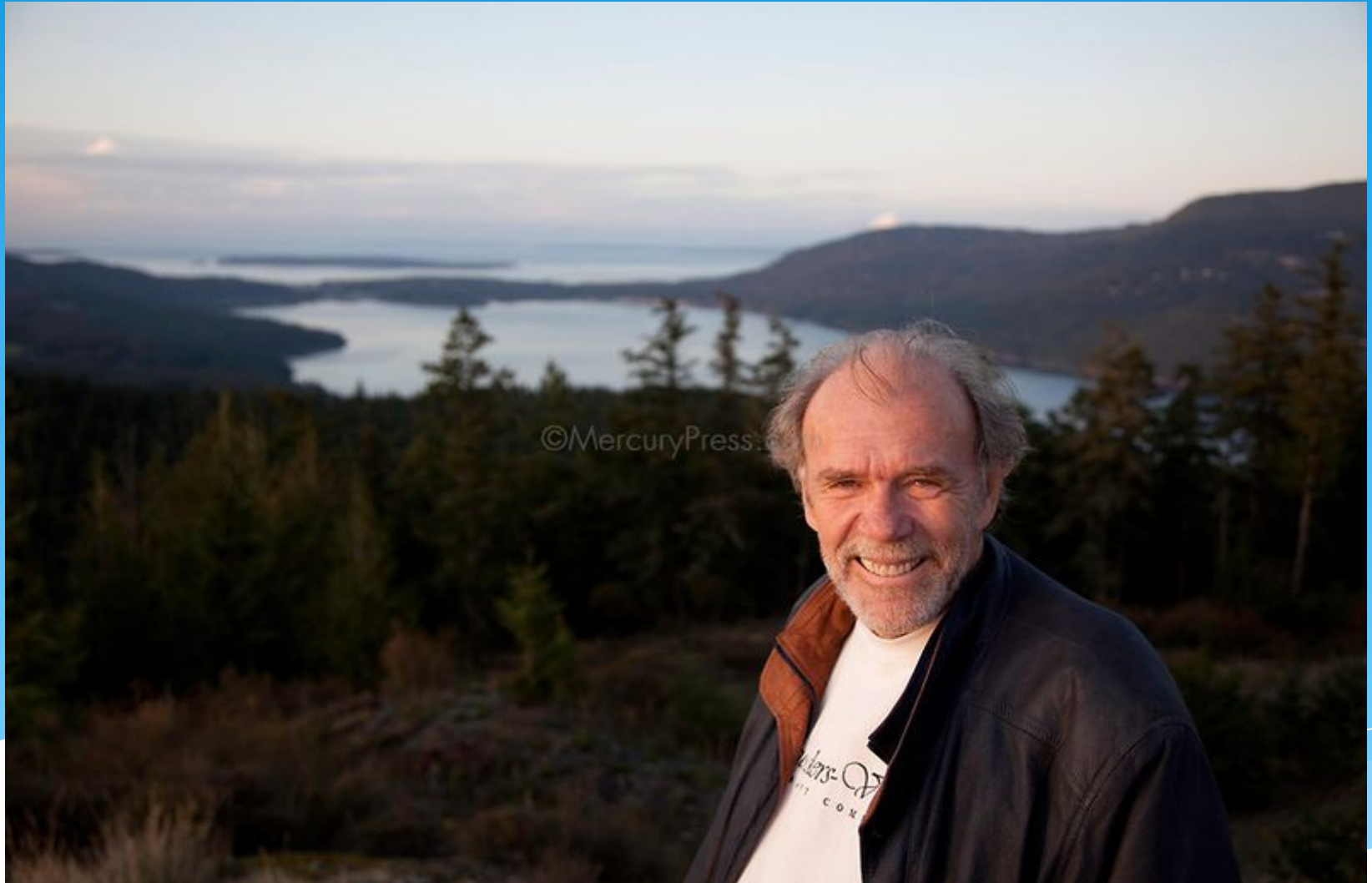


Richard David Bach (born June 23, 1936)



Richard David Bach

**Philosophy: our
apparent physical limits
and mortality are merely
appearance**

Richard David Bach

- *‘Jonathan Livingston Seagull’ (1970)
- *‘Illusions: The Adventures of a Reluctant Messiah’ (1977)

Richard David Bach

BOOKS:

- ‘ A Gift of Wings’ (1974)
- ‘ There’s No Such Place as Far Away’ (1979)
- ‘ Running From Safety: An Adventure of the Spirit’ (1995)
- ‘Out of my Mind: The Discovery of the Saunders-Vixen’ (1999)

Richard David Bach

- * *PERSONAL LIFE*

- * his wife Betty

- * the actress Leslie Parrish

- * Sabryna Nelson-Alexopoulos

Richard David Bach

- * a philosophical novel released in 1970 by Macmillan Publishing with photographs by Russell Munson
- * Illustrations by VLADISLAV ERKO











Richard David Bach

- * John H. Livingston, a Waco test pilot
- * Mr. Livingston won 79 first places, 43 seconds and 15 thirds in 139 races throughout the country, many of them at Cleveland

‘Jonathan Livingston Seagull’

- * The book is listed as one of 50 "timeless spiritual classics" in a book by Tom Butler-Bowdon
- * it expresses timeless ideas about human potential

‘Jonathan Livingston Seagull’

- * John Clute, for The Encyclopedia of Fantasy, wrote: "an animal fantasy about a philosophical gull who is profoundly affected by flying, but who demands too much of his community and is cast out by it."

