

i am an emotional creature eve ensler

****I Am an Emotional Creature Eve Ensler: Exploring the Powerful Voice of Feminine Emotion****

i am an emotional creature eve ensler is more than just a phrase—it encapsulates a profound declaration of identity, vulnerability, and strength. This powerful statement resonates through the groundbreaking work of Eve Ensler, a celebrated playwright, feminist, and activist known for her bold explorations of womanhood, emotion, and resilience. Diving into the essence of "I Am an Emotional Creature" reveals not only Ensler's unique voice but also a broader cultural movement towards embracing female emotional complexity without shame or apology.

Understanding "I Am an Emotional Creature" by Eve Ensler

Eve Ensler's **I Am an Emotional Creature** is a collection of monologues written for and about adolescent girls. The work is a celebration of female emotional diversity, offering a rare platform where girls' feelings, struggles, and dreams are voiced unapologetically. Ensler's writing shines a spotlight on how young women experience the world—often overlooked or misunderstood by society.

This piece is not just literature; it's a social statement. It challenges stereotypes that depict girls as overly sensitive or fragile, instead portraying them as complex beings with deep emotional landscapes. Through candid storytelling, Ensler dismantles cultural taboos surrounding female emotion, encouraging readers and audiences to honor those feelings as vital parts of human experience.

The Origins and Impact of Eve Ensler's Work

Eve Ensler first gained international recognition with **The Vagina Monologues**, a play that revolutionized the conversation around women's bodies, sexuality, and empowerment. Building on this foundation, **I Am an Emotional Creature** extends her exploration into the internal worlds of girls transitioning to womanhood.

The monologues in **I Am an Emotional Creature** are based on interviews with girls from various backgrounds, giving voice to diverse experiences. This authenticity makes the work a valuable resource in educational and therapeutic settings, where fostering emotional literacy and self-acceptance among young women is crucial.

Why "I Am an Emotional Creature Eve Ensler" Matters Today

In a society where emotional expression, especially in girls and women, is often stigmatized, Eve Ensler's declaration is a radical act of empowerment. Understanding the significance of **I Am an*

Emotional Creature* helps us appreciate the ongoing fight against gender norms that suppress emotional honesty.

Breaking Down Emotional Stereotypes

Too often, girls are labeled as "too emotional" in a dismissive way, implying weakness or irrationality. Ensler's work confronts this misconception head-on by portraying emotions as sources of strength and insight. Recognizing that emotions are integral to identity fosters healthier relationships and self-esteem.

Promoting Emotional Literacy in Youth

One of the lasting contributions of *I Am an Emotional Creature* is its role in promoting emotional literacy among adolescents. The monologues encourage young readers and performers to identify, articulate, and embrace their feelings. This process builds empathy and emotional intelligence, which are foundational to personal growth.

The Themes Explored in "I Am an Emotional Creature" by Eve Ensler

Eve Ensler's writing delves into a spectrum of themes that reflect the intricate emotional lives of girls and women. These themes are crucial for anyone seeking to understand or support female emotional development.

Identity and Self-Acceptance

At its core, *I Am an Emotional Creature* is about coming to terms with oneself. The monologues highlight the struggle many young girls face in accepting their bodies, desires, and emotions. Ensler's honest portrayals provide a roadmap toward self-love and acceptance, encouraging readers to embrace their true selves.

Trauma and Healing

Many of Ensler's monologues address pain, abuse, and trauma, acknowledging the harsh realities some girls endure. By giving these experiences a voice, the work contributes to breaking the silence and stigma around trauma. It also emphasizes healing as a journey, rooted in emotional expression and communal support.

Power and Voice

Empowerment is a recurring theme in **I Am an Emotional Creature**. Ensler celebrates the power that comes from owning one's emotions and stories. This idea resonates deeply with feminist movements that seek to amplify girls' and women's voices in all spheres of life.

How Eve Ensler's Work Inspires Emotional Expression

Eve Ensler's commitment to emotional honesty has inspired countless educators, activists, and artists. Her work encourages embracing vulnerability as a source of strength rather than weakness.

Using Monologues as Tools for Expression

The format of **I Am an Emotional Creature**—a series of monologues—allows performers to explore different facets of emotional experience. This theatrical approach provides a safe space for self-expression and reflection, fostering empathy both onstage and in the audience.

