

# Molly Bloom

## Inspirational Keynote Speaker, Entrepreneur, and Bestselling Author of *Molly's Game* (adapted for Oscar nominated film)

Please contact a GDA agent for information.

### Topics

- Business Growth / Strategy / Trends
- Film
- Journalism / Literary / Author
- Personal Growth
- Storytelling
- Women's Empowerment

### About Molly Bloom

A luminary in the world of inspirational keynote speakers, Molly Bloom is an entrepreneur, bestselling author, former member of the U.S. Ski Team, one of *Fortune's Most Powerful Women*, and host of the two-time Gold Signal award-winning podcast, "Torched," featuring the inspiring stories of world-class competitive athletes. She achieved fame as the subject of Aaron Sorkin's Oscar-nominated film, *Molly's Game*, based on her bestselling memoir.

*Molly's Game* chronicles Bloom's journey from college student and former Olympic skiing hopeful to LA waitress to head of the most exclusive high-stakes poker game in the world.

With no-limit stakes that could top \$100 million and celebrity players such as Leonardo DiCaprio, Ben Affleck, A-Rod and Tobey Maguire, "Molly's Game," was a Hollywood-worthy achievement for a 25-year-old small town Colorado girl.



### More About Molly Bloom

Bloom's first career was as a world-class skier, an achievement that defied the dire prognosis of medical experts. At age 12, she had been diagnosed with severe scoliosis, undergoing spinal fusion surgery that doctors said would prevent her from ever competing again. Defiant and determined, Bloom was back on the slopes in a year. At 19, she made the U.S. Ski Team. At 20, she was ranked #3 in North America in the moguls. At 21, Bloom was firmly on the path to the Olympics. In her qualifying run, a frozen pine bough caused one of her skis to release, leading to a devastating crash and a forced retirement from the sport she loved.

Bloom finished her political science degree at the University of Colorado and was applying to elite law schools when she decided to take a year-long sabbatical and move to LA. She found work as a waitress and personal assistant to a man who ran a high-stakes poker game frequented by celebrities. Teaching herself the business and forging important relationships, Bloom took the risk of going out on her own. "Molly's Game" was born. Over the next six years, she went from running a multi-million-dollar business to being raided by the FBI. Even in the face of extreme adversity, she always maintained her integrity.

With her millions gone and life in ruins, Bloom set her mind to writing a book. Publishers were interested, but only if she named names. Keeping to her promise to never again compromise her integrity or lower her moral standards, Bloom persevered until she found a publisher that would work with her on her terms. *Molly's Game* became a bestselling memoir, one that she convinced Oscar-winning screenwriter and director, Aaron Sorkin, to turn into an Academy Award-winning movie.

Today, Molly Bloom is a top-booked speaker, podcast host, mother, mentor to other women, and advocate. She has appeared on *Ellen*, *Vice*, *NPR*, *Vulture* and in *The Los Angeles Times* and *Forbes*. In 2020, at the height of the COVID pandemic, she founded the One World Group with her husband, neuroscientist Devin Effinger. The online group seeks to connect people around the world, especially women facing challenges. In 2022, Bloom launched, "Torched," a podcast exploring Olympic controversies and the heat of competition. As host, she shares stories about the cost of greatness, both on and off the Olympic stage—from the Tour de France to Title IX to the World Cup.

### Select Keynotes

- **Molly's Game: The True Story of the Woman Behind the Most Exclusive, High-Stakes Underground Poker Game in the World**

What's it like to run an exclusive poker game for the rich and famous? Molly Bloom went from Olympic-level skier who didn't know a thing about poker or Hollywood to building and operating the largest and most notorious private poker game in the world. In this motivational talk, Bloom will show the sales and marketing skills she used to attract hundreds of millions of dollars to the game and spark the interest of players like Leonardo DiCaprio, Tobey Maguire, A-Rod, and Ben Affleck. Audiences will get the inside story not shown in the film as Bloom shares true-life tales of her experience.

