

# How'd She Do That?!

## TRANSCRIPT

**Tiffany:** Hello everyone and welcome to today's show. I am very excited to have our special guest today. It took us a while to get our schedules coordinated and her voice is sounding excellent, and so I'm just excited to have her on today, is Victoria Gazeley. I've actually known her for a few years now and like most of the guests that we've had so far, I met her online and we've actually had an opportunity to meet a couple times in person as well.

So, this is going to be really great just to get to talk to her on a personal level to find out how she got started in her business. She's got a website. Her website is [The Cabin Design Studio](#) and she does exceptional graphic design, setting up WordPress websites, membership sites. I'll let her tell you all about that. But, Victoria are you there?

**Victoria:** I am. I'm so excited! This is fun.

**Tiffany:** Awesome. Well, tell us your business and what you do.

**Victoria:** So, my business is and, you know, it's always evolving of course, but it's specializing in [WordPress](#) websites, everything from the graphic design part of it, which is my primary work, to a lot of maintenance and customization of WordPress themes, seems to be where I'm loving to focus right now.

**Tiffany:** Awesome, awesome. So, tell us how you even got started with graphics. Is that something that you did in school? Is that something you've always tinkered with? How did you get started with that?

**Victoria:** Well, I was thinking about this a little bit earlier. How did I even get started with this [laughing]?

**Tiffany:** [laughing]

**Victoria:** It kind of gets lost, you know, in the history book somewhere. But, I've always enjoyed drawing and writing and I was thinking back even when I was a child that was, you know, if the posters were on the wall they were organized just so, you know, and the table was just so.

**Tiffany:** [laughing]

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**Victoria:** So, I always had a real interest in design and layout and the way things looked and, you know, down to the little minute details. But, I spent most of my schooling and then my subsequent career after that in actually in management and communications, but sort of more on a corporate level, and then it morphed at one point. I had an opportunity in one of my jobs to actually take over right when websites were brand new, sort of like in 1998-ish, 1997.

**Tiffany:** Oh wow.

**Victoria:** To start, you know, with the very basic -- those old HTML websites that we all unfortunately still see online sometimes.

**Tiffany:** Yes [laughing].

**Victoria:** But the agency, it was a government agency actually that I worked for, a municipal agency, and that's really where it started, from there and I had free reign to, you know, learn all of the software programs and [Illustrator](#) and [Photoshop](#), and then as the technology developed to more and more tools like Joomla and then eventually WordPress. So, it was all really self taught and kind of morphed out of the work that I was doing for my paid employment. It was fantastic that I had the opportunity to learn on the job, essentially.

**Tiffany:** Oh wow.

**Victoria:** Yea...

**Tiffany:** So, when you first started The Cabin Design Studio, let's see, you started out at your company, you were doing management, had an opportunity to do websites. So from there, how did you come to working, you know, having your own business full-time?

**Victoria:** That's a whole other story isn't it [laughing]?

**Tiffany:** [laughing]

**Victoria:** Well, it was interesting how that happened. So, I had a great job in the city. I really loved it. The people I worked with were fantastic, and as I said, lots of freedom to learn and grow. But, when I had my son in 2003 I had a very strong desire to be able to be home with him after I returned

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from my maternity leave, and we're lucky here in that we have a year to do that, and I had it in my head that I was going to work --

**Tiffany:** Now, I'm going to have to stop you. You're going to have to share where here is because where I am there is not a year of maternity leave [laughing].

**Victoria:** [laughing] We are in British Columbia, Canada, and we officially have -- it depends on the employer, but technically, officially, legally you have a year of maternity leave. Not fully paid of course, but they technically quote-unquote have to hold you job for one year, and I was very fortunate that I worked for an organization that really supported that. So, it was good. So, my plan --

**Tiffany:** Wow.

**Victoria:** Yea, I know. It really is. When I hear others' experiences in that regard, I do feel very fortunate that we have that, for sure.

**Tiffany:** Yea...

**Victoria:** So, but my big plan was that after that year I wasn't going to go back, right. I was going to have figured out having an online business and I had started really looking into that, and dangnabbit, I was going to be going whole hog and I wouldn't have to go back to work.