‘Jonathan Livingston Seagull’

- * Riding on a wave of optimism and positive thinking, prevalent in America at that time, this book could achieve the status of a ‘must-read’ in the common man’s library.

‘Jonathan Livingston Seagull’

- * “Marvin Stanley Pigeon” (1972)- parody
- * by Thomas Meehan
- * "Marvin Stanley Pigeon ***was no ordinary pigeon.*** While other pigeons spent their time grubbing for food, Marvin Stanley Pigeon worked away on his book on the window ledge outside the Manuscript Room of the Public Library in Bryant Park.

‘Jonathan Livingston Seagull’

- * “Ludwig von Wolfgang Vulture”
(1973)
- * a Satire by Dolph Sharp
- * a story about a vulture
determined to push the limits
on speed-reading

Writing Style

- * a fable, a homily, and an allegory
- * This very mystical story is told simply
- * This book of profound thought spans hardly a one hundred and fifty pages

Writing Style

- * Expressing his thoughts in strict, stark and simple sentences,
- * Bach reminds one of Antoine de Saint Exupéry in 'The Little Prince'
- * To ponder on the 'Jonathan Seagull, who lives within us all'

‘Jonathan Livingston Seagull’

* Philosophy

- * **our true nature is not bound by space or time**
- * **we are not truly born nor truly die**
- * **we enter this world of Seems and Appearances for fun, learning, to share experiences with those we care for, to explore – and most of all to learn how to love and love again**

Philosophy

*physical limits are
illusory and our true
nature is timeless and
infinite

‘Jonathan Livingston Seagull’

- * We are living in a world where many are risk averse, and do what others do (to be a part of the herd)**
- * We play it safe because often those who take the road less traveled are ostracized.**
- * If we follow our dreams and achieve our dream goals, we too can soar.**

‘Jonathan Livingston Seagull’

Key Lessons

- ◆ **Master the fundamentals in your field and then build on that.**
- * **Experiment until you get “it” right, and “it” depends on your role in life.**
- * **Know and master yourself – know what you can and cannot do – and work to push beyond your limits one step at-a-time.**
- * **You have the capacity for much more than you think, so keep challenging yourself.**

‘Jonathan Livingston Seagull’

Key Lessons

- * Learn from your failures.
- * It’s okay to break promises to yourself if they no longer serve you.
- * Embrace your passions.
- * Let go of the life that no longer serves you.
- * Embrace new ideas and ways of doing things.
- * Never stop learning.

Important Lessons

“Instead of our **drab slogging forth and back** to the fishing boats, there’s a reason to life!

We can **lift ourselves out of ignorance**, we can find ourselves as creatures of excellence and intelligence and skill.

We can be free!

We can learn to fly!”

Important Lessons

- * Instead of sharing his enthusiasm,**
- * the Flock shuns and banishes him,**
- * saying, “Life is the unknown and the unknowable, except that we are put into this world to eat, to stay alive as long as we possibly can.”**

'Jonathan Livingston Seagull'

Associations

* **The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost**

- * **Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,**
- * **And sorry I could not travel both**
- * **And be one traveler, long I stood**
- * **And looked down one as far as I could**
- * **To where it bent in the undergrowth;**
- * **Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-**
- * **I took the one less traveled by,**
- * **And that has made all the difference.**

'Jonathan Livingston Seagull'

Associations

* Rudyard Kipling

* If

- * If you can keep your head when all about you
- * Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
- * If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
- * But make allowance for their doubting too;
- * If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
- * Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
- * If you can fill the unforgiving minute
- * With sixty seconds' worth of distance run --
- * Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
- * And -- which is more -- you'll be a Man, my son!

Allegory

- * As a literary device, an allegory is a metaphor whose vehicle may be a character, place or event, representing real-world issues and occurrences. Allegory has been used widely throughout history in all forms of art, largely because it can readily illustrate complex ideas and concepts in ways that are comprehensible or striking to its viewers, readers, or listeners.

Allegory

* Writers or speakers typically use allegories as literary devices or as rhetorical devices that convey hidden meanings through symbolic figures, actions, imagery, or events, which together create the moral, spiritual, or political meaning the author wishes to convey.

Important Symbols

- * Seagull itself is a symbol in this novel.
- * Seagulls (The Flock)
- * Eating,
- * Flying,
- * Heaven
- * The Great Gull (God) → Perfection

Important Symbols

* Teaching seagulls:
the importance of
sharing experience,
optimism, skills,
beliefs

R.Bach Quotes

*“The bond that links your true family is not one of blood, but of respect and joy in each other's life. Rarely do members of one family grow up under the same roof.”

R.Bach Quotes

*“You're never given a dream without also being given the power to make it true.”

R.Bach Quotes

*“Don't be dismayed at good-byes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again, after moments or lifetimes, is certain for those who are friends.”

R.Bach Quotes

*“I do not exist to impress the world. I exist to live my life in a way that will make me happy.”

R.Bach Quotes

*“What the caterpillar calls
the end of the world, the
master calls a butterfly.”

R.Bach Quotes

*“Your only obligation in any lifetime is to be true to yourself.”

R.Bach Quotes

*“Learning is finding out what you already know. Doing is demonstrating that you know it. Teaching is reminding others that they know just as well as you. You are all learners, doers, teachers.”