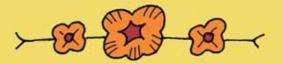
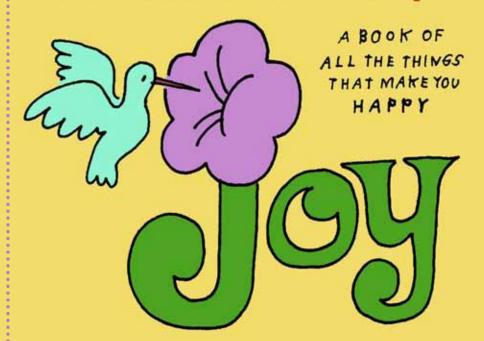
.... An Interactive Digital Diary



HUMMINGBIRD



BY BILL ZIMMERMAN & YOU PICTURES BY TOMBLOOM



This book belongs to



By Bill Zimmerman & You Pictures by Tom Bloom

An Interactive Digital Diary from MakeBeliefsComix.com

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Book design: Barbara Berasi

The author welcomes your comments and suggestions that you would like to see included in future editions. Please write: William Zimmerman, Guarionex Press Ltd., 201 West 77 Street, New York, NY 10024.

Thank you.

For other books by Bill Zimmerman, visit http://www.billztreasurechest.com or http://www.makebeliefscomix.com

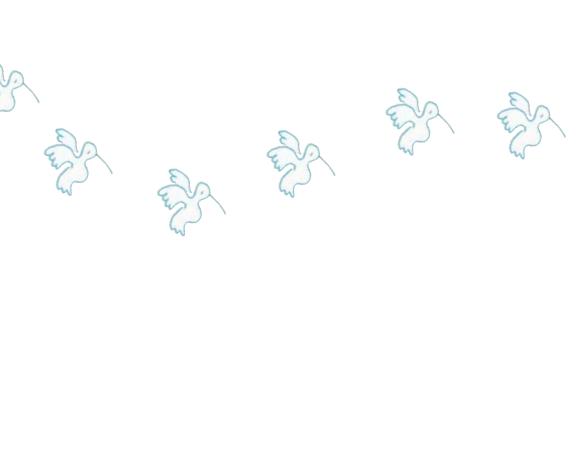


Dedicated

To my wife, daughter and dog, who have provided me with the happiest times in my life. And, in memory of my Cousin Ruth, who always squeezed joy from life.

-B.Z.





Let me search deep within me to find my joy.



I wrote this book during the harsh days of winter when I thought that spring would never come. I wanted to think about all the things in life that give me joy, and chose the hummingbird as my symbol for this book because that creature is so exquisite and pleasurable to observe.

Hummingbird Joy is intended as a memory book for you to remember and write about all the things that have made you happy throughout your life and to savor these special thoughts. It is to become your own treasure chest of personal wonders filled with your written recollections.

As you turn the pages, you will be encouraged to remember and write about your happy memories. This book, which you have downloaded from your computer, is presented in the form of an interactive digital journal. When you open the book, go to the menu on top of your computer screen and click on View—Page Display—Two-Up Continuous. This allows you to see a two page spread at one time.

Each of us, no matter how difficult our path has been,

Then type directly on your screen into the areas with lines on each of the book's pages. When you are done typing, simply save the document until the next time you are inspired to make new entries. All the pages are meant to help you tap into your innate creativity just the way you did as a child when you opened a fresh box of crayons and saw a world of unlimited possibilities awaiting you.

The book features a variety of writing prompts to spur you to writing. Some, for example, appear on the Reflect in Tranquility pages— these prompts will elicit memories of many of the things that have given you joy. Write as few or as many words as you need to describe that happy moment.

On facing pages I share with you some of the happy moments that I am grateful for in my own life and want to recall. Perhaps they will trigger your own memories. I call these Grateful Am I pages because with the passing of time, I have learned to not take joy for granted and to be thankful for whatever happiness has come my way. On the bottom of each of these pages is a prompt that asks you to express what you are grateful for in your life. Scattered throughout, too, are *Imagine* pages— they will provide safe spaces for you to write or think about.





has had moments of joy and ecstasy.

Before you begin this book, though, I have a favor to ask you: think about the joys you have experienced over the years in your own life. Each of us, no matter how difficult our path has been, has had moments of joy and ecstasy.

- —Was it the time when you were with someone who made you laugh and giggle?
- —Was it the joyous moments you shared with a childhood pet?
- —Maybe it was a wonderful sight you once saw.
- —Maybe it was tasting food specially prepared for you.
- —How about when you experienced some great accomplishment, like learning to swim or ride a bike or roller skate?
- —Maybe it was the time someone you loved read a favorite book to you or told you a story that amazed you or made you use your imagination in a way you had never done so before.
- —Perhaps it was the joy of a new adventure or taking a trip where you explored a strange land or country.
- —Perhaps it was the time you discovered a book that opened up a whole new world to you and introduced you to new "people" whom you had never before encountered.

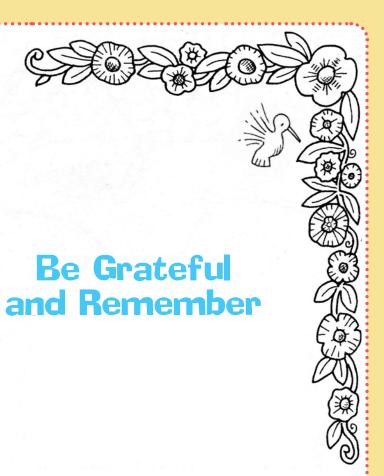
- —Maybe it was the joy of experiencing your first circus or encountering a new animal at the zoo.
- —I know that for me my happiest moment was when my I saw my daughter born and held her in my arms.