**Tiffany:** [laughing]

**Victoria:** Well, it didn't quite work out that way [laughing] because, you know, children involve a lot of time. So, I went back to work full-time and I was able to work from home though a lot. So again, learning, growing, learning the web stuff, etc., but my desire to be home with him was really strong and it continued and I kind of got more and more disillusioned with the office sort of environment and having to be away from him, and so I really started buckling down and learning what opportunities are there for online business. What can I do?

So, I spent a lot of -- well, let's see. That started in 2003. 2006 I got sort of really serious about it, and in 2008 we moved away from the city to our little country retreat here. We're about an hour I guess outside of Vancouver, BC, and I decided that -- well, this was going to be it, right. I

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was really going to make a go of this thing. I wasn't quite sure yet exactly what I was going to do [laughing].

**Tiffany:** But something online [laughing].

**Victoria:** Something online, exactly, so originally my thought was I was going to take all of this knowledge that I had gained, you know, in the last three or four years prior to that and build a business on teaching newbie homesteaders, or people who have moved from the city to the country, sort of how to make that transition. That was my idea originally and I really stuck with that for a long time.

So, this whole time I'm working part-time in the city. Working full-time—part-time in the city office and then part-time from home. I was able to do that, which was great, and then gradually I went to part-time, still thinking I'm going to make this homesteading website thing be a moneymaker.

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** And the hours, there just weren't enough hours in the day, essentially. So, what ended up happening at some point and, you know, I can't even figure out exactly when it happened, but since I had the skills to do web and graphic work, I thought, *okay, this will be my sort of transition*, right.

**Tiffany:** Right.

**Victoria:** And I'll build this side business, and originally it was going to be this side business.

**Tiffany:** [laughing] Okay.

**Victoria:** Yea, while I focused on the homesteading and then what ended up happening, probably about two years ago, probably exactly two years ago was that I decided that I needed to just stop fighting it and that I really loved doing the web work.

**Tiffany:** Wow.

**Victoria:** And that I really loved doing the graphic work, and I thought, *what am I doing*, you know. I can do the homesteading website on the side and do the WordPress and graphic design work full-time, and eventually

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maybe be able to integrate the two somehow. So, we're still working on that part of it. But...

**Tiffany:** Okay.

**Victoria:** So, I have been full-time at this since November of 2011. So, I guess it's only been a year and a half.

**Tiffany:** Wow!

**Victoria:** Yea...

**Tiffany:** That's so funny because that means that when I first met you, I think it was probably in the Forever WordPress group or either coaching, I can't remember, but homesteading was your focus!

**Victoria:** It sure was.

**Tiffany:** [laughing]

**Victoria:** It sure was, yes.

**Tiffany:** Oh man, and when you guys see her website, when you see her work you're going to be like, oh my gosh, you know, why wasn't that obvious.

**Victoria:** Oh thank you.

**Tiffany:** But, I think it's great that it wasn't because there may be someone listening right now who has a skill that they've learned on their job or something that comes natural to them but are trying to do this other thing and it's not going, and it's not happening the way you planned, that doesn't mean that what you're doing isn't right, but maybe the order of things. So, plans change. You have to be flexible. Oh man, that's so cool [laughing].

**Victoria:** That is exactly the way it happened. Yep, and finally deciding that I just needed to go with the flow so to speak.

**Tiffany:** Yea...so when you were doing the training for your job, is that how you learned that people were even doing business online?

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**Victoria:** Oh, that's a really good question. No, I think I started investigating. Somehow I came across an online training company that ended up, you know, taking an awful lot of money from me and I didn't really learn a whole lot. But anyways... [laughing]

**Tiffany:** We've all been there [laughing].

**Victoria:** That's a whole other story but it did send me -- I don't regret it because it did send me in the direction that I ended up going and connecting me with the people I ended up connecting with. So, that was -- (crosstalk)

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** But, I don't even know how I came across it, to be honest. I think it might have been a friend of mine who said, *you know what, you should be able to just write eBooks and sell them online and stay home*, and I went, *oh really?* I think that's where it started actually and then I started poking around.

**Tiffany:** Oh cool.

**Victoria:** Yea, I think that's where it came from.

**Tiffany:** Awesome. Now, you said when you were growing up you enjoyed drawing and writing. Did you have a computer when you were growing up or was it -- is that something that you got into later?

