

[PDF] What I Know Now: Letters To My Younger Self

Ellyn Spragins - pdf download free book



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Description:

From Publishers Weekly The unusual premise for this compilation is not successful in practice. Spragins, an editor at large for *Fortune Small Business*, persuaded 40 well-known women—among them Maya Angelou, Queen Noor of Jordan and clothing designer Eileen Fisher—to write short letters passing their current wisdom to their younger selves. But too many of the messages these women send themselves are overly familiar: designer Fisher says she should not be so frightened of

being alone (i.e., without a man). Sen. Barbara Boxer admonishes herself to be less judgmental of people who disagree with her. More unusually, Ingrid Newkirk, founder of PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) encourages her younger self to be true to the inner voice telling her not to eat meat. Madeleine Albright addresses herself at a more advanced age, 44, when her marriage broke down: "You will get through this fog and uncertainty.... You won't become cynical, stoical or hard-bitten...." While the letters reveal personal vulnerabilities, it reduces lessons hard earned through complicated lives to very brief, simplistic messages. (*Apr. 4*)

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Review

"What these letters offer . . . is hope—hope that those who read them will understand that there is a future where the road not taken is no longer regretted, and, in the end, the choices we make, make us who we are." —*Boston Globe*

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