig does buy a lot of lottery tickets, and he does it often, probably weekly.

The thing is, that is his method. He created a perfect budget plan for his lottery tickets and follows his method down to the letter, and in return, his investments *paid off.*

Lustig didn’t claim that his method is by the use of something “illogical” like magic, but he knows how to play the game with *probability,* and he still does so today. He plans his budget for lottery tickets, keeps his numbers, *plays often,* buys a lot of tickets, plays often, and he doesn’t quit. That is Richard Lustig’s method, and look where it brought him. He is the only person in history to ever win a lottery seven times.

Chapter 3 – *Cynthia Stafford: The Woman Who Believed She Already Won*

Do you believe in a higher power? Whether you believe in an eternal all-knowing entity who always listens or a universal force that links all
consciousness, or you simply think that the supernatural is too silly for you, prepare to have your beliefs questioned.

Some people believe in the law of reciprocity in this universe; what you give, the universe will give back to you eventually.

Cynthia Stafford belonged to an average American family as a child, but even in her youth, she strongly believed in the value of giving. As a child, Cynthia generously donated her allowance money to UNICEF to help less fortunate children elsewhere in the world. Believe it or not, generosity is not something you usually find in kids these days, even for the higher age group. Cynthia thanks her mother for teaching her the value of giving, and without this virtue, she doesn’t believe all her good fortune today would’ve ever become possible.

Cynthia’s brother, a father of five, tragically died in an unfortunate car crash. With the beautiful and instinctive intent of compassion, Cynthia stepped forward to fight for custody of her late brother’s offspring.

However, it did not look very good in the beginning. She didn’t have the sufficient assets to be able to provide for the five orphans. Even so, she never backed down and instead became resilient. She didn’t let the children get separated and sent to live with foster families.

Deep in her mind, Cynthia really believed that she will be able to provide, and if she wasn’t, she will find a way.

The above story is not made up, and even though the next events will sound like a scene out of a drama movie, they did happen.

In 2007, Cynthia Stafford won a massive $112 million in the California state lottery. In her entire life, she always believed that life will turn out great for her, and she was right. Cynthia took the $67 million payout and split it with her family. She no longer worries about giving her late brother’s kids everything they need for a good future, and she is confident that their lives will be forever enriched.

Even with the tremendous, newfound wealth, Cynthia Stafford didn’t forget her true quality—the initiative to give.

Cynthia Stafford, a loyal UNICEF supporter, continued to donate to the organization generously. She also helped the Kids in the Spotlight foundation and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Another generous feat for Cynthia is a donation of $1 million at a theater in Los Angeles, the Geffen Playhouse. This donation was said to support an arts program for the city’s children.
It is undeniable that Cynthia Stafford was very fortunate, but was she just lucky that things turned out the way they did?

According to her, it was something more inspiring than just sheer luck. Interestingly, she was an avid follower of the law of attraction.

“If you want to do good for others, start now. Don’t wait for the perfect time, because it doesn’t exist. Don’t wait until you have a certain amount of money in the bank, because giving back is not all about money. You can always give of yourself, your time, your services, your energy, and your talents,” Cynthia Stafford

Beautiful words from a wonderful woman: there could be nothing more believable than a statement of pure kind-heartedness and sincerity. However, the question remains: how did Stafford manage to bag a whopping $112 million dollars?

**The power of positive visualization**

Whether you believe in the supernatural or not, you should believe in the power of the human mind. The so-called law of attraction was a subject of fascination for popular culture especially in recent years. And thanks to the movie, *The Secret*, the law of attraction gained even more merit.

In an interview, Cynthia Stafford and fellow lottery winner Richard Lustig were asked about what they did, or if they had some kind of secret method to win the lottery. At first, Richard Lustig answered by dictating his winning system: buy lots of tickets, stay on a budget, research on winning numbers, and stick with your numbers. On the other hand, Cynthia Stafford simply answered, “I asked myself what I wanted to win, and I said $112 million.”