**Victoria:** No, I'm a little older than that [laughing].

**Tiffany:** [laughing]

**Victoria:** We didn't even have computers until grade 11.

**Tiffany:** Okay, okay.

**Victoria:** You know, we had our little Apple's programming in grade 11.

**Tiffany:** Yes.

**Victoria:** And I think I got a desktop computer shortly -- well, the first year of college I think I had one.

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**Tiffany:** Okay, okay.

**Victoria:** So, no we didn't have computers. We had Atari, I think was as close as we got [laughing].

**Tiffany:** Yes, I remember Atari, and for some reason I got a ColecoVision. I don't know why that was it, and I had one game. But, I do understand [laughing].

**Victoria:** [laughing]

**Tiffany:** I do understand. I got a computer later as well. So, that is -- that's pretty cool because a lot of times people that do graphics or programming, you'll hear stories where people have been doing that, you know, since they were like nine years old as opposed to learning it later. So, I think that's great that you're an example of learning it later and how it can still pay off. You don't have to be, you know, a nine-year-old genius at that.

**Victoria:** No, you sure don't. You sure don't.

**Tiffany:** Now tell us this, what is that you have found in combining -- I know you say you're still working on combining the homesteading and your web design business, but what have you found that people are most interested in when they come and they know you do both? Do you find that they lean more to one than the other or do they end up needing something, you know, on both ends?

**Victoria:** Well originally, I think most of it is the homesteading end of things, but what I am finding, and have probably the last year anyways, is that the requests I'm getting sort of through private email about how to -- because most of us that are doing this sort of thing are sort of away from city centers, so you have to figure out something you can do to be able to make this little dream actually function, right.

**Tiffany:** Right.

**Victoria:** So, I'm finding that there are a lot of women particularly, some men but a lot of women trying to figure out, they really want to do it, they really want to move out, they want to take their children and move to the country and, you know, have the chickens and everything, but they can't figure out how to make it work financially. So, that is what I'm finding that I'm getting a lot of questions about.

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So, this is where I think I might be able to actually start to mix the two together, and I've kind of started going down that road a little bit but not in a big, sort of organized way yet. I'm still pondering the best way to go about that. But yea, it's interesting how that's coming together.

**Tiffany:** Awesome, and I bring that up because sometimes as a service provider we feel like we just need to be just one thing and can't be involved in another project, and a lot of times, I know for me I found that just the motivation when there's a low day, having that side project as you said, you know, a side thing really helps to push things forward because you know what earns the money and then you have this other thing that you're really interested in.

So, it's just important to hear that, you know, as a service provider you can have your service based business, let that be your main income. But, also have something else that you enjoy just as well that could become, you know, a moneymaker also.

**Victoria:** Absolutely, and I think on that note as well, a lot of my sort of coaching training, and you know this, has been around pick something, do it really well, and do it really well. Focus, focus, focus, and that's fantastic advice except for that reason you just mentioned

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** You have those days and you've been like coding for three days straight and your brain is completely destroyed, to be able to go and do some actual design, creative work that doesn't involve any coding. It's strictly all art related.

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** With all the colors and layout, is such a gift to have both of those things. So, while focus -- from my own experience anyways and, you know, I'm just one person, but focusing on one skill is fabulous but I have found it really beneficial to be able to be a little more varied in that and it's really saved me and allowed me to continue on without having to have a holiday every -- (crosstalk)

**Tiffany:** Yes [laughing]. Oh, I understand.

**Victoria:** Yea, yea, it feels like a break.

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**Tiffany:** Yea, yea, I understand completely, and for me it's doing, you know, talking to people like yourself is one thing that I've found that is something fun that I like to do 'cause I'm always intrigued. The first place I go to on a website is the about page because I'm curious. I don't care about, you know, what school you went to and majored and all that, but it's just interesting to know what the backstory is behind this website.

**Victoria:** Right.

**Tiffany:** And so, yea, I think that's excellent. Now, what advice would you have for someone, Victoria, who is currently working and they're, you know, working a full-time job but they're also interested in starting something on the side part-time. How -- what advice would you have for someone who may be struggling as far as how to make it work and deciding on whether they should do it or not?

