

Stage *introduction*

Script to be read by whoever introduces Domitille Kiger. It is written to be spoken, not to be read in silence. Please use it as it is: it sets up the subject without giving away the content.

MAIN VERSION

Long introduction

≈ 60 SECONDS

We spend our days trying to get people to work together.

Our next speaker does the same thing. With two hundred people, from across the planet, who do not all speak the same language. At one hundred and eighty-five miles an hour. And she has seventy seconds.

Seventy seconds during which nobody can speak to anyone, nobody can correct the plan, and nobody can take someone else's place. If a single slot stays empty, the work of the other one hundred and ninety-nine does not count.

(hold a beat)

Two time skydiving world champion. Ten world records. Ten thousand jumps. Forbes named her one of its forty women of the year 2025, and the French Republic made her a Knight of the National Order of Merit.

But what she has come to share today is not a track record. It is a protocol. The one that lets a team tell the difference between the risks it cannot afford to take, and the risks it cannot afford to avoid.

Please welcome Domitille Kiger.

SHORT VERSION

Brief introduction

≈ 25 SECONDS

Getting two hundred people to work together is already hard on the ground. Our next speaker does it at one hundred and eighty-five miles an hour, in seventy seconds, with nobody able to speak to anyone.

Two time skydiving world champion, ten world records. She is here to explain how a team learns to tell the risks that destroy it from the risks that move it forward.

Please welcome Domitille Kiger.

AFTER THE KEYNOTE

Closing thank you

Optional. To be used only if the program includes someone taking the microphone straight after the keynote.

Thank you Domitille. The question is no longer which risks your team is taking. It is which ones it has decided to eliminate, and which ones it has decided to dare.

GUIDANCE

What helps, what gets in the way

WHAT HELPS

- **Read the script as it is.** The numbers and the silences are calibrated to lead into the first word of the keynote.
- **Hold the beat** marked before the track record section. It moves the room from anecdote to attention.
- **Say the full name** on the last line, then leave the stage with no added comment.
- **Check the exact keynote title** if you quote it: Breaking Records, Building Teams.

WHAT GETS IN THE WAY

- **Adding improvised superlatives.** An introduction that promises an exceptional moment puts the audience in a position to evaluate rather than to listen.
- **Announcing a motivational talk** or a story about pushing past your limits. The subject is collective performance and decision making.
- **Telling a skydiving anecdote before she comes on,** including your own. She opens on a precise story, which loses its effect if it has already been approached.
- **Reading the full subtitle** if time is short. The title on its own is enough.

REMEMBER

A good introduction does not try to impress the room. It gives the room a reason to listen to the first sentence.