The interviewer and Lustig were both rather perplexed by Cynthia’s response.

Cynthia Stafford claimed she visualized herself winning the $112 million, and said that she had to genuinely believe that she already won. She sincerely expected that she was going to win, and based on her track record, she was always so sincere not only with herself but with others as well. In other words, Cynthia Stafford claimed that the “law of attraction” made her win.

The most interesting part about this story is she knew she was going to win $112 million four months before the actual win. The law of attraction works brilliantly if you can be as specific as possible. Stafford claims she’s been constantly thinking about the amount $112 million and visualized winning it for weeks. She also claims she sleeps with the number $112 million under her pillow and meditated on it. She constantly visualized how excited she will be once her money arrives. Of course, it didn’t come so suddenly; she waited and never gave
up on her vision. “Once you’re in the flow of the energy, it’s going to happen,” says Cynthia. And then it did, and it only took her four months!

Does it sound too good to be true? If you were just merely scratching the surface about the law of attraction, then the answer is yes.

So all you have to do is to genuinely believe that you’ve already won and it will happen, right? It’s actually not that simple.

First, understand the power of positive visualization. Everybody knows that a positive outlook is very important. “Think positive” is what they’ll always say.

What will positive thinking actually do to you?

1. **Having a positive outlook will fill you up with self-confidence.** Our performance at work, school, or anywhere else is directly affected by our self-confidence. If you truly believe that you have the capability to do something and do it well, then you will be able to do so with confidence. And with good confidence, performance is sure to increase with it.

2. **Having a positive outlook allows you to take more chances.** With positive outlook, you will be more willing to make attempts in anything. Think like this: “I won the lottery; I just need to buy tickets so I can claim my prize.” Cynthia Stafford already assumed she won $112 million before she even bought the ticket.

3. **Having a positive outlook helps you cope with failure/losing.** Failure and losing happens and it will happen often; it is an inescapable fact. Almost each and every one of us is terribly afraid of failure, and still a lot don’t know how to recover from failure. Having a positive outlook and always looking ahead will keep you playing until you finally get that win.

4. **Having a positive outlook in everything you do improves your performance.** In everything you do in life—school, work, entertainment, sports, and so on—if you have a positive outlook and expect to succeed, your mind works at a subconscious level and will improve performance greatly.

5. **Having a positive outlook will allow you to have better visualizations.** Dreaming about something is never a bad thing; in fact, it gives anyone something to shoot for. Do not settle for less than what your true potential can really achieve. If you’re only given one chance in this life, make this one your best. *You only live once.*
**Joseph Murphy**

Divine Science minister Joseph Murphy is Cynthia Stafford’s favorite author. Both Murphy and Stafford firmly believe in a higher power; some would call it *divine intervention*.

Whether it is called the law of attraction or God answering prayers, Joseph Murphy explains how life can be affected by thoughts alone.

- Embrace the “manifest condition”; you must first accept your life the way it is now.
- Accept that all your current conditions were the products of your own past thinking.
- Believe in your super-conscious, an inner energy that lies within you.

> “Live in the embodiment of your desire, and your thought and feeling will soon be made manifest.” – Joseph Murphy

According to Cynthia Stafford, it was not just her luck that made her win $112 million. To her, it was her intention. Before buying the lottery ticket, she knew exactly what she wanted and she got it. However, it required more than just visualization, according to her.

How do you replicate Cynthia Stafford’s results? The law of attraction works and only works in one way, and here are three simple guidelines:

1. Constantly visualize yourself already in the situation you want. See yourself living in that dream house, driving your dream car; use your imagination to the best of your ability. Make sure that it is consistent and clear.

2. After a strong and clear visualization, it is time to take the next step. Your vision should be backed up by action. The law of attraction works by presenting you with opportunities to help you turn your dreams into reality. Go on and buy another ticket with these things in mind; just genuinely feel and that you’ve already won, and you will.

