

A warning about winning

You can get everything you want-and still lose the people and values that make success worth having.

Subject: A warning about winning

You may admire Charles Foster Kane for turning a failing newspaper's 26,000 circulation into more than 200,000, then building an empire of newspapers, magazines, radio, and industry. That ambition was real-and so was the cost.

Kane kept treating provision and control as love. Susan did not want an opera career, but he imposed one, used his influence to manufacture approval, and demanded that she continue. His pattern was simple: he wanted to be loved, but struggled to love people apart from his own terms.

He got everything he wanted, and then lost it-friendship, family, belonging. Build boldly, but watch for the moment people become assets and loyalty becomes something money must purchase.

If useful, reply "warning signs," and I'll send a short checklist for protecting ambition from becoming isolation.