

David S. Kidder - Biography

Known for his radical candor, David helps leaders see what is true, build systems that unlock it, and turn volatility into focus, velocity, and resilient growth.

David Kidder is a two time New York Times bestselling author, four time founder, and super-angel investor in more than 150 ventures. A keynote speaker and coach to many of today's leading startups and Fortune 500 enterprises, he brings a front row view of the patterns of growth, resilience, and reinvention that define enduring success. Over the course of his career, he has built and taught systems that help leaders and organizations grow through disruption. Known for his clarity, candor, and conviction, David has become one of the most trusted voices on resilient growth.

He is the best-selling author of *The Startup Playbook* and *New to Big*, which introduced the systems and mindsets behind entrepreneurial growth inside the enterprise. His work has been recognized by leading thinkers including Adam Grant and the late Clay Christensen and has influenced founders and investors such as Marc Andreessen. His books have sold more than one million copies across 18 languages and shape how a generation of leaders build and scale what's next.

Most recently, as co-founder and former CEO of Bionic and the GrowthOS, David bootstrapped the company to \$30 million in annual revenue and led its acquisition by Accenture Song in 2021, scaling the GrowthOS into one of Accenture's most successful integrations to date. David continues to partner directly with CEOs and leadership teams at Fortune 500 companies including Nike, Procter and Gamble, Citi, and Microsoft to reinvent how organizations grow.

Currently, David is focused on closing the gap between how fast the world moves and how slowly most organizations adapt. His newest venture *The Board of Life* helps leaders confront truth with courage, align conviction with execution, and build the capacity to grow no matter the conditions. Especially urgent in the age of AI, his work unlocks organizational velocity required to compete.

With over one million books in print in 18 languages, David's work has shaped a generation of leaders. His forthcoming titles *The Board of Life* (2026) and *The Power of the Premortem* (2027) extend that mission. Event organizers consistently praise his ability to deliver both clarity and courage: practical systems that leaders can apply immediately, delivered through unforgettable stories of what it really takes to grow.