3. Always stay focused, and make sure you never doubt yourself. The law of attraction also works with bad thoughts; if you expect you’ll fail, and so you shall. Focus and try to eliminate distractions; keep
your eyes on the prize.

**Bottom line – Chapter 3, Cynthia Stafford**

Just like any remarkable story that science cannot explain, a number of skeptics still believe that Cynthia Stafford just got extremely lucky. Believe what you will but there are already millions of believers in the law of attraction, and the law of attraction always works whether you’re aware of it or not. How often do you get the feeling that something good or bad is coming to you? You expect it to happen and with such anticipation you even prepare for it, and then it does happen.

The law of attraction may be considered supernatural or plain illogical, but a lot of things in this universe still cannot be explained by science. Even scientists today cannot explain how the human consciousness really works, and yet how come they think that everything has a scientific or mathematical equation to explain it? What really is the power of the super-conscious?

Only one fact remains: Cynthia Stafford won an amazing $112 million which she had been expecting for months – the exact amount.

**Chapter 4 – Seguro Ndabene: Strategy, Belief, or Foul Play?**

Now we already know the lottery winning methods that rely on strategy (Richard Lustig) and the “super-conscious” (Cynthia Stafford). Now how about a little mix of both?

Here is a man who, like Richard Lustig, won the lottery not once, not twice, but an astonishing 5 times! He is Seguro Ndabene of Airdrie, Alberta. Although not as impressive as Lustig who won 7 times, Seguro Ndabene’s first win was already $1 million, and his latest winning was a staggering $17 million!
The controversy

Unsurprisingly, many people come to question Mr. Ndabene’s winnings. People who believe that lottery is purely a game of luck accuse him of deliberate cheating, and who can blame them? Since winning the lottery once is amazingly improbable enough, how did Seguro manage to pull it off?

In fact, Seguro had trouble claiming his fifth and biggest win. After claiming that he won the $17 million jackpot, he was unable to collect his prize money due to a lottery probe which was followed by a court proceeding. Lottery win investigations were normal since the Western Canada Lottery Corporation had the authority to investigate any lotto win amounting to more than $10,000.

Expecting to collect his prize with no problems, Ndabene was faced with a frustrating dispute. The dispute began when a certain Antonin Koprnicky claimed that Ndabene’s winning ticket came from a group-buying organization from a lottery kiosk in Airdrie—something not uncommon. The lottery corporation soon turned over the case to the Alberta Court of Queen’s Bench when the case was deemed to be too complicated.

However, further investigations proved that Seguro Ndabene’s ticket was not from a group-buying venture, and soon his ticket was confirmed legal. So does this conclude that he won the lottery 5 times just by sheer luck? Or did he create a system that knows how to manipulate the odds?

The funny thing is, according to Mr. Ndabene himself, he has no system.

“If I had a formula, I’ll be winning every week,” said Ndabene jokingly. He actually believes he is just extremely lucky that he wins, but statistically speaking, winning the lottery five times should be impossible without cheating or using a secret system. Fortunately, his amazing winnings can be explained.

Reality awareness

Before the discovery of the solar system, nobody realized how many planets there actually were and how the solar system works, but it did work even without being realized by humans. So, is it possible that Seguro was in fact using a system without him realizing it?

In a span of 8 years, Ndabene has won five lottery games.

1. **Western 649 Jackpot** – $1 million; Chance to win: 1/6.9 million  
   Year 2005

2. **Super 7 Extra Jackpot** – $100,000; Chance to win: 1/76,791  
   Year 2006
3. **Western 649 Jackpot** – $50,000; **Chance to win:** 1/1.1 million  
   **Year 2008**

4. **Western 649 Jackpot** – $1 million; **Chance to win:** 1/6.9 million  
   **Year 2008**

5. **Super 7 Jackpot** – $1 million; **Chance to win:** 1/20.1 million  
   **Year 2009**

   That’s an amazing record. Even more amazingly, Ndabene claims that he has no system, yet he did admit playing the lottery the same way every time. Is that not the same as having a system, Mr. Ndabene?