Encouraging Dialogue on Gender and Emotion

Ensler's work sparks important conversations about how society views gender and emotional expression. By putting girls' feelings front and center, it challenges cultural norms that often silence or marginalize female voices.

Incorporating "I Am an Emotional Creature Eve Ensler" Into Education and Activism

Given its powerful messages, **I Am an Emotional Creature** is frequently used as a tool in schools, community programs, and advocacy groups to facilitate discussions about gender, emotion, and empowerment.

Educational Benefits

Teachers and counselors find the monologues effective for:

- Promoting empathy and understanding among students
- Encouraging emotional literacy and communication skills

- Addressing sensitive topics such as bullying, body image, and abuse

By engaging with Ensler's work, young people learn to appreciate the complexity of emotional experience and develop healthier ways to relate to themselves and others.

Activism and Social Change

Activists use *I Am an Emotional Creature* as a medium to raise awareness about issues affecting girls and women worldwide. Its authentic voices help humanize statistics related to gender-based violence, discrimination, and mental health challenges, motivating audiences to take action.

The Legacy of Eve Ensler's Emotional Advocacy

Eve Ensler's commitment to honoring emotional truth continues to influence both art and activism. *I Am an Emotional Creature* stands as a testament to the power of storytelling in transforming societal attitudes towards emotion, gender, and identity.

Her work reminds us that being "emotional creatures" is not a limitation but a profound source of resilience and connection. By embracing this truth, we cultivate a world where every girl and woman feels seen, heard, and valued.

Exploring *I Am an Emotional Creature Eve Ensler* opens doors to deeper understanding—about ourselves, each other, and the transformative power of emotional honesty.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Eve Ensler, the author of 'I Am an Emotional Creature'?

Eve Ensler is an American playwright, performer, feminist, and activist, best known for her play 'The Vagina Monologues.' She is also the author of 'I Am an Emotional Creature,' which explores the lives and emotions of adolescent girls.

What is the central theme of 'I Am an Emotional Creature' by Eve Ensler?

The central theme of 'I Am an Emotional Creature' is the exploration of the emotional lives, struggles, and strengths of adolescent girls, highlighting their resilience and the societal challenges they face.

How does 'I Am an Emotional Creature' address issues faced by young girls?

The play uses monologues based on real-life stories to portray the diverse emotional experiences of young girls, addressing issues such as identity, violence, empowerment, and self-expression.

Why is 'I Am an Emotional Creature' considered important in feminist literature?

It is considered important because it gives voice to young girls' emotions and experiences, challenging stereotypes and advocating for their empowerment and recognition in society.

How can 'I Am an Emotional Creature' be used in educational settings?

The play can be used in schools and workshops to promote discussions about gender, emotions, and social issues affecting girls, encouraging empathy, self-awareness, and activism among students.

Additional Resources

****Exploring "I Am an Emotional Creature" by Eve Ensler: A Profound Voice for Women's Inner Lives****

i am an emotional creature eve ensler stands as a powerful declaration that encapsulates the essence of Eve Ensler's acclaimed work, **I Am an Emotional Creature**. This collection of monologues offers an unfiltered exploration of girlhood and womanhood, portraying the complexities, vulnerabilities, and resilience inherent in female emotional experience. Ensler, widely recognized for her groundbreaking play **The Vagina Monologues**, extends her commitment to giving voice to women's stories through this poignant piece. The work's significance lies not only in its artistic merit but also in its social and psychological impact, making it a subject worthy of comprehensive analysis.

Understanding the Essence of "I Am an Emotional Creature"

Eve Ensler's **I Am an Emotional Creature** is a series of monologues written for adolescent girls and women. Each piece is a candid, often raw, expression of female identity, touching on themes such as love, fear, violence, self-worth, and empowerment. The title itself challenges societal norms that often dismiss or devalue emotional expression, particularly among females. By affirming "I am an emotional creature," Ensler confronts the stigma around female emotionality and reclaims it as a source of strength.

The book and its theatrical adaptations have become staples in educational and activist circles, utilized to foster dialogue about gender, sexuality, and personal trauma. This dual function as both art and advocacy underscores Ensler's unique approach to storytelling.