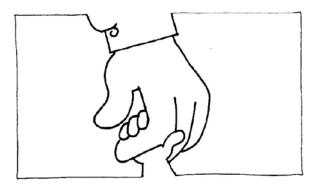
In creating the question prompts for this book, I began to relive the joys of my life, as I hope you will when you write your responses. From this experience I began to realize that joy is always there if only I take the time to look carefully and remember the good moments. When you write in this book, try to do so at quiet times. If you can, light a scented candle, or surround yourself with some photographs or mementos you have gathered to help you remember happy experiences. Touch a sea shell or pebble you collected, play some soft music to relax, take some quiet, deep breaths. Then, begin writing to create your own inspirational book of joy that affirms all that is good in your life.

Yours sincerely,
Bel Zimmer Now

Bill Zimmerman

P.S. In filling in this digital book's pages you also have the option of printing out any pages that you want and also of sending the completed digital book as an email attachment to someone with whom you wish to share all your special memories.





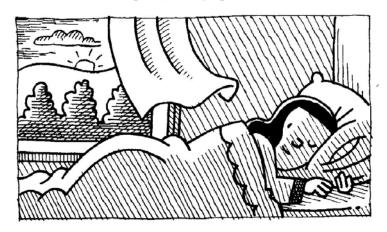
...To clasp a child's hand





A happy memory:

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... for the peace of early morning.





Someone I love dearly:

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...to have found love in my life.



A beautiful sight:



...for my father who comforted me as a child when I woke up crying in the night.



The most wonderful day of my life:





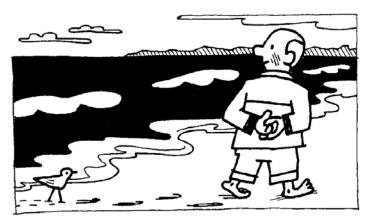
...for my first teacher who patiently taught me how to read.





Words that make me happy:



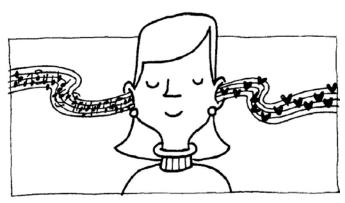


... to see the ocean and walk along its shores.





Something that makes me smile:



... to hear music I love.





My soul soars when:

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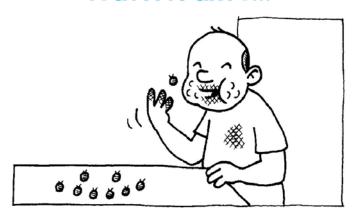
...for the companionship of my pet and to see her tail wag.





This made me rejoice:

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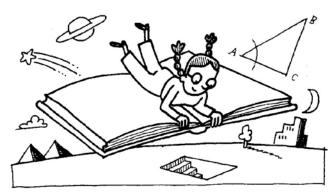
...to taste blueberries.





A special place:

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...to read a book that opens new worlds to me.





A book I loved that opened up a whole new world to me:

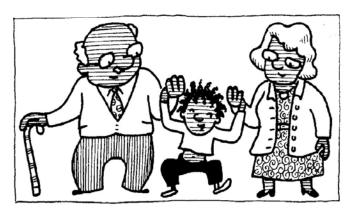
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...for a loving touch, a gentle caress.



Someone who makes me happy:



...to have known my grandparents.





A smell that makes me feel safe and content:



...for coloring books and fresh crayons.

I am grateful for... (WRITE HERE)



Some things which give me joy:





...to have found joy and fulfillment in my work.





The laughter of someone I love:

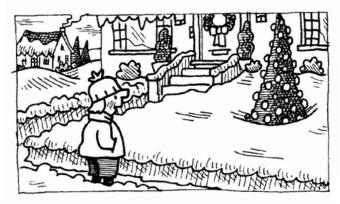


...that I have been able to take care of my family and provide for them.





The touch and smell of someone dear to me:



...to behold beautifully lit Christmas trees.





The taste of a food that always satisfies me:

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...to have known elderly people who shared their lives with me and who listened to my cares.





A painting I love:



...for holiday dinners with my family.





A memory of being with someone special:



...to have walked down beautiful country roads.





A piece of music that takes me out of myself and makes me so happy:

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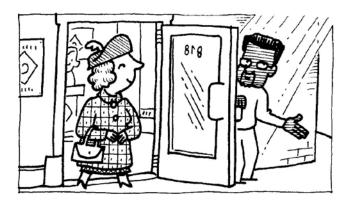
...to have had a Schwinn bike as a boy with which I rode to a larger world.





A creature of nature which always captures my attention:





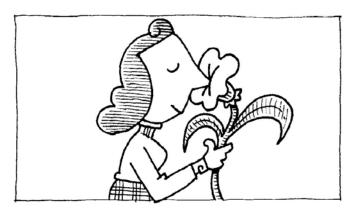
...for the chance to help others who, in turn, always helped me.





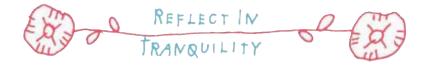
A moment of transcendence in my life:





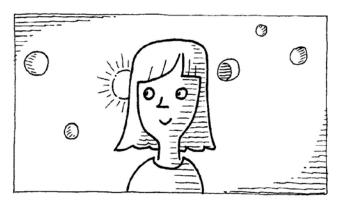
...for narcissus bulbs in winter and daffodils in early spring.





The time a wish came true:





...for the early light and start of a new day.





