

## **INTERVIEW** WITH GEORGE J. CHANOS BY TEDDY ROSE

**TR** Please tell us something about the 'Millennial Samurai' that is not in the summary. (About the book, character you particularly enjoyed writing etc.)

**GJC** I have always enjoyed learning, but researching and writing Millennial Samurai took learning to a new level for me. I wanted the book to be comprehensive. I wanted it to really help people understand the complexities of the world we live in. And in order to do that, I had to learn about those nuisances and complexities myself. I didn't have a complete picture or understanding of everything I've written about in Millennial Samurai before I began. The book evolved as I wrote it. I learned more and more as I kept searching for answers and understanding. And in the process I developed a true love of learning. Not just an appreciation for learning but a true love of learning. A craving. I now devour information every day. I can't wait to wake up and learn something new and share it with others. Writing Millennial Samurai actually had a profound impact on me. It changed me - for the better. I found my passion.

**TR** How much time and effort went into your research for the 'Millennial Samurai'?

**GJC** I spent over a full year researching and writing. Start to finish 18 months. I began by writing what I knew. Then, I read what others were writing about the same subjects that I had written about. As I learned more from what I read, I began to expand what I had written to include the best information, thoughts and insights, contained in what I had read.

**TR** How did serving as Nevada's attorney general and your legal career help shape you into a personal Transformation expert.

**GJC** Practicing law for 30 years involved solving tens of thousands of problems. I had to learn about things I knew nothing about. I had to learn about people I knew nothing about, study industries I knew nothing about, and professions I knew nothing about. I worked with male and female entrepreneurs and executives, trades people, small business owners, corporate executives, Governors and billionaires. I work with individuals and groups. I participated in individual and group negotiations. I had to learn more about my clients business issues and problems than they knew, more than their competitors and rivals knew. I had to develop a helicopter perspective that allowed me to see the full picture. Solving their problems required that I saw things that they didn't see. I had to understand how their clients,

partners, employees, adversaries, or competitors viewed them. How a judge would view them. I had to look beyond the horizon to help them plan. I had to anticipate what might happen, as a result of decisions being considered, in a future that was uncertain. I had to plan for contingencies, create and consider options, prioritize and plan. I had to imagine issues, problems and opportunities that had not yet been considered. Author Malcolm Gladwell says that it takes talent, and 10,000 hours of practice, to develop mastery. I've had over 50,000 hours solving problems. I became an expert problem solver.

**TR** What is it about 'Millennial Samurai' that makes it unique for millennials?

**GJC** I believe that Millennial Samurai is the most complete and comprehensive book on the market to assist Millennials with creating a healthy mindset, developing core values, understanding core principles, recognizing the need for critical thinking, and gaining a working knowledge of the most fundamental and important issues that Millennials are likely to face over the next thirty years. And this is just Book One. As new issues develop, I hope to provide Millennials with a continuing resource for further guidance and inspiration. In a world where information overload is only going to increase, and attention spans are decreasing, the short chapter format is also unique and important. What is perhaps most unique is that Millennial Samurai is not just about providing information or knowledge. Information and knowledge are available from Google. Millennial Samurai is about developing intelligence, awareness, and insight. It's about learning how to think with a helicopter perspective that allows you to rise above the fray and see the big picture.

**TR** How long did it take you to complete 'Millennial Samurai'?

**GJC** Approximately 18 months start to finish.

**TR** Where did you get the inspiration for your cover?

**GJC** I wanted a Samurai of the future. So I found a cool image of a Samurai and then I had an artist take one arm and the sword and add circuitry which symbolizes the bionic augmentation and enhancing powers that will soon be possible. That gave me my vision of the Millennial Samurai. I'm also an artist. I paint, make jewelry and do sculptural assemblage.

**TR** What do you do when you are not writing?

**GJC** Read! Travel. Cook. Paint. Go to the movies. Go to good restaurants. Hang out with family and friends. Work on new projects. Mentor young people. Provide consulting services to entrepreneurs. Speak.

**TR** Can you tell us about your challenges in getting your first book published?

**GJC** Editing. I must have read and re-read Millennial Samurai 50 times. Then I had it proofed by professional editors. Then I had it typeset. Then I kept adding to it. Lol

**TR** What are you currently working on?

**GJC** One of my new passions is [www.LimitlessThinking.com](http://www.LimitlessThinking.com). I want to devote the rest of my life to empowering others. I have a friend who says he wants 10 beautiful women crying at his funeral. I want 100 Millennial Samurai that I have mentored, people who's lives I have changed for the better, crying at mine.

**TR** What book/s are you reading at present?

**GJC** All of Yuval Harari's books are excellent. Sapiens, Homo Deus, 21 Lessons for the 21st Century. I do a lot of reading online. I find articles on topics that interest me and the articles often lead me to research and published studies that I enjoy reading. I don't read passively. I read aggressively. I'm searching for new insights in all my reading. I don't read fiction. Although perhaps I should. I prefer history and fact based content that I can use to create greater understanding of the issues that interest me. Some authors spend 200 pages telling me something that really only required 1 - 10 pages. When that happens, I feel as if my time is being wasted. And time is our most precious resource. I purposely tried to avoid that with Millennial Samurai.

**TR** Is there a question that you would have liked me or another blogger to ask but didn't?

**GJC** Not really. I think these were all excellent questions.

Maybe one.

What is humanity's most urgent need?

Unity - and a recognition that, like all life on the planet, we are profoundly interdependent. We need each other to survive and thrive. We need to help each other.

I would also add that I believe that all real learning must begin with an open mind, a genuine search for the truth, a recognition of our inherent cognitive biases, and an understanding that we all have limited perspectives that can only be enhanced by alternative perspectives.

Thanks for your support! All the best. I hope you enjoy Millennial Samurai.