Thematic Depth and Emotional Range

One of the standout features of **I Am an Emotional Creature** is its thematic diversity. The monologues delve into a wide spectrum of experiences, from the innocence and confusion of early adolescence to the harsh realities of abuse and discrimination. Ensler's narrative technique—giving voice to various characters—allows readers and audiences to witness the multiplicity of female emotional life without reducing it to a singular narrative.

The emotional range covered is vast:

- **Joy and Hope:** Celebrating friendship, first love, and self-discovery.
- **Anger and Frustration:** Addressing systemic injustices and personal betrayal.
- **Fear and Vulnerability:** Revealing experiences of violence and marginalization.
- **Resilience and Empowerment:** Emphasizing healing, activism, and self-acceptance.

This spectrum helps normalize emotional complexity and encourages empathy, a key factor in the work's enduring appeal.

Stylistic Features and Narrative Voice

From a literary standpoint, **I Am an Emotional Creature** is notable for its poetic and direct style. Ensler's use of monologues as a form allows for intimate storytelling, where each voice is distinct yet universally relatable. The language is accessible, designed to resonate with both young women and adult audiences, making the work versatile across educational settings.

The narrative voices range from vulnerable to defiant, often blending humor with heartbreak. This multiplicity captures the nuanced ways in which girls and women process their emotions, reflecting real-life complexities rather than idealized portrayals.

Impact and Social Relevance

Eve Ensler's **I Am an Emotional Creature** is more than a literary work; it functions as a transformative tool in both feminist discourse and education. Its impact is measurable in various contexts, from school curricula to global activism.

Empowering Young Women Through Storytelling

One of the primary uses of **I Am an Emotional Creature** is in empowerment programs aimed at

adolescent girls. The monologues facilitate self-reflection and validation, encouraging participants to articulate their feelings and experiences. Such programs have been reported to boost confidence and self-esteem, crucial factors in combating issues like bullying, body image concerns, and gender-based violence.

Research in educational psychology indicates that narrative therapy and storytelling can significantly improve emotional well-being among youth. Ensler's work aligns with these findings by providing a structured yet creative framework for emotional expression.

Intersection with Feminist and Human Rights Movements

Ensler's broader activism, including her founding of V-Day, a global movement to end violence against women, finds resonance in **I Am an Emotional Creature**. The monologues highlight systemic oppression and personal trauma, urging audiences to recognize and challenge these realities.

The work's international reach—translated into multiple languages and performed worldwide—demonstrates its global relevance. It serves as a cultural bridge, connecting diverse female experiences while advocating for universal human rights.

Critical Perspectives and Challenges

While widely praised, **I Am an Emotional Creature** has also faced critical scrutiny. Some literary critics argue that the monologue format can lead to a fragmented narrative that may lack cohesion. Others question whether the work's focus on emotionality risks reinforcing gender stereotypes about women being overly emotional.

These critiques invite important discussions about the balance between validating emotional expression and avoiding reductive representations. However, supporters contend that Ensler's intention is precisely to challenge simplistic notions of femininity by presenting emotionality as multifaceted and powerful.

Comparisons with Related Works

To contextualize **I Am an Emotional Creature** within contemporary feminist literature, it is useful to compare it with Ensler's earlier work, **The Vagina Monologues**. Both employ monologues but serve distinct purposes: **The Vagina Monologues** centers on sexuality and bodily autonomy, while **I Am an Emotional Creature** focuses on the emotional and psychological experiences of girls and women.

Additionally, parallels can be drawn with works like Laurie Halse Anderson's **Speak**, which also explores female trauma and empowerment through a young protagonist's voice. However, Ensler's work stands out for its theatrical adaptability and direct engagement with performance as a mode of healing and activism.

Utilizing "I Am an Emotional Creature" in Educational and Therapeutic Settings

Given its rich content and emotional depth, Ensler's work is particularly suited for incorporation into educational curricula and therapeutic practices.

Educational Applications

Teachers and facilitators use the monologues to:

1. Encourage empathy and understanding among students.
2. Foster discussions about gender roles, emotional health, and social justice.
3. Develop students' communication and dramatic skills.