How I felt when I fell in love:

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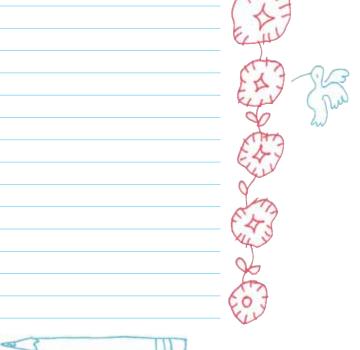


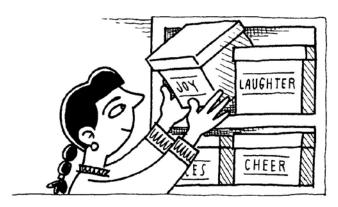
...to experience good health and healing.





When I was so proud of my work:



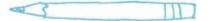


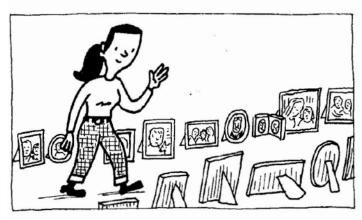
...for joy and laughter.





An act of kindness shown to me:



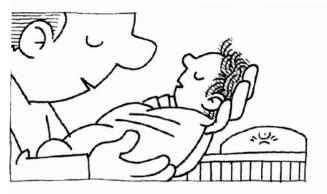


...to those who help and inspire me in my life.

YOUR TURN	I am grateful for	
	(WRITE HERE)	



A joyful sound:



...to have seen the birth of my child.





A second chance:



...to have realized some of my dreams.

YOUR TURN	
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Someone I am thankful for:





...to be able to swim and play in the water.





A moment of pure happiness:



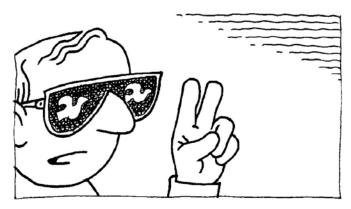
...for beautiful sunsets.





A memory that always cheers me up:

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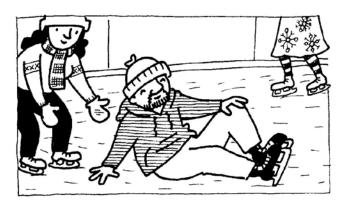
...for an end to war.





An act of forgiveness:

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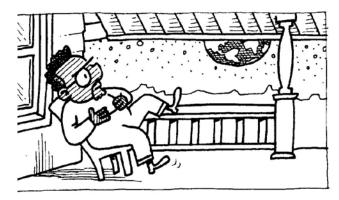


...to have skated both on ice and city streets.





A flower that always gives me joy:



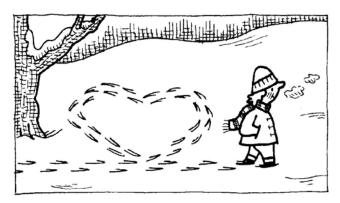
...to have seen many of the world's wonders.





A transforming moment:

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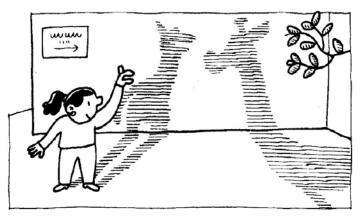


...for the chance to walk in fresh snow.





A time when I wanted to whoop with joy:

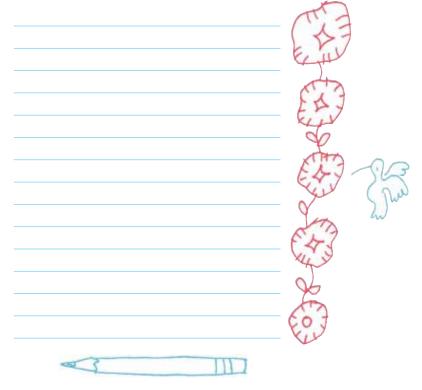


...to have seen a giraffe.





A loving deed:



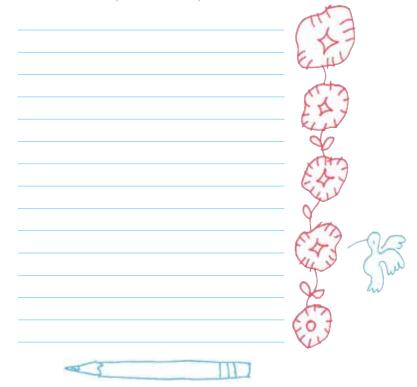


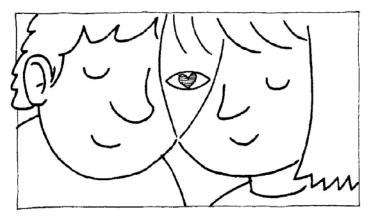
...to have been given second (and third) chances.

YOUR TURN	
	I am grateful for
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I am filled with joy when I see:





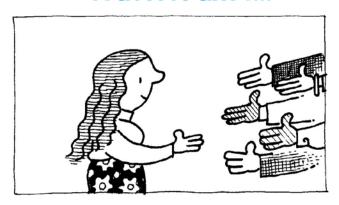
to have loved others deeply.





When I look up at the sky I see clouds of joy. One particular cloud makes me beam. It looks like a:

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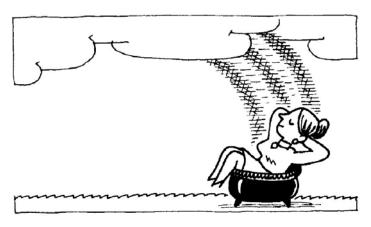
...for friendships.





When I have been most happy:





...to have seen rainbows.





A moment of self-discovery:



...for the triumphs in my life.