   **Here is how Seguro Ndabene plays the lottery:**

   - He admits he plays every week; that has always been the first rule. Do not let even just one chance to play slip away. The more attempts, the more chances of winning.

   - He purchases a few hundred tickets per week! Basically, his system is similar to that of Richard Lustig. Remember that Richard Lustig straightforwardly recommends people to budget their ticket purchases accordingly. Well, it looks like Seguro Ndabene has a huge budget for lottery tickets.

   - In direct violation of Richard Lustig’s *no quick pick* system, Seguro Ndabene does indeed patronize randomly-generated numbers. However, he still keeps a set of his own combinations. For example, his winning combination in the 2009 drawing was the same combination he used when he won the 2006 lottery! So it didn’t matter if he uses quick picks since his winning numbers were always the same.

   Was Seguro Ndabene following Richard Lustig’s system without knowing it? Or was there something more that Ndabene does which affected the outcome of his lottery games?

   In an interview, Ndabene states that he stays cool with every drawing, and he doesn’t stress out if he loses. One thing’s for sure, though; he already knew he was going to win, maybe not in the next drawing or the one after that, but he just knew that he will win. Why would someone invest a lot of money in lottery tickets without expecting a great win?

   The mindset of Seguro Ndabene is simple; he buys lottery tickets because he is certain that he will win. He doesn’t care if he loses; he just stays calm and keeps on trying, with the same numbers and a few other randomized numbers. He felt that there was an abundance of chances that he’s still willing to take.
In 8 years, he won 5 lottery games and earned $20 million in winnings because he follows a system and has a healthy mindset.

**Bottom line – Chapter 4, Seguro Ndabene**

So what was Seguro Ndabene’s secret? Actually, it was not really a secret. You can even speculate that this gentleman doesn’t even know what he was doing right, but it works and that’s what matters.

To wrap it up, this is Seguro Ndabene’s formula—a kind of deviation from both Richard Lustig and Cynthia Stafford’s advice on winning:

- **Invest in lottery and treat it like a business.** Seguro Ndabene has got some tricks up his sleeve and puts his eggs in separate baskets. Not only does he buy around 200 lottery tickets each week, he also plays random numbers while keeping a set of his own “lucky numbers.”

- **Always play the game.** You never want to miss one drawing for it might be the one when your numbers will come up! Ndabene buys tickets every week—so did Richard Lustig and Cynthia Stafford right before they got their big wins!

- **Maintain a healthy and positive outlook.** Mr. Ndabene never doubted himself and kept on playing while buying a lot of lottery tickets. He knew that all of his investments will be worth it in the end, and that’s why he had the courage to spend a lot of money on lottery tickets. Undoubtedly, he lost a lot of drawings but even so, he still played the game until he eventually won—for a total of 5 times!
Chapter 5 – Lottery Winners and Their Strategies

The lottery is still a game of probability; there is always a probability that you will win and a greater probability that you will lose. Whether or not you believe that the people mentioned in this book just got lucky or you believe that they all follow a similar pattern, the fact still remains that they’ve won, and there’s a huge probability that you haven’t won anything yet since you’re reading this book. And always remember that even though the odds of winning the lottery are incredibly low, several thousand people still win every year. Maybe one day, you will be one of those thousands of people.

Richard Lustig, Cynthia Stafford, and Seguro Ndabene were not the only ones who have remarkable stories about how they won.

Robert Hong

Robert Hong is a two-time lottery winner. He played the 6/49 game which has a significantly bigger chance of winning—about 1 in 14 million. His is still an amazing story nonetheless.

Robert Hong’s first win happened in April 2007. He won second prize in the 6/49 draw. The odds of winning second prize for 6/49 are 1 in 2.3 million—better than the grand prize but still incredibly improbable. His first win didn’t exactly change his life and most of his winnings presumably went to his savings
and to his family restaurant business. Still, it was a good win and Hong continued playing.

