

A *New York Times* Bestseller

## **This I Believe: The Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women**

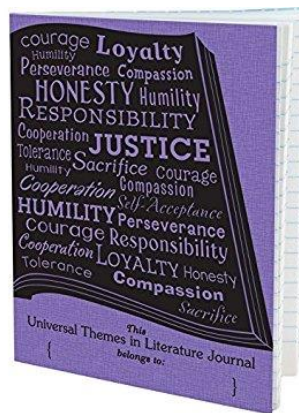
Edited by Jay Allison and Dan Gediman in Association with NPR

Please read the selected essays found below. These essays can either be found alphabetically by author in a print copy of the book, or by clicking on the links below that will bring you to that specific essay on the NPR website. On the website is not only a copy of the essay, but also an audio version.

In September, you will be expected to discuss these short essays with your summer reading groups. You will be graded on your contributions to the discussion, as well as on your own “This I Believe” project. Please bring a copy of this project to your assigned summer reading room on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Theme Collage

*This I Believe*



For this activity, you will create a thematic collage to demonstrate your understanding of theme using several selections from *This I Believe*. To create the collage, use a sheet of construction paper or poster board. You will also need access to pictures and words from magazines and/or the computer.

Directions for completing the collage:

1. In a prominent position on your paper, put the theme.
2. Include at least three quotes from *This I Believe* that support your chosen theme.
3. The remainder of the collage should consist of pictures and words that illustrate and symbolize the theme you chose.

Selected Essays:

1. [Be Cool to the Pizza Dude](#) by Sarah Adams
2. [Leaving Identity Issues to Other Folks](#) by Phyllis Allen
3. [Remembering All the Boys](#) by Elvia Bautista
4. [The Mountain Disappears](#) by Leonard Bernstein
5. [There Is No Job More Important than Parenting](#) by Benjamin Carson
6. [A Journey toward Acceptance and Love](#) by Greg Chapman
7. [Good Can Be as Communicable as Evil](#) by Norman Corwin
8. [The Power and Mystery of Naming Things](#) by Eve Ensler
9. [A Goal of Service to Humankind](#) by Anthony Fauci
10. [Unleashing the Power of Creativity](#) by Billy Gates
11. [The People Who Love You When No One Else Will](#) by Cecile Gilmer
12. [The Connection between Strangers](#) by Miles Goodwin
13. [Seeing in Beautiful, Precise Pictures](#) by Temple Grandin
14. [Disrupting My Comfort Zone](#) by Brian Grazer
15. [In Praise of the “Wobblies”](#) by Ted Gup
16. [A Grown-Up Barbie](#) by Jane Hamill
17. [Natural Links in a Long Chain of Being](#) by Victor Hanson
18. [Our Noble, Essential Decency](#) by Robert A. Heinlein
19. [A New Birth of Freedom](#) by Maximilian Hodder
20. [The Benefits of Retlessness of Jagged Edges](#) by Kay Redfield Jamison
21. [There is No God](#) by Penn Jillette
22. [A Duty to Heal](#) by Pius Kamau
23. [The Light of a Brighter Day](#) by Helen Keller
24. [The Power of Love to Transform and Heal](#) by Jackie Lantry
25. [The Power of Mysteries](#) by Alan Lightman
26. [Why I Close My Restaurant](#) by Gorge Mardikian
27. [The Virtue of the Quiet Hero](#) by John McCain
28. [The Joy and Enthusiasm of Reading](#) by Rick Moody
29. [Getting Angry Can Be a Good Thing](#) by Cecilia Munoz
30. [Mysterious Connections That Link Us Together](#) by Azar Nafisi
31. [The Making of Poems](#) by Gregory Orr
32. [We Are Each Other’s Business](#) by Eboo Patel
33. [The America I Believe In](#) by Colin Powell
34. [The Real Consequences of Justice](#) by Frederic Reamer
35. [Tomorrow Will Be a Better Day](#) by Josh Rittenberg
36. [Free Minds and Hearts at Work](#) by Jackie Robinson
37. [Growth That Starts from Thinking](#) by Eleanor Roosevelt
38. [The Artistry of Hidden Talents](#) by Mel Rusnov
39. [My Fellow Worms](#) by Carl Sandburg
40. [There is No Such Thing as Too Much Barbecue](#) by Jason Sheehan
41. [A Balance Between Nature and Nurture](#) by Gloria Steinem
42. [Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness](#) by Andrew Sullivan
43. [Always Go to the Funeral](#) by Deirdre Sullivan
44. [Finding Prosperity by Feeding Monkeys](#) by Harold Taw
45. [I Agree with a Pagan](#) by Arnold Toynbee
46. [Testing the Limits of What I Know and Feel](#) by John Updike
47. [How Do You Believe in a Mystery?](#) by Loudon Wainwright III
48. [Creative Solutions to Life’s Challenges](#) by Frank X Walker
49. [Goodness Doesn’t Just Happen](#) by Rebecca West
50. [When Ordinary People Achieve Extraordinary Things](#) by Jody Williams