The accessible language and relatable themes make it an effective tool for middle and high school levels, as well as for university courses focused on gender studies or creative writing.

Therapeutic Potential

In therapeutic contexts, *I Am an Emotional Creature* has been employed in group therapy sessions to aid survivors of trauma. The act of performing or listening to these monologues can facilitate emotional release and validation, helping participants process difficult experiences in a supportive environment.

This aligns with broader trends in expressive arts therapy, where drama and storytelling serve as catalysts for healing.

SEO-Optimized Insights on "I Am an Emotional Creature Eve Ensler"

For individuals searching online about *I Am an Emotional Creature Eve Ensler*, key terms often include "female empowerment monologues," "Eve Ensler plays," "emotional expression in women," and "feminist theater works." This article integrates these phrases naturally to improve search relevance without compromising readability.

Understanding the work's significance is essential for educators, activists, and readers interested in gender studies, emotional health, and contemporary theater. The monologues' ability to convey authentic female experiences makes them a valuable resource in multiple disciplines, from literature

to social work.

Moreover, the ongoing popularity of *I Am an Emotional Creature* highlights a growing cultural recognition of the importance of emotional literacy and gender equity. It underscores the need for more art that challenges societal stigmas and fosters genuine understanding.

Through a professional and investigative lens, it is clear that Eve Ensler's *I Am an Emotional Creature* continues to resonate widely. Its honest portrayal of emotional life and its call to embrace rather than suppress female feelings contribute to its status as a seminal work in feminist literature and activism.

I Am An Emotional Creature Eve Ensler

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: I Am an Emotional Creature Eve Ensler, 2011-01-25 In this daring book, internationally acclaimed author and playwright Eve Ensler offers fictional monologues and stories inspired by girls around the globe. Fierce, tender, and smart, *I Am an Emotional Creature* is a celebration of the authentic voice inside every girl and an inspiring call to action for girls everywhere to speak up, follow their dreams, and become the women they were always meant to be. This paperback edition features new material about starting a discussion group based on the book.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: Emotional Creature Eve Ensler, 2013-11-25 Performed by an ensemble of young women, *EMOTIONAL CREATURE* is made up of original monologues—and irresistible songs—about and for girls. Placing their stories squarely center stage, it gives full expression to their secret voices and innermost thoughts, highlighting the diversity and commonality of the issues they face. *EMOTIONAL CREATURE* is a call, a reckoning, an education, an act of empowerment for girls, and an illumination for parents and for us all. Eve Ensler's *Emotional Creature* is a vehicle to empower girls and inspire their activism. V-Girls is a global network of girl activists and advocates. In the same way *The Vagina Monologues* built a movement on college campuses and in communities, young girls will be able to participate in V-Day's empowerment philanthropy model, igniting their activism through V-Girls. V-Girls is rooted in youth-driven activism. A V-Girls Action Guide provides service-learning curriculum for middle and high school youth based on issues covered in *Emotional Creature*, with an emphasis on activism. Organizers can start a V-Girls club or incorporate V-Girls resources into an existing youth program.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: In the Body of the World Eve Ensler, 2014-02-04 From the bestselling author of *The Vagina Monologues*, a visionary memoir of separation and connection—to the body, the self, and the world.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: Violence and Gender in the Globalized World Sanja Bahun, V.G. Julie Rajan, 2024-11-01 *Violence and Gender in the Globalized World* expands the critical picture of gender and violence in the age of globalization by introducing a variety of uncommonly discussed geo-political sites and dynamics. The volume hosts methodologically and disciplinarily diverse contributions from around the world, discussing various contexts including Chechnya, Germany, Iraq, Kenya, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Palestine, the former Yugoslavia, Syria, South Africa, the United States, and the Internet. Bringing together scholars' and activists' historicized and site-specific perspectives, this book bridges the gap between theory and practice concerning violence, gender, and agency. In this revised and updated edition, the scope of inquiry is expanded to incorporate phenomena that have recently come to the forefront of public and scholarly scrutiny, such as Internet-based discourses of violence, female suicide bombers, and the Islamic State's violence against women. At the same time, new data and developments are brought to bear

on earlier discussions of violence against women across the globe in order to bring them fully up to date. With an international team of contributors, comprising eminent scholars, activists and policy-makers, this volume will be of interest to anyone conducting research in the areas of gender and sexuality, human rights, cultural studies, law, sociology, political science, history, post-colonialism and colonialism, anthropology, philosophy and religion.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: Creating Citizens Sarah Cooper, 2017-09-27