**Victoria:** Ahh...the seven million dollar question.

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** So, well just from my own experience, that advice we were just speaking about, about picking something and focusing, I didn't actually sort of get that until much later on and it probably would have been helpful to have that a little bit earlier on because I spent -- as much as I wouldn't change it because it all sort of added to the experience that I now have, but I spend a lot of time like training with people I probably shouldn't have been training with and spending a lot of time on things that I didn't really end up using. But again, they do add to the whole picture eventually at some point.

So, I would say -- well, follow what you really want to do. I mean, and it's not about necessarily the money and although I said, you know, I had these skills and I went, *why am I not using these skills to actually make a living?* But, I actually really love that work too. I don't think I could do it if it was just about the money.

**Tiffany:** Right.

**Victoria:** And getting out of my full-time job, because there was a period of time where I was just wanting to get out of the full-time job. You know, as wonderful as it was and as great as the people were, I just wanted to be home with my little guy and, you know, living out of the city.

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**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** So, getting to that little bit of a desperate place was not good because it invited a lot of stress, you know, and a lot of pressure on me to figure out quote-unquote what it was I was going to do, and I also had it in my head that whatever I decided was going to be something I would have to stick with for a long period of time, which of course added even more to the pressure.

**Tiffany:** Right.

**Victoria:** And paralyzed me to the point where it took me, you know, five years to figure out what it was that I was going to do. So, I would say, you know, if you can take some of that pressure or not put that pressure on yourself in the first place about having to pick the right thing right away, and know that it's going to morph and grow and possibly change completely.

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** You know, in the first while or through the whole process, you know, ten years of change and oh.

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** And as long as it's not completely flipping back and forth because that seems to be, you know, a big waste of energy if you're going in one direction whole hog and then suddenly you flip completely, but if it's kind of in the same area. I've just found with my business that it's not just -- it hasn't been just following what clients are looking for although that's -- sorry, I'm thinking as I'm speaking here. That has driven it to some degree, but what I'm interested in, and what I'm passionate about, and what I enjoy doing and how those things all mix together.

So as for advice, yea, I would say that that pressure is a -- for me, was a real negative and it paralyzed me. So, to be able to take that pressure off and realize that you don't need to pick, as I said, you don't need to pick the final thing right off the bat.

**Tiffany:** Yea, I think both of those things -- the other thing you said about coming from a desperate place. Gosh, that just really just kind of was like an "a ha" because in the state where many people are, you know, there are situations where people are being asked to reduce their hours or asked to, I

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think what's called furloughs where you work but you don't get paid for a certain amount of hours, or anticipating layoffs and different situations like that, that could cause you to be in a desperate state.

And even with all of that it's just important, like you said, not to put that stress on yourself, to focus on, you know, what is it that you enjoy that people are looking for that you can make money at, and it doesn't have to be something that you've got to be married to forever, like it can't change [laughing].

**Victoria:** Absolutely, absolutely, yea, yep.

**Tiffany:** So, those are -- that's excellent. I know that you have your son and you used to do videos. I don't know if you still do those anymore. They're really cute videos, but I want you to share how you incorporate Jonah into your work. Like how you include him or let him know about your work and different things like that, because I know there'll be a lot of moms, a lot of parents listening as well who are interested in starting businesses from home but they've got families and not sure how that would work.

**Victoria:** Yea, great question, and that was, you know, most of the reason why it took me so long, right. Because I didn't have it -- I probably could have had someone come in a few hours a week and let me focus on doing what I needed to do, but I didn't. At that point I wasn't in the headspace where I was able to do that.

So, he was always with me and it wasn't until, again, we moved here and he actually went to school. I guess he was in kindergarten when we moved here so it was only half days at that point. So, he would go to school and then I would go -- it's quite a distance from where we live here, so that was mornings. So, I had like three hours in the morning and then I would go and work at the local café close by his school with my laptop.

**Tiffany:** Okay.

**Victoria:** And do work that way and then we would come back here, and then the Internet connection was a whole other story we can talk about or not [laughing].

**Tiffany:** [laughing] Okay.

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**Victoria:** Very challenging in that respect, but I mean, he's been wonderful and he's -- I've been very lucky in that he's a child that sort of understands those boundaries and I don't know if that's because I was clear about them, but at the same time there's always time for hugs and stopping and, you know, like it seems -- it's a very flowy sort of days that we have.