A silly moment:



...for the stars and moon.





A childhood possession that gave me so much pleasure:



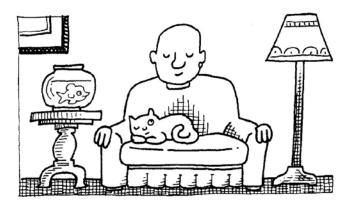
...to be able to study and learn new things.

YOUR TURN	I am grateful for	
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A time in my life when I felt very fulfilled, when I knew that I had done my very best:

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...for the solid comfort of my home.





Something I achieved with hard work that gave me great joy:

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...to smell newly mowed grass.





A hope that gives me joy when I think of it:



...to be safe and warm.





An olden, golden time:

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...to have experienced fresh-baked bread.





A moment of laughter:

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...for sleeping soundly and dreaming sweetly.





What keeps me from feeling sad:



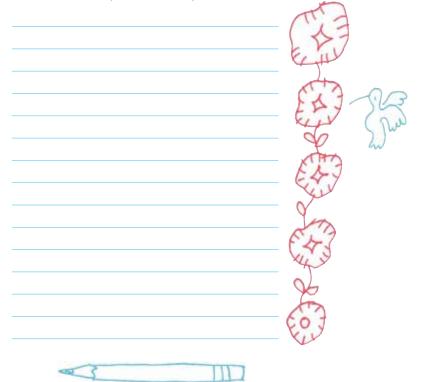


...for the smile of a stranger in the street.





The joy of creating something special. What was it?

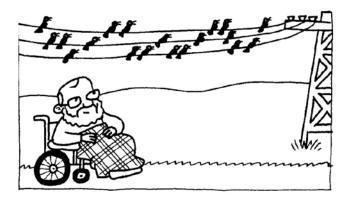




...to smell a baby's sweet smell.



The joy of having time off to do anything I want. Here's what I would do:



...to hear the sounds as birds sing their song.



A place for a favorite photo or picture:



...to sit around the table with those I love.





A memory from my childhood:

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...for color comics.



A birth that made me so happy:



...for my early morning coffee.





A beautiful lyric or poem or expression that I recall:

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...for each and every kindness shown to me.





A discovery I made:







A memory of a pet who gave me so much joy:

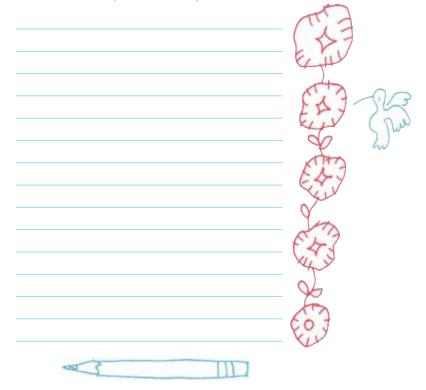


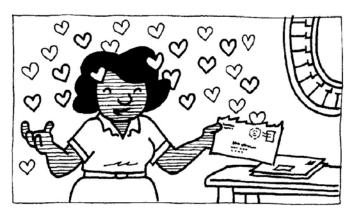
...for the artwork of Vincent Van Gogh.





A kitchen smell I remember:





...to receive a loving letter in the mail.





I create the most wonderful Easter basket in the world for someone I love. This is what I place in it:

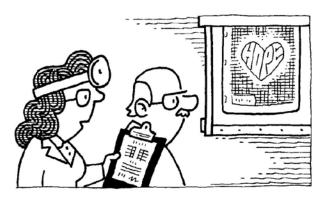


...to have enough to eat and a roof over my head.



A scent I wish to recover:

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...to still have hope in my heart.





A dream I never want to forget:

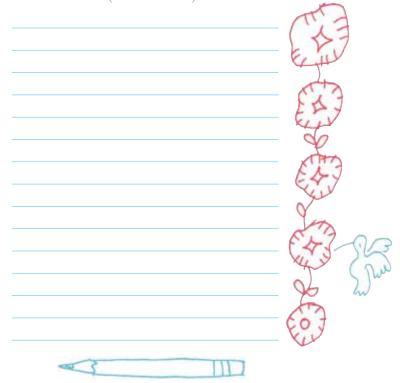


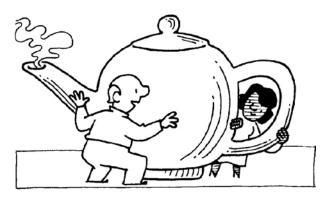


...to collect richly hued autumn leaves.



The joy of a special time of year:





...for my wife who prepares a soothing pot of piping hot tea and shares it with me.





A sight I will never forget:

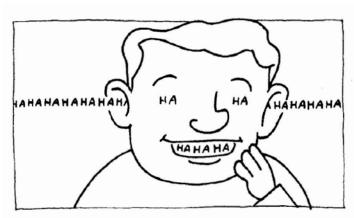


...to unfurl the morning newspaper and read some amazing stories.



A dream or prayer that gives me joy:





...to hear a funny story or a good joke.





A passion which always gives me joy:

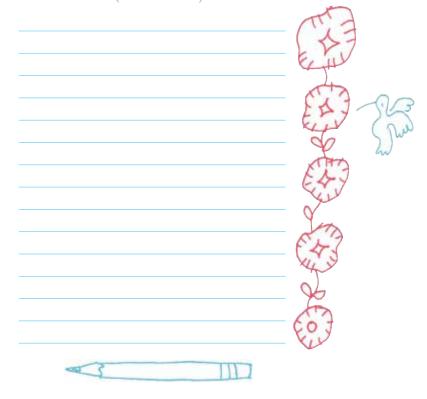


...to see my daughter's smile.