Just a few months later, in November that same year, another amazing thing happened. Playing the same game, Hong won the jackpot at the time which was a whopping $15 million!

In an interview, Hong said he was just surprised and amazed, thinking that he’s merely just lucky. But what actually did he do?

In Richard Lustig’s words, “play smart.” Robert Hong didn’t play Powerball or Mega Millions which both have an astronomically low chance of winning. He played the 6/49 which, compared to Mega Millions and Powerball, had an immensely bigger chance of winning!

Plus, there was speculation that Hong bought $100 worth of tickets every week for several years before he got his entire investment back along with considerable interest. It is entirely probable that he increased the amount of tickets he was buying after his first win, which eventually led to his big $15 million win.

Robert Hong won because he took a lot of attempts and wasn’t afraid to fail. He invested money and treated lottery like a business. In time, his investments paid off and forever changed his life and that of his family.

**Joe Palmarchuk**

Michigan man Joe Palmarchuk also won the lottery more than once. It seems that Joe Palmarchuk can turn failed attempts into one of the biggest prizes anyone in this world can receive—a lottery jackpot.

After winning $1 million in the lottery back in 2011, retiree Joe Palmarchuk from Barrytown bagged $1.35 million after winning the Classic Lotto 47 jackpot—not bad but not impressive either when compared to Robert Hong, Cynthia Stafford, or Seguro Ndabene.

Joe’s first win was back in 2011, just two years before his new jackpot win. Joe and his wife Phillis left Tennessee and moved north of Grand Rapids in Mecosta County in order to be near relatives. Six months later, Joe got a call back home from Tennessee saying that he had won a million dollars. It was a pleasant surprise, indeed. As it turns out, he won a second-chance lottery draw.

For a total of $2.35 million, Joe Palmarchuk and his wife now look forward to help supporting their children and finally enjoying a wonderful and fulfilled retirement.
Just like the rest of the winners mentioned in this book, Joe Palmarchuk buys lottery tickets every week.

The difference was in how Palmarchuk picks his numbers.

Palmarchuk’s first win was from mailing a losing ticket and winning the second-chance draw! Remember that Richard Lustig encourages mailing losing tickets for second-chance drawings. From then on, Palmarchuk believed that both his winnings are from \textit{karma}.

He even said he usually buys the lottery tickets that retailers discard as mistakes. What a very resourceful—and effective—method.

Ever since he bagged his amazing fortune, Palmarchuk began having a winner’s mindset. He predicts that he will get another win next year—not just another million dollars, but he says he is expecting a multi-million-dollar win.

“I've learned that it works... You can’t win if you don’t get a ticket!” says the millionaire retiree. Joe admits he plays the lottery several times every day.

Not only that, he’s taking his visualizations to the next level. Palmarchuk believes he will finally win a Powerball or a Mega Millions drawing in the next three years.

Joe and Phillis plan to purchase a house somewhere with a warmer climate as they are not fond of Michigan winters.

\textbf{Having a winner’s mindset}

In all the cases described in this book, there is one thing prevalent among the personalities mentioned: a \textit{positive outlook}.

It is as if the numbers you pick don’t actually increase your chances at all since each ball is 100% randomized each drawing. It all comes down to these three tips:

1. \textbf{Plan a budget and don’t go overboard when buying tickets.} This is very important. The lottery must be considered as a business investment, and you must learn how to play smart. Try to play games with a bigger chance of winning something, which means you should buy more scratch-off tickets!

2. \textbf{Play every week: Never stop buying tickets, and don’t quit.} Every single big winner mentioned in this book plays every week. Attempts are very important. You’ll never know when your numbers will come up and you don’t want to miss that drawing!
3. **Think positive! Believe as if you’ve already won.**

Think positive! Believe as if you’ve already won. The law of attraction works on so many levels. It improves your own self-confidence and performance. Our mind and thoughts are so powerful that these send out “signals” to the universe to eventually give us what we really visualize.