- **Engage, Connect, and Level Up With Affective Presence**

In an age where technology often overshadows genuine connection, it's increasingly more important to connect and engage effectively with people for work, family and in everyday life. Affective Presence is a groundbreaking science that has the power to transform our interactions. This isn't about mastering complex social cues or changing your personality. It's about leveraging a measurable aspect of how we affect others emotionally to enhance our professional and personal lives. Affective Presence demystifies the art of connection, revealing simple behaviors that foster positive impacts, making it accessible to everyone. It's a tool that simplifies the complex web of human interaction, focusing on what truly matters.

As someone who has navigated paths with slim odds of success, Molly Bloom attributes her achievements significantly to practicing Affective Presence—not only shaping her professional journey but also deepening her personal connections in a world craving authenticity. This science isn't just about thriving in the business or personal realms; it's about combating the epidemic of loneliness by fostering genuine connections.

Join Molly in exploring how Affective Presence can revolutionize our approach to interaction, making the art of genuine connection not just an aspiration but a reality for all. Let's unlock the potential to not only succeed but to foster a world rich in meaningful, positive connections.

- **Defying the Odds: Molly Bloom's Odyssey of Adversity, Reinvention, and Triumph**

Molly Bloom is a testament to unwavering resilience and transformative reinvention. From her early days as a competitive skier facing a life-altering diagnosis at age 12, to her defiance of medical advice to pursue her Olympic dreams, Molly's journey embodies the essence of overcoming adversity.

Venturing into uncharted territory during a gap year in Los Angeles, Molly stumbled into the clandestine world of high-stakes poker, where she ascended to become at age 25, the mastermind of the most exclusive games frequented by A-list celebrities, politicians, and elite figures. However, her trajectory was not without its pitfalls, as she grappled with the dark underbelly of greed and deception, leading to a fateful encounter with the FBI and a pivotal decision that would redefine her legacy.

Through the lens of Molly's extraordinary life, uncover the essential pillars of success amidst insurmountable odds. Drawing on principles of growth mindset and fear mastery, delve into the science-backed strategies that empowered Molly to navigate uncharted waters with courage and conviction. From cultivating resilience and accountability to forging meaningful connections and honing problem-solving skills, Molly's saga offers invaluable insights for personal and professional growth.

Join Molly on a transformative journey of self-discovery and redemption, as she navigates setbacks and challenges with unwavering tenacity and moral clarity. Through her example, discover the profound impact of self-belief, emotional intelligence, and ethical fortitude in shaping a life of purpose and fulfillment.

Embark on a narrative rich with wisdom, inspiration, and practical takeaways, as Molly Bloom's indomitable spirit serves as a guiding light for those striving to surmount obstacles, embrace change, and forge their own path to success against all odds.

- **Make Every Customer a High Roller**

Molly Bloom didn't know a thing about running a poker business when she was asked to set up the most exclusive high stakes poker game in Hollywood. She was faced with the daunting question: how do you create an experience that will keep the rich and famous coming back when they can go anywhere to play poker? Molly found if she built a unique customer culture, not only would players come back, the game would become so exclusive that everyone would want to be a part of it. In this exciting and informative talk, Bloom shows how she created an experience like no other for her players and how you can apply the same principles for creating an exclusive experience for your customers.

## Select Book Titles

- **2014:** Molly's Game: The True Story of the 26-Year-Old Woman Behind the Most Exclusive, High-Stakes Underground Poker Game in the World

## Select Articles

- [Molly Bloom Of 'Molly's Game' On Reputation Repair, And Aaron Sorkin Writing Your Life](#)
- ['Poker princess' Molly Bloom on her stranger-than-fiction life](#)

It's a bit of a strange experience, sitting down in a hotel to chat to someone whose life you've just seen portrayed on a big screen, witnessing their biggest triumphs and personal disasters.

## Select Testimonials

I like to give the audience what Lily Tomlin calls the 'goosebump experience,' and that experience Molly is what I felt the first time I met you. I was so completely knocked out by your quiet sense of integrity, by your brilliance, by your sly sense of humor...and by the fact that I knew that you would be able to give the audience the 'goosebump experience.' There is no better delivery system ever invented for an idea than a story.

— *Aaron Sorkin, Director*

Molly's powerful presentation is as masterful and compelling as her Oscar-nominated film. Her messages of perseverance, triumph, and embracing personal growth remind us that our potential is truly limitless so long as we stay true to our goals and aspirations.

— *Sarah V., FilmNation*