



# Legacy : A Step-By-Step Guide to Writing Personal History

By Linda Spence

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In this practical guide to capturing those memories that have been stored away, Linda Spence provides the questions that are the keys to unlocking the memories that make up a life. Beyond the vital statistics are the personal stories that tell what it was like, what we did, and why we did it, how we feel about our choices, and what our circumstances were. Through encouraging coaching, shared memories, and open-ended questions, the process of producing a personal history becomes intriguing and engaging. With Legacy the possibilities expand: a personal record is preserved—with its myths, traditions, joys, pains, gains, and losses; a family opens a potential dialogue that will last for generations; the writer has an opportunity for insight and resolution; the culture of a time and place is noted; the tradition of personal story is revitalized, and our present and future find nourishment and knowledge in the past. Either as a gift that can act as a shared experience as the memories are recounted or as a personal way to take account of one's experiences, often long since forgotten, Legacy is indeed a way to get one's story down. Linda Spence writes and collects Legacy stories in Mill Valley, California, where she lives and works as a consultant.

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

Linda Spence's *Legacy* proves to be just that: the creation of a family heirloom that money couldn't buy. Through a series of thought-provoking questions about each phase in human life, Spence helps readers record their personal history, think back to feelings that any number of snapshots could never capture, and reflect upon their lives. What events occurred during your childhood? What did you like most about school? What do you wish your parents had done for you? The text includes sample essays by the author and quotations by other writers to encourage your muse.

#### From Library Journal

Aiming to prod the story out of the writer, writing consultant Spence has designed a book of questions and quotes that goes deeply into the hows and whys of the writer's life. The questions are well written and divided by time period, from earliest memories of childhood to life as seen from the vantage point of old age. People will probably want to own and spend time with this book because the project it proposes will take longer than a three-week checkout, but it would do well in libraries where patrons are interested in genealogy or local history as a springboard to getting people to talk about the past. It also has great potential for people working with nursing-home patients. Recommended. —Lisa J. Cihlar, Winfield P.L., Ill.

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#### Review

"Prompted by the belief that every-day life has value and knowledge from generations ahead, Spence has compiled a well-organized, inspiring introduction to systematically recording family histories...In lucid prose, the work suggests specific topics, questions to ask and inspires an impetus for a new generation of historians and scribes." Come-All-Ye of Legacy Books "This book lures you to pick up pen and paper... A must for anyone interested in preserving a personal history." Connecticut Nutmegger "Spence creates a compelling context for recording the stages of one's life...Quotes from authors associated with a style of mesmerizing and revelatory writing illustrate just how moving are the episodes and scenes that create the fabric of our everyday lives." Booklist "Linda Spence's *Legacy* proves to be just that: the creation of a family heirloom that money couldn't buy. Through a series of thought-provoking questions about each phase in human life, Spence helps readers record their personal history, think back to feelings that any number of snapshots could never capture, and reflect upon their lives." Amazon.com "A personal history is a gift to share. Through supportive coaching, stimulating questions, shared memories, and evocative photographs, the process of producing a personal history becomes intriguing and engaging." Feminist Bookstore News "Has great potential for people working with nursing--home patients. Recommended." Library Journal

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This *Legacy : A Step-By-Step Guide to Writing Personal History* book is absolutely not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book is information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This *Legacy : A Step-By-Step Guide to Writing Personal History* without we

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