**Mohan Srivastava**

Mohan Srivastava is considered as the person who cracked the system of scratch-off lottery.

His story begins in his office in Toronto, June 2003. At work, he found a few lottery tickets buried in his desk papers. The first ticket lost, but the second one gave him $3. It was a tic-tac-toe game. He felt pretty excited and went down to the gas station to cash in his winning ticket. Then he noticed that the tic-tac-toe tickets were mass produced and used some sort of computer program to print the numbers.

Being a trained statistician with degrees from MIT and Stanford, Mohan Srivastava grew interested in the random numbers that appeared in the tic-tac-toe games. He suddenly grew more interested in figuring out how the tickets worked and tried to find out just how the numbers were related to each other.

And in time, he figured it out. He was able to separate the winning cards from the losing cards. The trick was to find the “singletons” or the numbers that appeared only once. In a regular tic-tac-toe ticket, there are 72 visible numbers from which you should find the singletons. If the singletons were aligned next to each other, then the ticket is a winner.

Srivastava tested his formula in different stores, and with his expertise in statistics, he found out that his method works 90% of the time. At first, he thought that he might as well abuse the system to get rich. However, he figured out that he can make more money being a consultant instead of playing the lottery, and it was more interesting for him. So he went to the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation to inform them of this game’s “flaw.”

At first, the lottery corporation didn’t believe him. Srivastava grew frustrated and sent them a package.

He bought 20 tic-tac-toe tickets, sorted the winners from the losers, and sent them, all unscratched.

An hour later, he received a call from the Lottery Corporation’s security team. Mohan Srivastava’s prediction was 95% accurate – 19 out of 20 tickets. All tic-tac-toe games were recalled the next day.
Lottery winners, especially those who’ve won multiple times, all share the same positive outlook. They look ahead and they expect the future to be what they wanted it to be.
Chapter 6 – Things to Do Once You’ve Won the Lottery

Not all lottery winners end up happy for the rest of their lives. In fact, most of them lose their winnings and sometimes even go broke after winning several millions of dollars. Apparently, winning a lot of money does not make anyone invincible; too bad a lot of lottery winners think otherwise.

Why does this happen? Are millions of dollars not enough to ensure financial security for a lifetime? The short answer is it should be enough, but the thing lacking is the winner’s discipline.

This is the guide which will help you manage your lottery winnings properly for the long run because you will win. It’s just a matter of time.

When it comes to discipline, a lottery winner can be faced with these three problems that will turn winning the lottery into a terrible curse.

1. **Excessive expenditures**

   It’s hard not to spend money especially when you’ve got millions to burn. For a long time, each one of us, including lottery winners, already had a list of things that we dream of buying for our lifetime, whether they are luxury cars, mansions, vacations, or even private islands. Money, no matter the volume, is a finite resource and must be properly managed.
2. “Friends” who want a piece of the pie

Perhaps the most emotionally difficult thing about winning the lottery is the friends and relatives who want a share of your prize money. While there is nothing wrong with giving out small pieces of your fortune, in time you will realize that your winnings will run out before you can give each of your friends a share. Though it is already hard for a lottery winner to say “no,” sometimes these “friends” will take extreme measures just to get their share.

3. Abuse

In a lot of lottery winner stories, drug and substance abuse became a reason as to why these lottery winners lost their fortune. These things will not only make you lose money fast, but will also have a negative effect on your life in the long run.

**Lottery Winners Who Lost Their Fortune**

You may think that a person who goes broke after winning the lottery is stupid, but maintaining millions of dollars in your bank account is way harder than you may realize. Possessing the power to buy anything you want fills you with such excitement and you’ll end up spending millions in a short amount of time.

These are the fortunate lottery winners who were unfortunate when it comes to their financial future.

**2004 – Sharon Tirabassi**

Sharon Tirabassi was a single mother who belonged to the working class right before winning $10,569 million. That’s a lot of money and, if managed correctly, it has the potential to generate millions in return.

