



This I Believe II: More Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women (This I Believe Series Book 2)

By Jay Allison

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A new collection of inspiring personal philosophies from another noteworthy group of people

This second collection of *This I Believe* essays gathers seventyfive essayists—ranging from famous to previously unknown—completing the thought that begins the book's title. With contributors who run the gamut from cellist Yo-Yo Ma to ordinary folks like a diner waitress, an Iraq War veteran, a farmer, a new husband, and many others, *This I Believe II*, like the first *New York Times* bestselling collection, showcases moving and irresistible essays.

Included are Sister Helen Prejean writing about learning what she truly believes through watching her own actions, singer Jimmie Dale Gilmore writing about a hard-won wisdom based on being generous to others, and Robert Fulghum writing about dancing all the dances for as long as he can. Readers will also find wonderful and surprising essays about forgiveness, personal integrity, and honoring life and change.

Here is a welcome, stirring, and provocative communion with the minds and hearts of a diverse, new group of people—whose beliefs and the remarkably varied ways in which they choose to express them reveal the American spirit at its best.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. Allison and Gediman's newest omnibus highlights 75 more essays from the archives of the successful NPR program, a contemporary version of Edward Murrow's classic radio show. Culled from writers both legendary and previously unfamiliar, each essayist presents what he or she believes in 500 words. From Robin Baudier's tract on Strange Blessings, detailing her experience living in her parents' FEMA trailer after the devastation of Katrina, to Michelle Gardner-Quinn's credo for upholding reverence for all life (Quinn was tragically murdered after completing this essay) to Kim Phuc's essay on Forgiveness, borne of her experience as that girl in the picture running naked, napalm-burnt on a road near Saigon, each micro-essay stuns with its singular beauty, lucidity and humility. Icons like Helen Prejean, Studs Terkel and Elie Wiesel find estimable company in heretofore unknown writers who distill their individual truths with affecting sincerity and admirable aptitude. (Oct.)

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From [Booklist](#)

In the second collection derived from the extraordinarily popular and influential National Public Radio program *This I Believe*, pithy, personal, and stealthily affecting essays grapple with life's big questions from myriad perspectives and with refreshingly positive energy. Professional skateboarder Tony Hawk tells us to do what we love. James Loney, a peace activist held hostage in Iraq, believes that "there are many ways we can hold one another captive." Nature writer David Gessner believes in wildness. Readers will also discover what invaluable life lesson neurobiologist Jimmy Liao learned from studying fish in turbulent waters, why Susan Cooke Kittredge believes in mending, and what "strange blessings" a woman whose family lost their home to Katrina gleaned. Other voices include war veterans, a Muslim immigrant, and a poet who became addicted to crack. Beauty, duty, forgiveness, and remembrance—all are considered in 75 earnest and revealing credos, which, as astute series editor Allison observes, are not sermons but, rather, the results of soul-searching in the wake of anguished experiences. Infused with gratitude and hope, these declarations are at once grounding and uplifting. --Donna Seaman

Review

"In the second collection derived from the extraordinarily popular and influential National Public Radio program *This I Believe*, pithy, personal, and stealthily affecting essays grapple with life's big questions from myriad perspectives and with refreshingly positive energy....Infused with gratitude and hope, these declarations are at once grounding and uplifting."—*Booklist*

"By turns moving, thoughtful, cheering and heartbreaking, in an age of irony these essays offer a little something to believe in"—*St. Petersburg Times*

"This book opens with a formidable challenge: 'What would you say in five hundred words to capture a core principle that guides your life?' Before you try to answer that question, you might want to read some of the 75 essays collected in *This I Believe II: More Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women*. Many will leave you breathless. And those that don't astonish may simply humble you . . . Many of these speakers articulate beliefs 'forged in hardship'—sometimes horrific experiences of tragedy, illness, or loss. Yet over and

again they affirm the good to be gleaned—by those willing to recognize it—from the largest and the smallest lessons of human experience . . . The book's purpose, says Allison, is to 'counter . . . divisiveness' and 'raise a flag for thoughtfulness.' These essays do that but they also do something more: They speak to the best in all of us and leave us in awe of the unheralded virtue that surrounds us every day."—Marjorie Kehe, *The Christian Science Monitor*

"*This I Believe II* features 75 pithy essays by authors young and old, famous and unknown, and engaged in every walk of life. In 'The Right to Be Fully American,' Pakistani-American Muslim attorney Yasir Billoo describes the anguish of being made ...

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Suzanne Jensen:

This *This I Believe II: More Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women* (*This I Believe Series Book 2*) book is simply not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book will be information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This kind of *This I Believe II: More Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women* (*This I Believe Series Book 2*) without we realize teach the one who studying it become critical in contemplating and analyzing. Don't become worry *This I Believe II: More Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women* (*This I Believe Series Book 2*) can bring when you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' turn into full because you can have it with your lovely laptop even phone. *This I Believe II: More Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women* (*This I Believe Series Book 2*) having very good arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not feel uninterested in reading.

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Shalon Dougherty:

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