

Janine Shepherd

A Broken Body isn't A Broken Person

Please contact a GDA agent for information.

Topics

- Healthcare
- Inspiration / Achievement
- Olympics
- Overcoming Adversity
- Sports Related
- Storytelling
- TED-Talks

About Janine Shepherd

Janine Shepherd's story reads like the plot of a Hollywood movie. An Australian national champion skier in training for the upcoming Olympics, she was hit by a truck on a bike ride, suffering multiple life-threatening injuries.

Doctors warned her parents that, even if she lived, Janine would never walk again. After major surgery, and five months flat on her back, immobilized in a hospital bed, Janine came home to heal. She faced a daunting recovery and an uncertain future.

Struggling to rehabilitate with permanent disabilities, Janine rekindled her defiant spirit in a dramatically improbable way. Seeing a small plane fly overhead one day, she declared, *"That's it! If I can't walk, I'll fly!"*

Janine went on to succeed not only as a commercial pilot and aerobatics flight instructor but also to attain her University degree, raise three children and author a best-selling book, *"Never Tell Me Never."* Her memoir was subsequently made into a feature length film of the same title.

Today, Janine Shepherd is an internationally renowned speaker whose inspiring TED talk, *"A Broken Body Isn't a Broken Person."* has garnered over 1.5 million views. She's been featured on *"60 Minutes"*, *"This is Your Life"*, and recognized with her country's highest honor, The Order of Australia.

Most recently her story has been featured in the docudrama movie *"Think and Grow Rich: The Legacy"* and in her newest book, *DEFIANT: A Broken Body is Not a Broken Person*.

Select Keynotes

- **A Broken Body is Not a Broken Person**

Janine shares her powerful 18-minute TEDx talk that she delivered at the Kauffman Center in Kansas City. This presentation is transformative as Janine holds a mirror up for the audience to look deeply into their own lives and connect with something greater within themselves. After the talk, she uses the five chairs from her presentation as a tool to facilitate an interactive workshop for the audience.

- **A Patient's Journey: Living Well After, Illness and Trauma**

As a spinal patient and partial paraplegic, Janine has a unique understanding and perspective on injury and trauma. Janine shares her personal experience of being a patient and living with a disability.

Janine has witnessed first-hand the teamwork that has gone into her recovery, from the surgeons who operated on her, to the nursing staff and imaging professionals who cared to her, and the family that supported her. She shares her health and fitness philosophy and the tools she uses to maintain wellness.

Janine's presentation gives insight to all those working in the healthcare industry as they see how their role in caring for patients can literally change a life.



- **Never Tell Me Never: Embracing Adversity and Change**

In Janine's signature keynote presentation she will not only leave you awed, humbled, and uplifted, but will cause you to think differently how you live your own life.

Janine is a gifted storyteller who uses her wit, humor, and impeccable timing to engage the audience. As she shares her journey in an expansive, inspiring and universal way she will touch every heart in the room and invite you to dream and reach beyond your preconceived ideas of what is possible.

Janine will take you on an amazing journey with so many twists and turns that it mirrors the road you travel in your own life every single day.

This is a story that takes you from the pinnacle of elite athletics competition to the pain and fear of being wheelchair-bound and facing the shattering reality of life-threatening and permanent injury; from the exhilaration of flight to the struggle of taking one difficult step at a time on a long road to recovery which continues to this day. You will leave with the conviction to change your attitude and find power within to perform to the best of your abilities.

Janine's speech delivers strategies that will help you:

- ♦ Change your attitude to successfully embrace unplanned setbacks
- ♦ Develop opportunities from your biggest obstacles
- ♦ Transform your dreams into reality

- **The Power of the Defiant Human Spirit: Strategies for Cultivating Resilience**

We often define ourselves by things that are outside of us...our jobs, our relationships, our business, or the roles we play in life. When those are lost everything we've known and believed in is challenged.

Janine Shepherd believes that we all possess a power inside that allows us to thrive in the face of insurmountable obstacles and challenges. That power is the Defiant Human Spirit. It is an eternal flame that is never extinguished, even if you fail to see it. Every decision you make in life will either ignite the flame or dampen it. Your choices determine the strength of that flame. All you have to do is recognize it in yourself, and then you see it in everyone.

In this speech Janine will offer hope and encouragement while inspiring you to:

- ♦ Build resilience in your personal and business life
- ♦ Redefine adversity as a challenge for growth and transformation
- ♦ Not just bounce back, but bounce forward after setbacks

Select Book Titles

- **2016:** Defiant: A Broken Body Is Not a Broken Person

Select Testimonials

"Everyone who attended the event was enthralled by you amazing courage, determination and positive outlook on life, despite your experiences. You are an inspiration to anyone who has the good fortune to meet you."

— *Anderson Consulting*

"Janine was a highlight of our annual meeting. Her story was incredibly moving and inspirational. The audience was completely engaged and truly enjoyed her talk. I highly recommend her if you are looking for a speaker who will move you deeply and inspire you"

— *DaVita*

"Minority Women Professionals (MWP) is a national conference series aiming to bring women of diverse backgrounds, professions, abilities and experiences together to find common ground, become empowered despite their status as minorities, and acquire new skills to survive and thrive in their careers. Janine headlined our inaugural event in the San Francisco Bay Area—she was a standout star of the program! She shared her personal story of tragedy and triumph and how her near-fatal accident forced her to redefine herself and learn more about who she was. She gave hope to the women using her theme of being Defiant, and inspiring them to rewrite their own life stories. Janine made compelling arguments for why it is important to take on the hills in life, encouraging each attendee to conquer any circumstance she may face. We feel blessed to have had Janine speak to our group! "

– *Minority Women Professionals (MWPs)*

"While Janine's story is extraordinary, her message is universal. She was able to connect with our audience and drive home the concepts of gratitude, perseverance, and addressing challenges with grace and a positive attitude. As our opening keynote speaker, our attendees left the session energized, humbled, and ready to attack the challenges ahead of our industry. Following her keynote, Janine met with attendees in our exhibit hall and completed a book signing. The sponsor of the program had a line at their booth to meet Janine that extended well past the closing of the hall. Thank you Janine, you have set the bar for all future keynote speakers!"

– *National Home Infusion Association*

"Janine had the whole room enthralled – her story is undeniably epic, and her delivery is animated and engaging. She clearly had a message to give which was relevant to all of us in both our personal and working lives: Go ahead and do what you want to do – never let anyone tell you never, never let the odds dissuade you from trying, and learn to love the challenge. There were tears and laughter, and we loved every minute!"

– *Pricewaterhouse Coopers*

"Amazing, inspirational, remarkable! The measure of Janine's real impact was best demonstrated by the fact that Janine was the recipient of a standing ovation – the first ever afforded to a speaker in our fifteen-year history of conferences. The results of a survey of our Conference speakers fully vindicated our choice of Janine opening our Conference, with Janine recording the highest ever rating for a Guest Speaker!"

– *Prudential*