A tiny miracle:





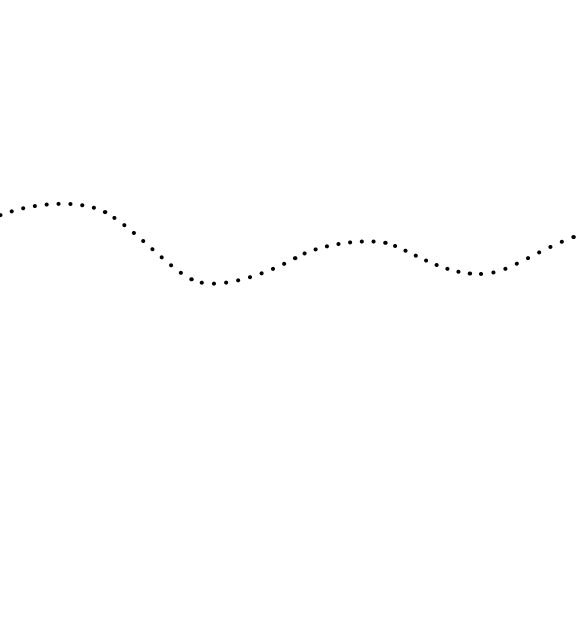
...to God for all that has been given me.





Something I would like to see go on forever and ever:







Be Like Jimmy Durante

There used to be a wonderful comedian named Jimmy Durante whom I'd watch on television when I was a boy. Just to see him made me smile and feel happy, he had so much love and fun in him. He often would start off his act by singing, "You've got to start off each day with a song." It's funny, but when I was little the words barely made an impression on me— it was just his spirit and energy I loved. He made me lose my cares. But now, years later, I understand what he

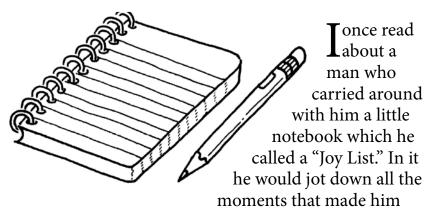


meant. Yes, we've got to start off each day with a song if we want the day to be good for us. Otherwise, to mope or be grumpy will mean we lose the blessedness of the new day. Remember Jimmy's words, my friend.

What words will you sing or hum to start your day?

(WRITE HERE)

Keeping a "Joy List"



smile or laugh. It was his way of cultivating a sense of happiness about being alive and enjoying his life. He learned to do this from a 13 year-old boy who was dying of lymphoma and who handed him a list of more than 100 memories of the happy moments in his life, like camping or going to Disney World. The boy asked the man to give it to his parents when he died because he wanted his parents to remember that their son had fun moments, too, in his short life.

My own beloved cousin over the years kept a list of all the good things which she wanted to see go on forever and ever. Think of these ideas, and consider keeping your own list of the things that give you joy in life and which you would like to see go on for all eternity. Write some words when something really good happens in your life— from seeing a hummingbird to remembering a funny joke a friend told you. Doing so makes you more aware of the wonderful things we experience daily but which we sometimes take for granted because too often we may sleepwalk through life. Doesn't it comfort you to think of having a "joy list" in your pocket which you can refer to when you're feeling stressed? Try it!

What are at least two things that have given you joy in your life recently?

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Recognizing Beauty

Dear friend,

A Then you're out in the world today, in your V car or riding on a

bus, take a moment to look for something beautiful whether it's a flower, a color that flashes by, or a

sweet expression on the face of someone you see in the street. Always look for something beautiful, even on rainy days it's there if you look carefully.

What's the most beautiful thing you've ever seen?

(WRITE HERE)	

Take Time to Rejoice

Some people believe that when we die, our spirit keeps living and takes the form of another being or creature, that our life is endless. I would hope so, but I am not sure about this. That is why I feel we must enjoy our present life as fully as possible and appreciate every moment that is given to us. Despite all its pains, life should be a time of rejoicing, of singing and dancing and filled with good food and love. We have been given a great gift to enjoy.



When was the last time you rejoiced, truly rejoiced about something that made you very happy?

(WRITE HERE)

A Wish For You

 ${f M}$ ay you meet someone special today who makes you smile and feel good about life and about yourself. And may you also be that "someone special" to another. That's my wish for you today.

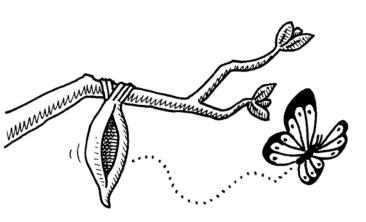


What good wish do you have for someone else?

(WRITE HERE)

A New Day of Life

There is a wonderful movie in which an old man wakes up in the morning and says, "Thank you for a new day of life, Lord." You see, he felt blessed



to see another new day. He was old enough to have learned that nothing is forever and it is best to appreciate what one is given daily— the sun that rises, the

roosters which crow, the food to be eaten, the love each of us experiences from others. Every new day became sacred for this man and he would awake as if reborn.

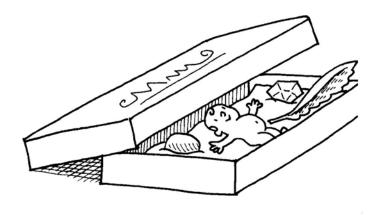
What things will you appreciate about your new day?