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** And as I mentioned with the projects being interspersed between really sort of, I need to focus exclusively for, you know, two hours at a time and the graphic work, which doesn't require a lot of quote-unquote brain power, right. I can stop, go back, do it. It's been very conducive to having that parenting flow that I was hoping I would have. I think if I had more than one child though it would be -- it might be a different story all together, and if they were home all the time. I mean, he's 10 now so he's at school all day, most of the time, except for now obviously, in the summer. But, living in the country too there's -- I don't have to worry about him being outside, right.

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** When he was younger he could go and play outside for an hour and I always knew where he was. But, in the city I couldn't do that. We lived in a townhouse and we were right on the main road and so it's been very freeing in that regard. So, I think if I had a child that ran though, that might be a different story [laughing].

**Tiffany:** You'd have to go chase him in the woods [laughing].

**Victoria:** Exactly, I had a lady contact me the other day and she said her daughter just runs, so she's finding it really hard to, you know, do anything, let alone a business. So, that was interesting.

**Tiffany:** Oh my gosh.

**Victoria:** Yea, so I've been fortunate and I don't know how much advice I can give in that regard, necessarily, because I've been really lucky and my parents live here too so I've been fortunate that he can spend a lot of time with them as well. They live relatively close by. So, it's turned out the way that I had hoped it would turn out.

**Tiffany:** Good.

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**Victoria:** And that is partly by design. Well, it's mostly be design actually and a little bit of luck. But, the business has allowed that to happen.

**Tiffany:** That's great, and see, I don't have any children so when I -- that question, it's like okay, I'm taking notes. I like the fact that you said when he was in kindergarten he'd go to school for a half day so you'd go to a café during that time because it was close to his school. I'm like, that's a really good idea even if you're not, you know, so far away, maybe it's on the other side of town or whatever. But, that makes a lot of sense. You can get in some good quality time for work that way and then, you know, be on with your day for the rest of it.

**Victoria:** Yea --

**Tiffany:** So, that's cool.

**Victoria:** I did that for a year, a full year before he was in school sort of, you know, all day for grade one.

**Tiffany:** Oh cool. Now, we have to talk about this Internet connection because here's the other thing I want people to know is that when you're working from home it doesn't mean that everything happens like clockwork, that there are no glitches, no hiccups or anything, no challenges or anything like that. It may look like that from the outside but the reality is things happen.

And so I want you to share with us about the Internet connection and just so you -- so people know that are listening, when Victoria's -- the name of her website is The Cabin Studio for a reason, The Cabin Studio Design. Wait a minute, I'm saying it wrong—The Cabin Design Studio. This is why I have the website up so I can make sure I'm saying it right.

**Victoria:** [laughing]

**Tiffany:** But, she literally lives in a cabin in the woods. I just -- at one point she was adding on. Are you still adding on to the cabin?

**Victoria:** Nope, that was all finished.

**Tiffany:** Or is it all done?

**Victoria:** All done, yep.

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**Tiffany:** So, she was posting pictures on Facebook, you know, sharing the different phases and that's so cool because I've never seen like a real cabin where people live. So, I was just fascinated [laughing]. See all these things you don't know. I'm not going to put that comment on Facebook.

**Victoria:** [laughing]

**Tiffany:** It would be like, duh Tiffany! But, I'm just fascinated by it. I had Lincoln Logs when I was little and I loved them so the fact that you live in a real, you know, cabin is just so cool to me. So anyway, tell us about your Internet connection and the challenges that come with that.

**Victoria:** Absolutely, so obviously when you run an online business and you have clients sort of all over the world really, it's kind of important that you have an Internet connection that functions. So, for the first -- well, let me put it this way. Until December of this, of 2012, I had a satellite Internet connection. It was the only option we had. The installer came before we moved in, in the spring of 2009, and he was like hanging off of my roof trying to get like a radio Internet connection that would have been better. Nothing! Right, I don't have cell service. There's nothing down here except satellite.

**Tiffany:** Oh my gosh.

**Victoria:** So, we ended up with the satellite service and I mean, thankful -- I'm not dissing it because it allowed me to be home.

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** But it was so...oh my goodness. It was -- it wasn't that it was awfully -- it was great on the download; on the upload it was awful. So, any large files that I had to get back to my office or to clients—nightmare, and then, you know, when it snowed, it didn't like that. That was bad.

