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Why Not?: Fifteen Reasons To Live



WHY NOT?

Fifteen Reasons to Live

RAY ROBERTSON



Essays



Synopsis

Featured on The Hour with George Stroumboulopoulos. SHORTLISTED FOR THE \$60,000 HILARY WESTON WRITERS' TRUST PRIZE FOR NONFICTION Longlisted for the \$25,000 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction. "Clear-eyed ... Robertson is no stranger to confronting unsavoury truths." #151; Steven Beattie, *That Shakespearean Rag* "Many of us sense that the world has too many moving parts and can become utterly defeated. Ray Robertson found a 'road back' in this splendid and intriguing book." #151; Jim Harrison Shortly after completing his sixth novel, Ray Robertson suffered a depression of suicidal intensity. Soon after his recover, he decided to try and answer two of the biggest questions we can ask. What makes humans happy? And what makes a life worth living? His answers aren't what you might expect from a mental illness memoir #151; but they're exactly what you'd expect from Ray Robertson. With the vitality of Nick Hornby and a brashness all his own, Robertson runs his hands over life, death, intoxication, and art. Unashamedly working-class and unabashedly literary, *Why Not?* is a rolling, rocking, anti-Sisyphean odyssey. Ray Robertson is the celebrated author of eight books and six novels, including *What Happened Later*, about Jack Kerouac's last years. He lives and writes in Toronto, Ontario.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When I read the other review, (as I am the second), I was skeptical about the enjoyment I might gain from reading this book. Was I ever wrong! Or better put; was she ever wrong. The best advice I give before reading this is quite simple--do not read if you cannot understand advanced word, thought, or communicative processes. I not only found the book entertaining, but thought provoking, serious, deep, sincere, funny, personal, self-aware, and enjoyable to the very last word. The perfect blend of his own intelligent selection of words, combined with quotes from the masters give incredible insight to many of the mysteries of life and the human experience within it. If you prefer fluff--skip this one. On the other hand, if you are looking for an entertaining, thought provoking, inside view of the intelligent mind within all of us--read Why Not?: Fifteen Reasons to Live. You will not be disappointed. Mike Ritchie

I only made it a quarter of the way through this book because I couldn't sleep. Once the sun came up, I packed it up for a return. I'm not even going to try to actually review the content, because it's so questionable. I mean, really, what can you say about somebody who basically wrote a book about nothing using only their thesaurus as a roadmap? Just. Don't. Bother.

A very few interesting thoughts interspersed with a lot of drivel make this a bit of a slog to get through. His overuse of quotes from much more eloquent authors is annoying and is a reminder that the author of this book really has very little to say.

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