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A Box of Wonder

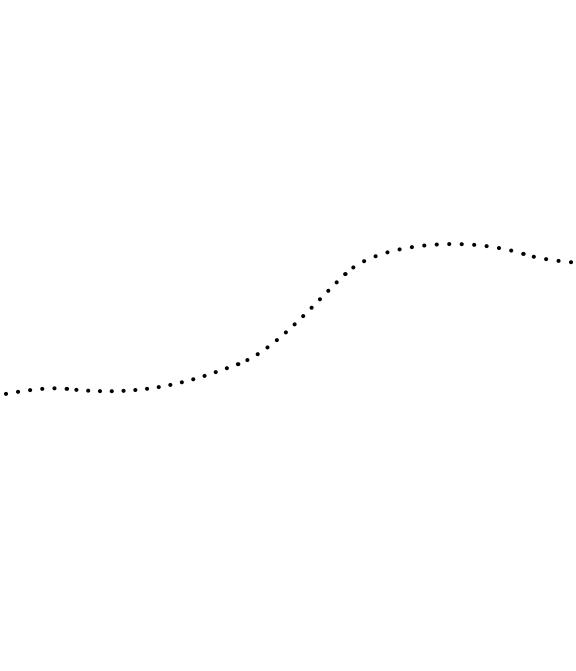
When I was a boy I had a box of wonder. It was a small, white cardboard box with a cotton layer on the bottom which had once held some costume jewelry given to my mother one Christmas. Into this box I would place little treasures I found— a bird's feather plucked from my father's fedora, a rhinestone that had fallen out of my mother's pin, a cufflink that belonged to my dad, a white pebble I had found at the beach, a very tiny baby doll that I had bought at the Five and Ten-Cent store. Time and again I would open this box to gaze at these and other wonderful finds. They made me feel happy and safe.

Why not consider putting together your own box of wonder to contain all the little objects that you discover in the world and which give you joy? This little box can become a welcoming place for you to turn to when you want to find some comfort.



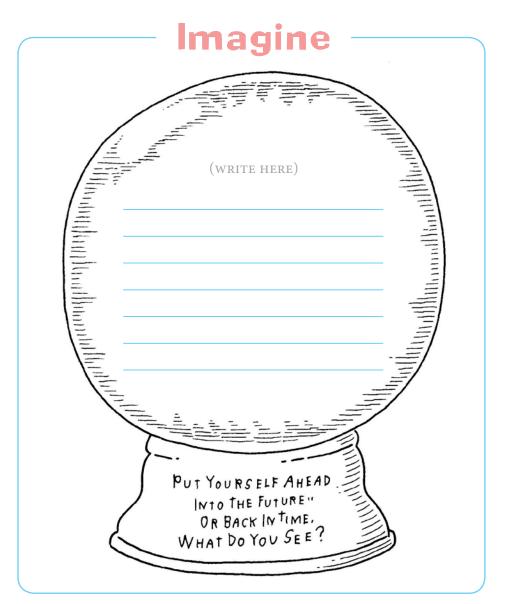
What objects would you place in your own box of wonder?

(WRITE HERE)



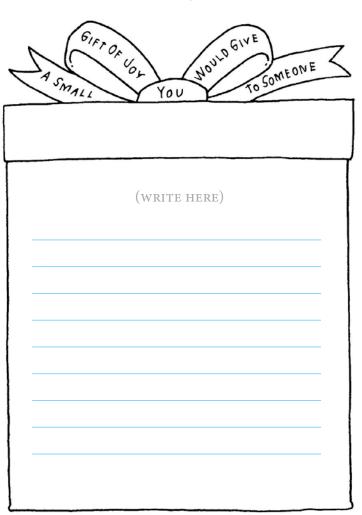


Imagine (WRITE HERE) THINK ABOUT SOMETHING THAT HAPPINESS ...

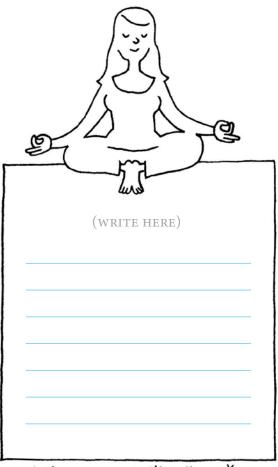


A NOTE FOR SOMEONE WHO MAKES YOU HAPPY

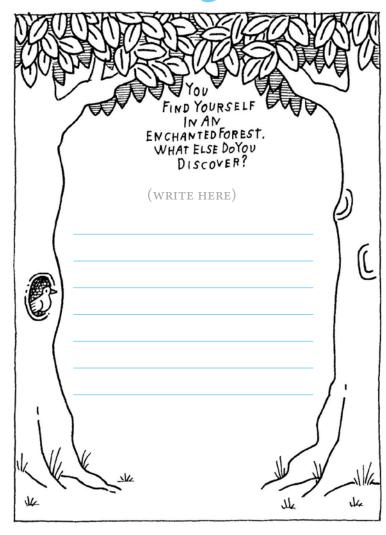
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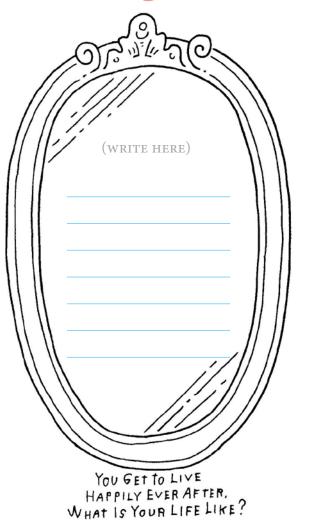


