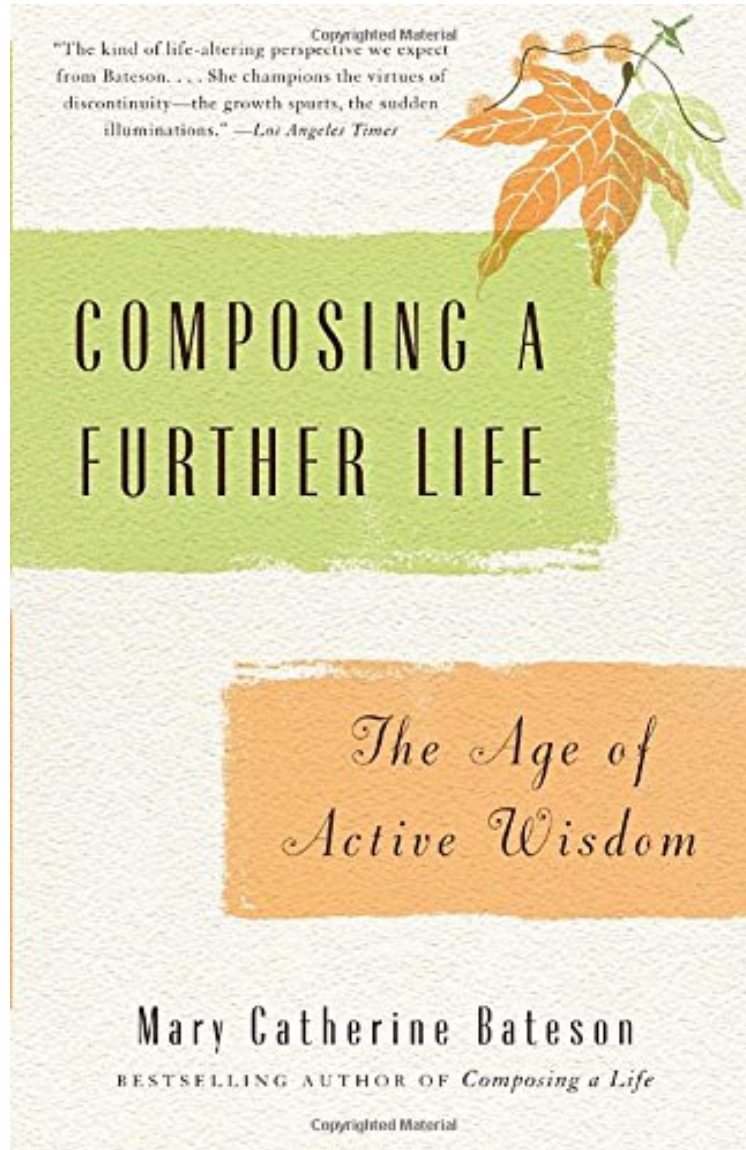


Composing a Further Life: The Age of Active Wisdom

Mary Catherine Bateson

ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#49916 in Books 2011-10-04 2011-10-04Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .80 x 5.20l, .65 #File Name: 0307279634272 pages | File size: 41.Mb

Mary Catherine Bateson : Composing a Further Life: The Age of Active Wisdom before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Composing a Further Life: The Age of Active Wisdom:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. wonderful follow up book to her earlier bookBy Jill BordenA remarkable, wonderful follow up book to her earlier book, Composing a Life. It spoke deeply to me.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. FineBy LaneTimely received. Excellent condition. Very fine! No problems. No

critical comments. Very satisfied. No problems. I don't have anything more to say, thank you! 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. important topic of conversation
By Fred Mackler
This book could bring an important topic of conversation and action to the table. This story is an individual story with an important theme. While the conversation is important across many ages, cultures, and beliefs, the book does not necessarily prompt a dynamic and wise response. It is reflective and personal.

Mary Catherine Bateson author of the landmark bestseller *Composing a Life* gives us an inspiring exploration of a new life stage that she calls *Adulthood II*, a result of the longer life spans and greater resources we now enjoy. In *Composing a Further Life*, Bateson redefines old age as an opportunity to reinvent ourselves and challenges us to use it to pursue new sources of meaning and ways to contribute to society. Bateson shares the stories of men and women who are flourishing examples of this age of active wisdom from a retired boatyard worker turned silversmith to a famous actress to a former foundation president exploring the crucial role of grandparents in our society. Retiring no longer means withdrawing from life, but engaging with it more deeply, and *Composing a Further Life* points the way.

From Publishers Weekly
Picking up where she left off in *Composing a Life* (1991), anthropologist Bateson interviews six older individuals, from a retired Maine boatyard worker to Jane Fonda, who have accomplished most of their life goals but actively seek new and satisfying ways to live robust lives. *Adulthood II*, as Bateson calls this period, is characterized by the wisdom culled from long lives and rich experience combined with freedom from the day-to-day responsibilities of work and raising children. Life in this stage is an "improvisational art form calling for imagination and the willingness to learn." Bateson follows Hank Lawson, a former boatyard metalworker, and his wife, Jane, from Maine to their retirement in Tucson, Ariz. There Hank turned his knowledge of tools and metal to making jewelry from precious metals and semiprecious stones. Liberated by the move from the ocean to the mountains, the Lawsons are flourishing, continually learning new things and refashioning their lives in a new place. Because Bateson lets various people retell their own stories of grappling with the challenges and the freedom of *Adulthood II*, her book is a deep meditation on the value of longevity and an inspiring testimony to the power and possibilities that come with growing older. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.
From Booklist
Bateson anthropology professor, visiting scholar at the Center on Aging and Work/Workplace Flexibility at Boston College, and author of the best-selling *Composing a Life* (1991) here elucidates her concept of an emerging second stage of adulthood that precedes old age that she labels *Adulthood II*. Today's grandparents, she says, are increasingly able to combine continuing mobility with their depth of experience, hence, the age of active wisdom. This model has been a work-in-progress for Bateson, its genesis the time she spent as a teaching assistant for the psychologist Erik Erikson's course on the human life cycles, or eight ages of man. She looked to his theories as she passed through stages of her own life, and now, in her seventies, she interviews others who are doing similar research on this enriched stage of adulthood including such individuals as Jane Fonda and who are searching for the relationship between spirituality and age. Especially in light of 9/11, Bateson considers herself an activist for peace and justice and stresses the importance, in our years of unanticipated longevity, to continue to be willing to learn. --Deborah Donovan
The kind of life-altering perspective we expect from Bateson. . . . She champions the virtues of discontinuity the growth spurts, the sudden illuminations. Los Angeles Times
One of the wisest people on the planet has written one of the finest books on the later years of life. Jean Houston, author of *A Mythic Life*
Bateson has used her unique vision and insight to light up the many facets of the *Further Life*, giving us a whole fresh way to look at this new frontier of longevity. Jane Fonda
An exquisite and wonderfully readable book about composing a further life, one that is entering its richest phase. Whether life begins at thirty, fifty, or eighty, the wisdom she conveys will make each of the reader's days a fuller one. Harvey Cox, author of *The Future of Faith*