Engage students in meaningful civic learning and encourage them to become active and informed citizens. With this essential book, co-published by Routledge and MiddleWeb, you will gain a variety of practical strategies for teaching civics and current events to your middle school students. Author and expert teacher Sarah Cooper takes you into her school and shares her classroom-tested methods and tools. Topics include: Fitting current events into an already-packed history curriculum Staying nonpartisan and fostering balanced discussions Helping students find their stake in the news Teaching civic literacy through primary sources, then and now Encouraging students to invest in analytical writing Fostering student ownership of our classrooms through discussion and debate Cultivating citizenship through empathy and community engagement Throughout the book, you'll find student examples, handouts, and rubrics, so that you can easily implement the ideas in your own classroom. By getting your students to think critically about current events, you will help them become passionate writers, thinkers, and involved citizens.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: Feminism, Violence, and Representation in Modern Italy Giovanna Parmigiani, 2021-12-22 A study of how violence and language affect women in Italy. Can the way a word is used give legitimacy to a political movement? Feminism, Violence, and Representation in Modern Italy traces the use of the word *femminicidio* (or femicide) as a tool to mobilize Italian feminists, particularly the Union of Women in Italy (UDI). Based on nearly two years of fieldwork among feminist activists, Giovanna Parmigiani takes a broad look at the many ways in which violence inflects the lives of women in Italy. From unchallenged gendered grammar rules to the representation of women as victims, Parmigiani examines the devaluing of women's contribution to their communities through the words and experiences of the women she interviews. She describes the first uses of the word *femminicidio* as a political term used by and within feminist circles and traces its spread to ultimate legitimization and national relevance. The word redefined women as a political subject by building an imagined community of potentially violated women. In doing so, it challenged Italians to consider the status of women in Italian society, and to make this status a matter of public debate. It also problematized the connection between women and tropes of women as objects of suffering and victimhood. Parmigiani considers this exchange within the context of Italian Catholic heritage, a precarious economy, and long-held notions of honor and shame. Parmigiani provides a careful and searing consideration of the ways in which representations of violence and the politics of this representation are shaping the future of women in Italy and beyond.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: The Future of Social Epistemology James H. Collier, 2015-12-02 The Future of Social Epistemology: A Collective Vision sets an agenda for exploring the future of what we - human beings reimagining our selves and our society - want, need and ought to know. The book examines, concretely, practically and speculatively, key ideas such as the public conduct of philosophy, models for extending and distributing knowledge, the interplay among individuals and groups, risk taking and the welfare state, and envisioning people and societies remade through the breakneck pace of scientific and technological change. An international team of contributors offers a 'collective vision', one that speaks to what they see unfolding and how to plan and conduct the dialogue and work leading to a knowable and desirable world. The book describes and advances an intellectual agenda for the future of social epistemology.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: In the Body of the World Eve Ensler, 2013-04-30 The bestselling author of *The Vagina Monologues* shares her "extraordinarily riveting, graphic story of survival" (Publishers Weekly). In this extraordinary and evocative memoir, playwright, author, and activist V, formerly Eve Ensler, traces many paths of reconnection: with her body, after she is diagnosed with cancer; with the people of the world, in the face of injustice and abuse; and with the

earth, victim of mass exploitation. Working in the Congo, V meets survivors of horrific rape and violence and sees firsthand how these women are creating hope and possibility out of horror. Just as she is about to help open a revolutionary leadership center called City of Joy, she is diagnosed with uterine cancer, resulting in months of difficult treatment. Through her experience, V is forced to become first and foremost a body—pricked, punctured, cut, scanned. As she recovers from her illness, V is able to let go of everything that doesn't matter and find strength in what does. In the *Body of the World* is a haunting, revelatory work that calls on us to reestablish our connection to our bodies, to the world, and to those around us. Praise for *In the Body of the World* "Warm, funny, furious, and astute, as well as poetic, passionate, and heroic, Ensler harnesses all that she lost and learned to articulate a galvanizing vision of the essence of life: 'The only salvation is kindness.' . . . [A] scorching and enlightening memoir." —Booklist (starred review) "A necessary book to read for its fierce, passionate commitment to making the world a safe place for women." —The Boston Globe

