

Featured WOW Gal



January 2013 - SUZANNE LETOURNEAU



Suzanne's WOW Story:

We all have a story to tell and this is a small part of mine.

I was born in Montreal, QC on January 16. I was supposed to be born on February 14. I am a premature baby. Anxious to get going and do what I have to do in this world.

I learned about struggle at a very young age. Starting with my birth. I was eager to come out but my body wasn't. It took a few flips and turns before my mother could grab me by the head to pull me out. I am the middle child of a family of three girls from middle class working parents. Growing up, there were a lot of embarrassments and fears, mostly caused by my father's *dis-ease*, alcoholism, and his regular disappearances. Early on, I learned to build a strong wall around me hiding my fears, my sensitivity, my susceptibility. This wall was my safe barricade of *invulnerability*.

I started working when I was ten years old, baby sitting for the people in the building where we lived. At eleven I worked into an amusement park hustling at a pitch toss game. At twelve years old

I took a job flipping burgers at the bowling alley where my mother was the manager. At age fifteen I became an entrepreneur.

With fourteen models by my side I put my intuitive business-savvy skills to work and presented fashion shows at various venues in Montreal. I finished grade eleven, held multiple industry positions and then began my career as a Flight Attendant in 1979.

Through my years with the airlines, I never lost my entrepreneur mind and have created multiple businesses. In 1996, my life took a complete new meaning for me. I had found my life purpose. I founded and created OraOxygen, the first oxygen wellness airport spa in the world. We opened our first location in Calgary in 2000 and our second location in 2002 in Detroit, MI. The goal was to be located in all major hub airports in the world.

OraOxygen soon became an award-winning business and the talk of the travel industry. The business was thriving and we were expanding into other airports.

All was great. Until one day when the business became the centre of a brewing storm that would change my life forever.

Irreconcilable differences between my investors and myself, resulted in the demise of my association with OraOxygen. Pressed to the wall and paralyzed, I was living the worst day of my life as they callously left with my company, my vision, my life purpose. *For me it was the same as losing a child.*

Losing my company sent me into a sinking spiral where I found myself with no purpose, no passion and, no excitement for life. For five painful years, I kept on floating, kept on trying, pretending that I was not hurt, that everything was okay, hiding my vulnerability; the one thing I knew I could do very well. I read books after books, went to seminars after seminars, conferences after conferences. For five long years I kept on trying to fill that void inside of me.

In 2009 while I was attending yet another training seminar, I found myself in front of a group of people with a microphone in my hand. For the first time in five excruciating years, I actually started feeling something. ***Could something still be alive inside of me?***

I started to feel more sensitive and more real then ever before. I brought the microphone to my face and started talking. I started sharing my newly discovered *Vulnerability*.

What I realized at that moment is that void that I kept on wanting to fill, was already full. The void is a part of yourself you simply haven't experienced yet. And I certainly had not experienced my vulnerability. I had not allowed myself to be in that part of myself, ever. **What a discovery.** This was the defining moment that changed my reality or should I say, my illusion.

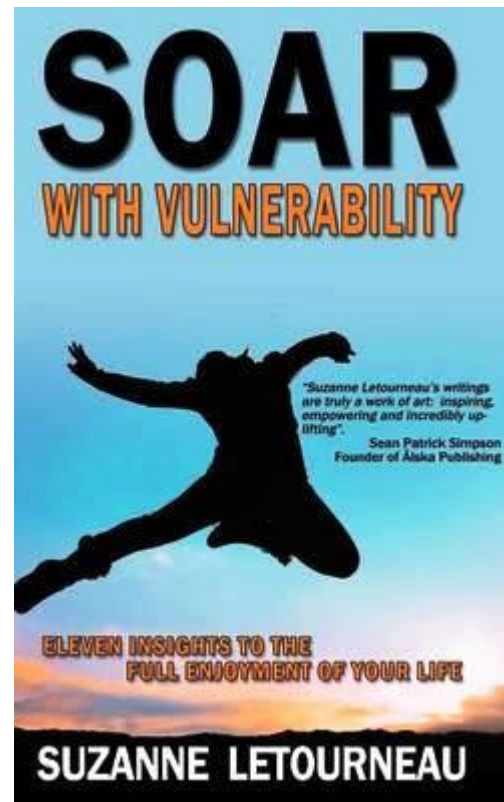
Embracing your vulnerability and surrendering to the truth of who you are, is only the first step. And this is what I share with you in my book ***SOAR with Vulnerability — 11 Insights to the Full Enjoyment of Your Life***. In this book you will learn how the biggest turning point of my life has opened my heart to receiving one of the biggest gifts of all – Vulnerability.

After embracing my vulnerability I knew I could not stop there. I knew I had to go deeper in understanding the sources of the cause - Invulnerability. Why does it arise when it arises? How to be conscious of it? How do we go on becoming unreal?

In my book I say that vulnerability is the foundation of all healing. At another level *I came to feel that that there is no healing to be done only more revealing.*

It is about **turning inward toward the real** — the real you. **Contemplate, Appreciate and BE.**

Now, when people ask me why I do what I do, my answer is simply *"I exist to inspire others to truly experience life and to live truthfully. I exist to live my part in this big puzzle and to enthuse others to do the same with no judgments but in revelation of their greatness and our connectedness"*.



Contact Suzanne Letourneau via her [Website](#), [Blog](#) or follow her on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) or [Pinterest](#).