Imagine (WRITE HERE) A PRAYER FOR SOMEONE NEAR AND DEAR TO YOU



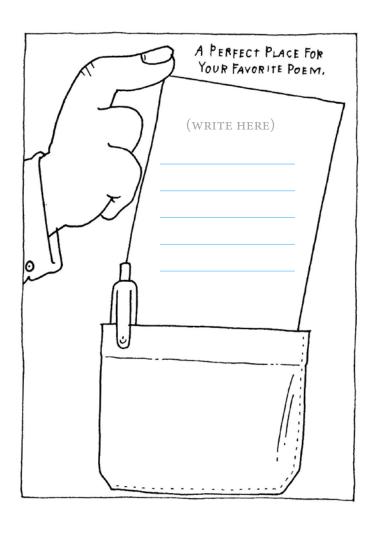
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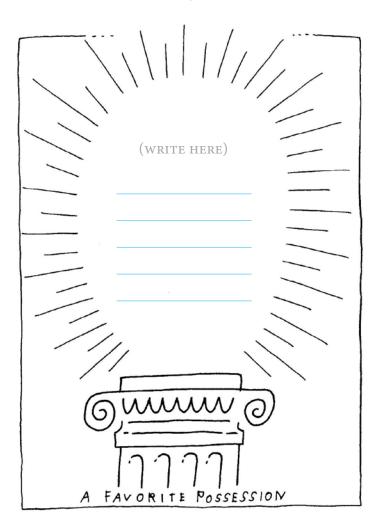






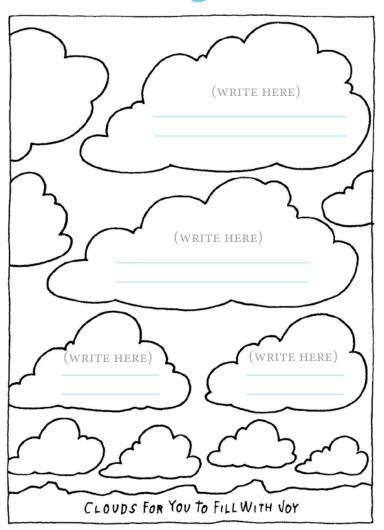
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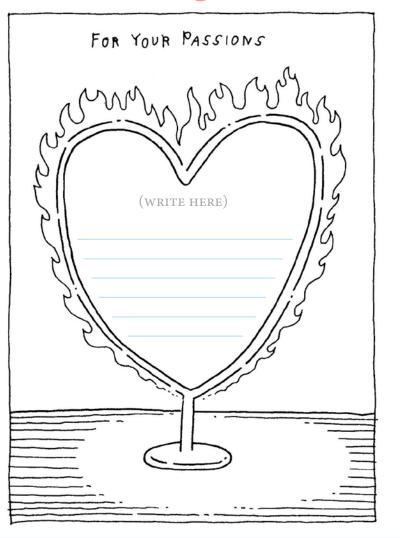


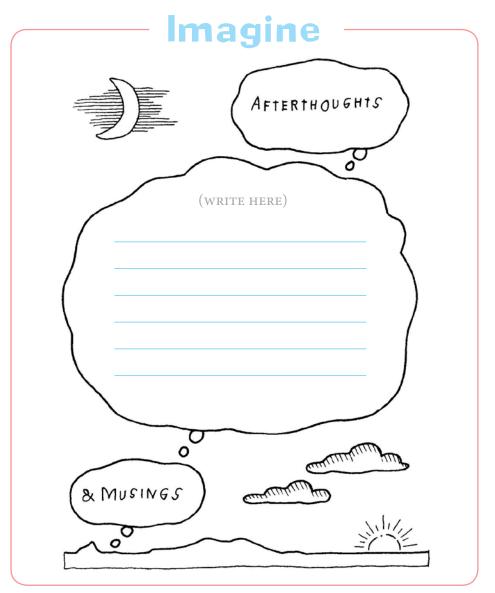


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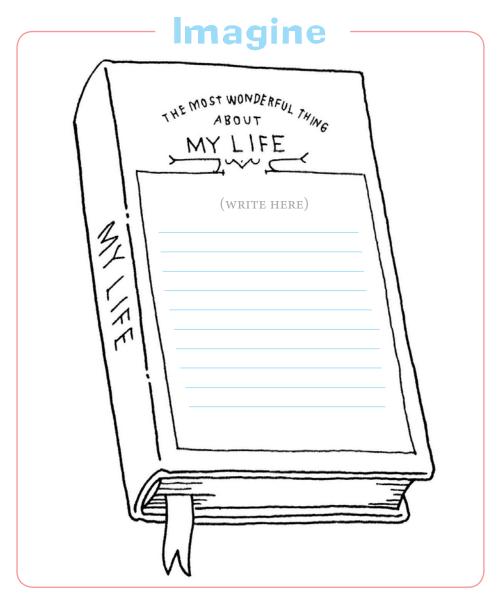
A SWEET SPOT FOR YOUR DEEPEST DREAMS
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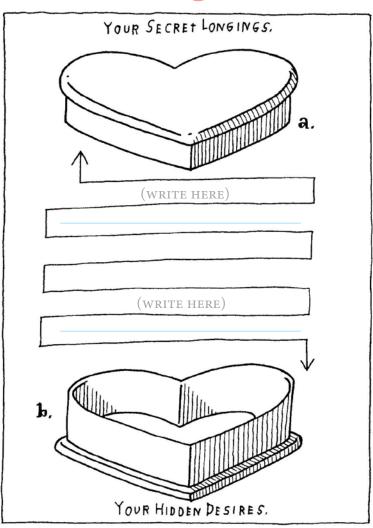
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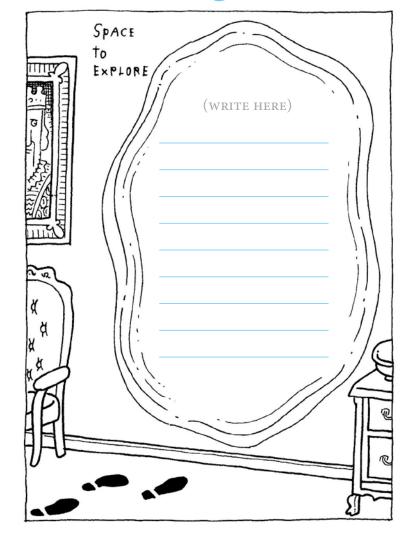


