

Synopsis Your Card is Declined – Log McQuaig

Wally Couchman has always known that his father wanted him to be a big corporate success like his older brother Brock. While the suave and popular Brock makes millions, Wally ekes out a meagre living as a self-employed “stand-up cartoonist,” performing for kids in Canadian schools. Wally loves making kids laugh, but he has trouble shaking his father’s view of him as a failure -- especially when, after a particularly important romantic dinner, Wally is humiliated when his credit card is declined.

As he tries to cope with feelings of failure, Wally discovers that failure isn’t the impediment it’s cracked up to be. Some of the greatest people in history looked like duds in their early years – including Wally’s ultimate hero Abraham Lincoln. As he delves into the life of Lincoln, Wally realizes that Lincoln was dogged by failure in the early years of his career, and had to struggle to become the great emancipator who freed millions from slavery. Wally realizes that if there had been credit cards back in Lincoln’s early days, his too would surely have been declined.