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SECTION 3: STRATEGIC EXECUTION

The Win or Learn System

Quick Diagnostic + Cheat Sheet

“Fail fast” fails as advice, because stopping is an emotional decision, not just a logical one. The Win or Learn System replaces willpower with structure — installed before you're emotionally invested in being right.

Quick Diagnostic

Rate how true each statement is of you right now.

1. I can name the one assumption that, if wrong, would sink my current project.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
2. I set a maximum acceptable loss (time, money, or effort) before I started — not after things got uncomfortable.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
3. When something I tried didn't work, I treated the result as data, not as a personal failure.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
4. When my first approach failed, I generated several truly different alternatives, not just tweaks to the original.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐

1 = Never/Not True 2 = Rarely 3 = Sometimes 4 = Often 5 = Consistently True

My Total: _____ / 20

4-9

Escalation Risk — This is the most human score on this sheet — escalation of commitment affects experienced people most. Start with Killer Assumption below.

10-14

Building the System — Some real structure is in place. Look for the step you tend to skip under pressure.

15-20

Win-or-Learn Operating — You've installed the structure before the emotional stakes hit. That's the whole point of the system.

The Cheat Sheet

The 4 components of The Win or Learn System, at a glance.

Name the Killer Assumption

The one foundational belief that, if wrong, invalidates the rest of the plan.

Set the Affordable Loss Threshold

Decide your maximum acceptable loss before you start — not after it hurts to stop.

Adopt the Jujitsu Mindset

Treat a negative result as information, not defeat.

Generate Divergently After Disconfirmation

When the first idea fails, produce several genuinely different alternatives — not five versions of the same one.

Try This Now

Before your next risky bet, write down your Affordable Loss Threshold in one sentence — and put a date on when you'll check it.

GO DEEPER

This worksheet covers one framework, at a glance. The full diagnostic, guided exercises, and application blueprint for The Win or Learn System — plus the rest of the Power Worker system — live in ***The Power Worker Workbook*** and ***The Power Worker Course***.