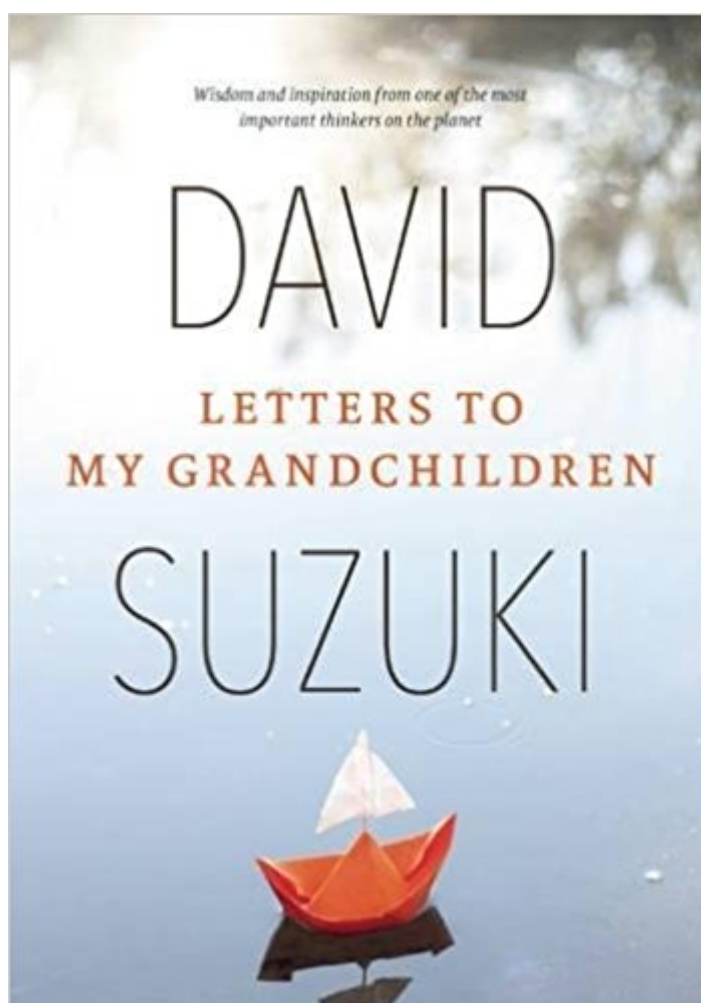


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Letters To My Grandchildren: Wisdom And Inspiration From One Of The Most Important Thinkers On The Planet



Synopsis

In these inspiring letters to his grandchildren, David Suzuki speaks eloquently about their future and challenges them to be agents of change and to do everything with commitment and passion. He also explains why sports, fishing, feminism, and failure are important; why it is dangerous to deny our biological nature; and why First Nations must lead a revolution. Drawing on his own experiences and the wisdom he has gained over his long life, he decries the lack of elders and grandparents in the lives of many people, especially immigrants, and champions the importance of heroes. He even has something to say about fashion. The book also provides an intimate look at Suzuki's life as a father and grandfather. His letters are chock-full of stories about his own childhood and anecdotes about his children and grandchildren when they were small. Most of all, as he ponders life's deepest questions and offers up a lifetime of wisdom, Suzuki inspires us all to live with courage, conviction, and passion.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"...deeply personal and purposefully universal. Suzuki addresses weighty topics in a clear, conversational manner, and his thoughts should be of interest to a wide readership."—Publishers Weekly --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

David Suzuki is an internationally renowned geneticist and environmentalist and a cofounder of the David Suzuki Foundation. He is the author of more than 40 books, is a recipient of the Right

Livelihood Award, and, in 2007, was named one of Time Magazine's Heroes of the Environment. He lives in Vancouver.

David Suzuki is one of the most clearheaded and insightful writers on environmental and scientific issues. In his book, "Letters to My Grandchildren," he shares many stories, and you learn much from a person who has a lot of teach about life and our world.

Great read to be past done to the younger generations

Great book!

Hmmm... Not great... If I wasn't creative I wouldn't know how to add the plants at all.

I loved this book for it's personal approach. In parts it feels as if you are being let into the family circle with vivid pictures of nature and family anecdotes. It's an easy read and because it's written as a series of letters to children of different ages, it would be very suitable for young people, although it's not a children's book as such. I also loved the mix of autobiography and anecdotes about various environmental campaigns and the benefits and pitfalls in using celebrity to change things for the better. It also highlights the value of what we all do as individuals or even as celebrities once the fame has faded. There is much info in the book on attempts to achieve environmental change but it doesn't 'tell' you, it shows you through the life stories of this remarkable man. Highly recommended.

I award this book 3.5 stars. Letters to my grandchildren by David Suzuki is exactly what the title suggests. Suzuki would like to leave a compiled set of letters on topics that he believes to be really important to the next generation, and in fact, pulls no punches on telling the reader in the Author's Note that he believes this book to be a "loose stream of ideas." I appreciated that Suzuki was very open about this concept so I knew exactly what I was getting into with this book. There are many wonderful things about this book. Suzuki is undoubtedly a fascinating individual, and I loved the anecdotes and stories about his life that are sprinkled throughout the pages, and this was truly the strength of the book. The scenes of the Canadian incarceration during WWII were haunting, and the depictions of his life becoming one with the wilderness were mesmerizing. I found myself, however, wanting to stay within those stories, not within the other text, and I could tell I would like to read a

memoir by Suzuki. The problem with this book, and like I mentioned before at the beginning, is that it is essentially a set of lectures and ideas that Suzuki would like to leave his grandchildren. My parents and in particular my own father, is exactly at this stage of his life right now. He is finding it more and more important to leave his legacy and his viewpoints on the world to his children and grandchildren. These parts of the book make it harder for me to read as it is dry and in lecture format, and I receive much of that already in my life from someone I need to listen to more than Suzuki. Thus, while this will be very valuable for Suzuki's grandchildren, there may be a loss of the same importance because of the mode of communication to the greater public. Overall, it's clear that Suzuki has led a good life, a fascinating life, and it's worth reading about-- I see he has an autobiography (or two), which makes a lot of sense. That said, this book was less about us, the readers, which makes it harder to read, and more about his grandchildren, which makes sense, as that was the purpose.

I hold a good deal of respect for David Suzuki and his work. However, I found this book quite disappointing. As a natural resource economist, grandmother of two, avid outdoors-woman, and author of several outdoor guides, I purchased the book as soon as it came out. I already had my list of who else I wanted to buy the book for.... However, the book has been less than I had hoped for. In short, the book is a thinly veiled autobiography and adds very little insight as to how to instill environmentalism in our next generation. While Suzuki frequently warns his grandchildren to keep their egos in check, he reminds us countless times of his own "successes". He also makes a few disparaging remarks about the anatomy of other well-known personalities that I found inappropriate. So if you're interested in DS's views, please read his other books and save this one for the mark-down table.

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