**Tiffany:** [laughing]

**Victoria:** When it was too cloudy it would slow down and then it would disconnect, and then there was one time the satellite spun out of orbit and it was like three days for them to put it back in orbit. So, it was just like one thing after another. So, finally this past December I called them because it had crashed yet again so, and all this time every time this happens I have to

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then pick up and go out, right. So, I've got my MacBook Pro and I go out and I go to a coffee shop where they have power.

**Tiffany:** Okay, that was going to be my next question. What did you do? How did you communicate with your clients? Okay, cool.

**Victoria:** Absolutely.

**Tiffany:** You've always got to have a backup plan.

**Victoria:** Yea, so cause I don't even have my cell phone. Like I can't even connect with them that way because I have no cell service either down here. So yea, pack up the laptop, go to the coffee shop because invariably their on different -- the electric -- well, there's the satellite and then if the power would go out that's a whole other issue.

So, the satellite goes out. I go and do my work somewhere else, that's fine. But, in December of this past year it had gone out and I called them and they said, *oh by the way, we have this new 4G service and it's half the price.*

**Tiffany:** Oh wow!

**Victoria:** So, I was spending \$100 and -- \$200 a month essentially for this previous service, which was -- really wasn't -- it was faster than dial-up. I won't say it was that bad.

**Tiffany:** [laughing]

**Victoria:** But, it was nowhere near cable or DSL. It just wasn't and it didn't pretend to be either, but it was \$200 a month! So, they said we've got this great new 4G service, new satellite and it's \$89 a month to start, here you go. So, that's what I've been on since the end of December.

But, I was a month without Internet because the installer never showed up and, you know, blah blah blah. So, then I was working at the café and thankfully my parents had a little office I could work out of as well for the whole month of December.

**Tiffany:** Oh my goodness.

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**Victoria:** But since they -- since that was installed it's been fabulous. So, that made a HUGE difference for my business, my productivity, and just my overall frustration factor.

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** So, yea -- (crosstalk)

**Tiffany:** So, either way you pushed through that challenge until they finally updated the technology.

**Victoria:** Absolutely, so yea, so my advice there would be to anyone who's moving to a rural area or if you're wanting to start an online business, really check that out first [laughing].

**Tiffany:** Yea [laughing].

**Victoria:** If it's important for your business you're going to want to check it out first.

**Tiffany:** So, let your realtor know how many bedrooms, bathrooms, and your Wi-Fi service [laughing].

**Victoria:** Yea.

**Tiffany:** Oh man. Has there been anything that has been surprising to you since you've started doing your business full-time?

**Victoria:** Surprising? I think -- that's a great question. I think I'd have to say how much I'm actually really enjoying it now. You know, I get up in the morning and it's like, wow I get to design things for people that actually, you know, affects their businesses and then you get that happy feedback and it's just a really great feeling to be doing something and to have the control to be able to do what you want to do, you know. I mean, if tomorrow I decided I didn't want to do maintenance any more, for example, not that I'm going to because I actually kind of like that part. But, if I decided I didn't want to and I wanted to focus, I can do that and I don't have to...

**Tiffany:** Yea

**Victoria:** You know, just notify everyone that we're not doing that anymore and hopefully be able to transfer them on to someone who is.

The Interview Podcast For Womenpreneurs: How'd She Do That?!

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# How'd She Do That?!

**Tiffany:** Oh you mean anymore at all!

**Victoria:** Oh just -- I'm saying if I decided to. I'm not going to.

**Tiffany:** If you decided to. I'm like, wait a minute. I thought you meant for the day. Okay, I'm with you [laughing].

**Victoria:** [laughing] Just to have that freedom has been a bit surprising, and the feeling of, well, control of your own sort of destiny --

**Tiffany:** Yea.

**Victoria:** -- has been a bit surprising, you know, but I think mostly is how much my vision of what I wanted and the reality of it has come together and how much I'm enjoying it.

**Tiffany:** Good. Good, good, good. Let me just check here. Okay cool, I just want to make sure that we're still within our time. Gosh, you've just said so many great things today. You should see my paper Victoria. I've got so many notes on here just keeping up with everything.

**Victoria:** [laughing]

**Tiffany:** But, I think this is so, so good because the different challenges, the changes. There are all kinds of things that come up when you start a business online that you don't even know you're going to encounter. Now, have you had any strange requests from anyone?

