

Meet Anthony Zahn

[ronwilliams4433](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qQpbjDDRB4)

a YouTube truncated video interview transcripts, Aug. 2008.

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R; Here we are with the famous "Anthony Zahn" from Southern California! Anthony, what's up?

A; Not me--not yet!

R; Let's talk about your disability. I call your disability the "Shark Tooth" disease, but I know that's not what it is, so....tell us what it is.

A; It's not actually that bad. It's "Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease", or (CMT). It's a genetic degenerative peripheral neuropathy. Basically it means the signal doesn't get from my brain down to the muscles. Effectively, paralyzed from the knees down. According to the "IOC" I've got zero discernible strength in my feet, ankles, calves, and hands.

R; To me it just looks like you have skinny hands and skinny legs.

A; That's about it.

R; Awesome! So Anthony, you've been trying to make it on this team and go to China, to the Paralympic Games for several years in a row and you finally made it. How's that feel?

A; It feels incredible! I feels great to finally quit trying and to just do it! And it's great to go represent my country. And hopefully I'll give a little bit back and show all my friends, family and supporters it hasn't all been for nothing.

R; Not only are you a member of the Paralympic cycling team but you also own a bike shop. Let's hear a little bit about balancing cycling and being an entrepreneur.

A; Yeah, it's tough, working a couple of jobs. First work, I ride my bike for a couple hours. Second work, I sell some bikes for several hours. I gotta work six days a week when I'm in town to be able to take off the 80 to 100 days each year to be with the Paralympic team.

It's not easy!... It's fun, it's never boring,... it's what I do.

R; Awesome, so what are your expectations at Beijing, you're coming off a great World Championships?

A; I'm not going to Beijing for the food, well, maybe the food after. I'll just say, I hope I do well.

R; Awesome! Thanks Anthony, have a good time!

A; Thank you Ron, you too.