However, investing or saving was not Sharon Tirabassi’s style.

She wasted most of her lottery winnings spending on big houses, luxury cars, designer clothes, impressive parties, spectacular vacations, family shares, and friends. She was living the American dream, but it didn’t really last long. In less than 10 years, she went back to her working class lifestyle and living in a rented house.

What were the wrong things that Sharon Tirabassi did? Well, nothing you cannot find in our list of three money parasites: expenditures, “friends,” and abuse.
However, she did one thing right. She saved some cash for trusts for her children—all six of them. These kids can claim the money once they turn 26.

1989 – Willie Hurt

Actually, Michigan man Willie Hurt was already doing well before his lottery win. He was popular in the neighborhood as a happily married man. However, things drastically fell apart after winning a generous amount of $3.1 million in the local lottery.

In two years, Willie Hurt, *hurt* his marriage and succumbed to cocaine addiction. He then left his wife and lost custody of their children. Struggling to get by, Hurt burned his entire fortune, most of it on cocaine. He was even charged with attempted murder.

When the dust cleared up, his lawyer acquired all the money and went to address the divorce and drug addiction.

1993 – Suzanne Mullins

Suzanne Mullins won $4.2 million from the Virginia State Lottery. She tried to be a smart saver at first and planned an annual payout from her winnings rather than the whole lump sum.

In less than five years, she found herself under a big pile of debt. Trying to quickly solve her financial problems, she sought the help of a financial institution and asked for a loan, but it was just not enough.

Eleven years later, she owes more than $150,000 in loan payments.

According to Mullins, she spent about a million dollars for her uninsured son-in-law’s medical bills.

This case shows that simply saving your money is not enough.

Martyn and Kay Tott: Lottery’s unluckiest winners?

Remember is to keep your tickets safe and to always watch the drawing—a lesson that this couple learned the hard way.

Martyn Tott was already living a good life. He was content with a good job and a loving wife, and money was never really a problem.

Like a lot of lottery players in the world, Martyn and Kay both never expected to win in the first place. They bought lottery tickets nonetheless. While
Martyn was keeping himself busy living his normal day-to-day life, he started to become careless with his lottery tickets even though he played every week.

And this is something he regrets up to this day.

On March 5, 2001, the couple saw a local news bulletin. There was an announcement that someone in their area possessed an unclaimed winning lottery ticket, and there were only 24 hours left for the winners to step up before the 180-day limit expires.

However, the lottery ticket had won six months ago. Martyn Tott was shocked to be suddenly informed that he has been holding a £3 million ticket for six months. At first, the couple was delighted, but there was one problem; they could not find the ticket.

For seven weeks, Camelot officials have successfully investigated their winning claim. According to them, the couple’s claim was legitimate and there’s no question that they were the rightful winners of £3 million.

Martyn was able to verify the location from which the winning ticket was purchased as well as the exact time of purchase (1 pm). The winning numbers were 6, 7, 11, 23, 32, and 44. It was the same numbers that they pick each week. They even proved the significance of these numbers and why they keep them every week.

This is how they got their winning combination:

6 – Martyn’s birthday
7 – Kay’s birthday
11 – The day they got engaged
23 – Kay’s age when they met
32 – Martyn’s age when they met
44 – The number of Martyn’s grandmother’s house

They play the same combination every week but never anticipated to win since Martyn was already happy and feeling abundant in his life. However, the fact that they just lost £3 million was mentally devastating, especially for Martyn.

By the time they were able to prove the legitimacy of their win, it was already long past the 180-day limit. Also, there was a rule of a 30-day window to report lost tickets. No matter how much the population favored the couple, Camelot claims that there was just no legal way for them to receive the prize.
They claimed that the lottery rules should not be changed just to suit popular opinion or even government intervention.

Martyn Tott didn’t give up on his money easily. He launched a total of three legal battles that all ended in vain.

No matter how many birth certificates, passports, and other documentations the couple can provide, they just couldn’t receive the prize. Even if the couple somehow managed to recover the lost ticket and present it, it was already too late, and rules are rules after all.

