

Nine Lives: I Don't Get To Decide

I don't get to decide if I am successful or not. I am only responsible for the effort I put in. Our intentions as teachers may be very different than the perception of a cat student. Expecting a cat student to treat you with courtesy and concern is like expecting the bull not to gore you because you are a vegetarian. When managing a cat it is best to be disassociated from your personal feelings.

Discuss a student (past or present) that you became too personally involved with. How did it affect your year? Your beliefs about your yourself or your teaching? Discuss how understanding that you ultimately don't get to decide has changed your outlook on working with hard to reach students.