**Victoria:** Not, no I have to say I have been really fortunate. I mean, I've had a few, you know, issues with -- mostly it's been my thinking everyone, you know, knows certain lingo and things. It took me a while to figure that out.

**Tiffany:** Yea [laughing].

**Victoria:** And helping people through the beginning stages of, you know, when they're starting completely from scratch technologically speaking. But no, I haven't had any strange -- I think most of the strange stuff has been on, you know, my end where you're working and you're in the middle of a client call and the rooster's outside [crowing sound].

**Tiffany:** [laughing]

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# How'd She Do That?!

**Victoria:** As you're on an important call, you know, so, and that sort of thing. Or, you know, the bear comes trundling through the yard or you have to go and save the chickens in the middle of a call.

**Tiffany:** You mean like a literal bear, like a bear, bear?

**Victoria:** Oh yea, oh yea.

**Tiffany:** [laughing]

**Victoria:** Or a bobcat or...yea, so I'll be in a middle of call with a client and the chickens are freaking out and I have to decide, okay do I be honest and say I have to go save my chickens or just let the chickens fend for themselves.

**Tiffany:** Oh my gosh.

**Victoria:** You know, depends on what kind of a day you are having, I guess. But yea, so that's always fun challenges. So no, most of the weird things have been on my end.

**Tiffany:** That's when you say, remember the whole thing about the cabin design, well we have chickens and they need some help. I think your clients will want you to save the chickens and call them back [laughing].

**Victoria:** I think so too. Yea, and that's why I'm usually pretty clear in my about section that we actually do live in the woods. Now occasionally -- I think I'm going to change my about section a little bit because that could be cute. If I have to run off in the middle of a phone call, don't be offended.

**Tiffany:** Yes! That would make it so fun!

**Victoria:** [laughing]

**Tiffany:** Get a picture in there too [laughing].

**Victoria:** So funny.

**Tiffany:** Get a picture. Well Victoria, I -- (crosstalk)

**Victoria:** It's an adventure I tell you. Every day is an adventure.

# How'd She Do That?!

**Tiffany:** Oh man, it sounds like it's an adventure every day. I love that—online and offline, an adventure. That is so great.

**Victoria:** Yea.

**Tiffany:** Well, I just want to thank you so much just for just hanging out today and letting us know the behind the scenes of what's going on with your business, how you got started, and the different things that you deal with today. I know that the things that you share will inspire our listeners and will also inspire them to get moving regardless of what challenges you have, whether there's chickens outside, or bad Internet connection, or you're not sure exactly what it is you want to do.

You have this little thing, maybe it'll work, not sure. But, just to go ahead and get out there and give it a shot. You won't know until you try so I just -- I thank you so much for talking to us today. I've wanted to learn more about you from a personal standpoint for a while so this gave us an opportunity to do so, and I'm so glad that you accepted and allowed us to hear all about you.

**Victoria:** Oh, thank you so much! It was fun. It's nice to be able to sort of go back and sort of walk through that process too and think, *wow, you know, this is -- it is pretty cool.*

**Tiffany:** [laughing] Yes, it is. So, tell us where we can find you online, in social media.

**Victoria:** So, my business website is [thecabindesignstudio.com](http://thecabindesignstudio.com), all together, and on Facebook at [facebook.com/thecabindesignstudio](https://facebook.com/thecabindesignstudio).

And the homesteading part, which is actually where I do most of posting, that's where all the funny stories are and all the strange things that go on, is [facebook.com/modernhomesteading](https://facebook.com/modernhomesteading), all together and [modernhomesteading.ca](http://modernhomesteading.ca) is that blog website.

**Tiffany:** Cool, and we'll have show notes that'll have links and stuff too so you don't have to worry about the spelling or anything like that. We'll have that for you guys in the show notes. Well, thank you again Victoria, and maybe we'll have you come on again and maybe next time we'll hear like a rooster, you know, making noise in the background or something fun will happen and you can give us a visual verbally [laughing].

# How'd She Do That?!

**Victoria:** I'll just leave the door open.

**Tiffany:** Yea, yea, so thank you again.

**Victoria:** Thank you so much.

**Tiffany:** You take care.

**Victoria:** Okay.

**Tiffany:** Bye-bye.

**Victoria:** Bye-bye.

[End of Audio]