Winning the lottery can be a very dangerous reward. Relationships can suffer. Your normal life can change, and not always for the better.

So once you win the lottery (which you will), there are a few things that you need to remember. The first thing is to remain absolutely calm. Once you see your numbers come up in the drawing, it’s hard not to shout and feel the desire to claim your money right away. However, you should remember that you will get your money, and you should win the lottery properly and not end up spending it all.

1. **If you can, try to protect your identity**

   This can be very important. This is to prevent your friends and relatives from suddenly chasing you around for a piece of your winnings. Not only those but charities will also try and grab your attention. Donating to charity is good but there’s a right time for making donations.

   To prevent all these problems, simply stay *incognito*.

2. **“Get a financial planner, an accountant, a lawyer – make sure they are reputable and then have them help you decide what to do with that money.”** – Richard Lustig

   Richard Lustig doesn’t only have advice for winning the lottery; he also has advice on what to do *after* winning the lottery.

   The above statement is rather self-explanatory. First you must analyze your current spending and try to form a financial plan. Lustig also advises future winners to get a lawyer to help with tax problems, if there are any. “The first thing you should do is pay off all your bills, set up a future plan of investments and stuff to protect yourself for the rest of your life,” says the 7-time winner.

3. **Plan a budget**
People who suddenly gain an enormous amount of wealth are likely incapable of managing their money properly. From the way you should buy tickets to the way you should win, self-discipline is very important.

**Ideas on Investing Your Lottery Money**

When you win the lottery, merely saving the money by controlling your expenses would be insufficient in the long run.

What all financial advisers would say to a lottery winner is to invest.

The most common mistake lottery winners make is not to know what to do with the money. This often leads to them being broke, shifting back to being in the working class, or ending up with life-shattering situations. Investing your money in assets that can generate even more money is the secret to long-term wealth and prosperity.

There are many forms of business investments out there that you may be interested in. Hire a broker and invest in stocks. Start up or invest in a small business. Whatever you do, make sure you build a solid foundation that will ensure your financial security in the future. Simply having money is not enough; you will need to know how to make that money work for you.

According to Richard Lustig, he treats lottery like a full-time business. He uses his winnings and reinvests these to buy more lottery tickets. The result is quite impressive and steady, but you do not have to follow exactly what he does. You may opt to invest in something you are knowledgeable about.

**How to Say “No” to Your Friends and Family**

One of the most difficult things to do is to turn down somebody’s request for a share of your winnings, especially if that person is close to your heart.

The first thing you can do is stay anonymous. If you kept quiet about your lottery win, you may somehow avoid being faced with these problems. However, if you’ve already spread the word, you can approach these problems in different ways.

1. **Say “no” directly.** Do not give unconfirmed answers such as “next time” or “not now.” If you really have no plans to give this person a cut, then it’s a good idea to say it directly and not leave that person hanging.

2. **Ignore the person.** This is better especially if this person is not really your friend—just someone who claimed to be your friend out of thin air. Also, try not to let everyone know and prevent the news
Some people are unpredictable and will take extreme measures just to get money. If they contact you through text or mail, simply ignore it. If they come to you face to face, tell them you can’t talk and hightail it out of there.

3. **Give them a limited share.** If the person is very close to you (like your father, spouse, child, or sibling), remember to not pamper them too much. Only give them a limited amount for a set time and never give them much more than you can really spend. If you want to become a successful lottery winner, you must know how to handle unnecessary expenditures.

What a lottery winner should understand is that no matter how much money he or she has, it is not infinite. Do not wait for your lottery winnings to go down to 50% of the original amount before you start planning for your financial future.

**Conclusion**

The lottery is a game of probability which is a fact that nobody can deny. The people mentioned here were actual people, and the amazing fortune that came to them is real. Whether or not you will accept their own testimonies and explanations regarding how they got their fortune, they already proved to the world that they did it.