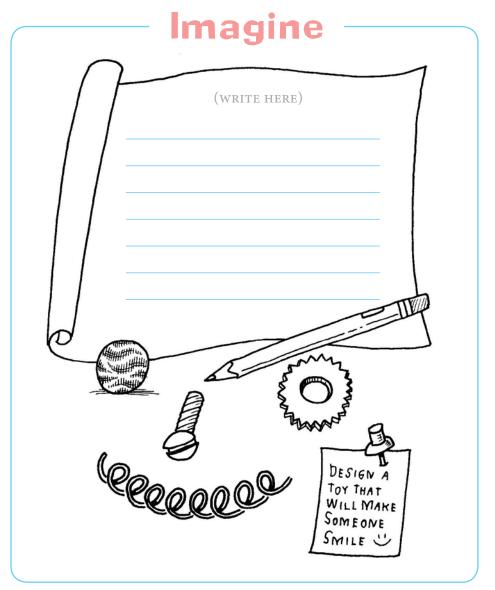
Imagine SOME (WRITE HERE) RANDOM THOUGHTS (WRITE HERE)

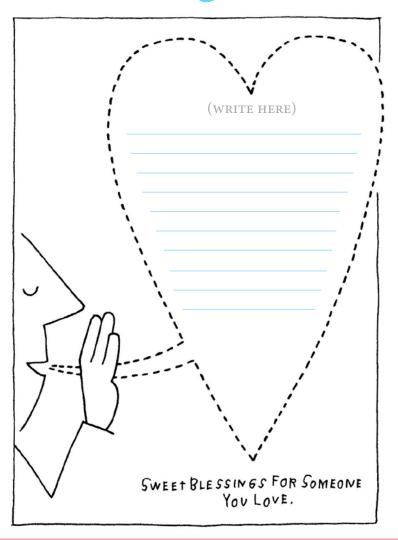
SAY SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL TO THE WORLD, (It CAN BE IN YOUR OWN SECRET LANGUAGE OR CODE)

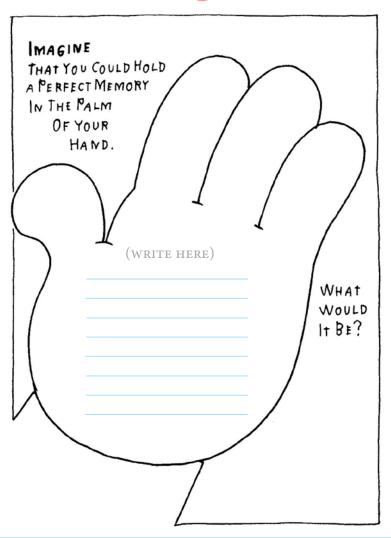
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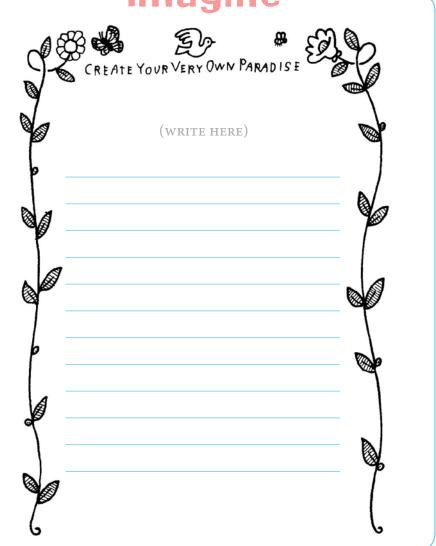








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About the Author

Bill Zimmerman is the author of many other books which include:



Laptop Letters: SendingWise & Loving Messages to Young People in Your Life; City Doodles New York; Pocket Doodles for Kids; Pocket Doodles for Young Artists; Doodles and Daydreams: Your Passport for Becoming An Escape Artist; 100 Things Guys Need to Know; Your Life in Comics: 100 Things For Guys to Write and Draw; My Paper Memory Quilt; My Life: An Open Book; Butterfly Wishes; Dogmas: Simple Truths from a Wise Pet; Cat-e-Chisms: Feline

Answers to Life's Big Questions; How to Tape Instant Oral Biographies; Make Beliefs: A Gift for Your Imagination; Make Beliefs for Kids of All Ages; A Book of Questions to Keep Thoughts and Feelings; A Book of Sunshine; LifeLines: A Book of Hope; Idea Catcher for Kids; The Little Book of Joy, and Lunch Box Letters: Writing Notes of Encouragement to Your Children.

His web sites are: http://www.billztreasurechest.com, with features excerpts from all his books, and http://www.makebeliefscomix.com, which enables visitors to create their own online comic strips.





About the Illustrator

Tom Bloom is an artist who has brought joy to the world with his cartoons and illustrations which have appeared in many publications, such as The New York Times, The New Yorker, Fortune and Barron's. He has collaborated with Bill on many other books.



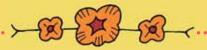
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In his work, Zimmerman has pioneered innovative writing techniques to help people express all the important things within them (see his books at www.billztreasurechest.com). His books and web site are used in literacy programs around the world.

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