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: Rethink Ageing Reshmi Chakraborty, Nidhi Chawla, 2022-10-17 Veena Iyer, aged sixty-six, got a degree in dance movement therapy. She is training to upgrade her skill and now runs various workshops. B.R. Janardan, aged eighty-seven, started running after sixty and has sixteen full marathons under his belt. These important stories illustrate the shifting narrative for ageing in India. They battle the ageism that is deep-rooted in Indian culture with fixed notions of 'approved' behaviour. Grandchildren? Yes. Pilgrimage? Yes. But companionship? Gasp! A second career? Why the need? India will have over 300 million senior citizens by 2050. 'Active ageing' has become a popular topic of conversation in urban India and is the process of developing and maintaining functional activities as one gets older. Therefore, it is no longer uncommon to meet people like Janardan or Iyer in our fast-evolving society. We have an ageing society that is living longer and adapting to nuclear families, faraway kids and amorphous social support. Urban Indians are navigating health challenges, isolation and shifting social barometers to practise active ageing, the best form of preventive healthcare. This book takes a deep dive into understanding ageing, its impact on society, and how to overcome certain 'hurdles'. Biological age no longer defines and limits us. After all, why should age prevent us from living the lives we want to?

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: Slavery Inc Lydia Cacho, 2014-04-21 Illegal, inhuman, and impervious to recession, there is one trade that continues to thrive, just out of sight. The international sex trade criss-crosses the entire globe, a sinister network made up of criminal masterminds, local handlers, corrupt policemen, willfully blind politicians, eager consumers, and countless hapless women and children. In this ground-breaking work of investigative reporting, the celebrated journalist Lydia Cacho follows the trail of the traffickers and their victims from Mexico to Turkey, Thailand to Iraq, Georgia to the UK, to expose the trade's hidden links with the tourist industry, internet pornography, drugs and arms smuggling, the selling of body organs, money laundering, and even terrorism. This is an underground economy in which a sex slave can be bought for the price of a gun, but Cacho's powerful first-person interviews with mafiosi, pimps, prostitutes, and those who managed to escape from captivity makes it impossible to ignore the terrible human cost of this lucrative exchange. Shocking and sobering, *Slavery Inc*, is an exceptional book, both for the colossal scope of its enquiry, and for the tenacious bravery with which Cacho pursues the truth.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: Reclaiming the Feminist Vision Janet L. Freedman, 2014-05-14 It's called consciousness-raising (CR). Asking questions about our experiences and sharing insights and analyses with others can be the basis for informed activism for positive social change. CR provided the entry point for feminists who shaped the women's liberation movement in the late 1960s and 1970s, and is now being revitalized across class, race and geography in face-to-face groups and on the internet. *Reclaiming the Feminist Vision* traces the origins, principles and impact of consciousness-raising; reveals how the process migrated to other settings, sometimes maintaining the original political intent and sometimes diluting it. The book calls for the renewal of the practice to help feminists regain their voices and their power in shaping social movement history.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: The Art of Calm Rebecca Ascher-Walsh, 2016

Targeted to anyone with over-programmed lives, this enriching, beautifully illustrated book is an inspiring guide to relaxation and harmony. Simple tips for how to unwind, ideas for spending quality time with loved ones, and illuminating quotes show readers how to slow down and savour life's simple moments. Let's face it: the more we rush around, the shorter the days can seem. Packed with page after page of inspirational ideas to help you bring your life back to centre, this National Geographic book is the perfect antidote to reducing the chaos of everyday life. Filled with exquisite photographs and insightful quotations, this elegant book offers women an opportunity to enjoy guilt-free me time as well as easy suggestions for a more peaceful existence - from keeping a bud vase on your desk to tucking yourself into bed an hour early with a book you love. National Geographic's brilliant images remind readers to savour the world's natural beauty - and ease the mind in an instant.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: *Words without Walls* Sheryl St. Germain, Sarah Shotland, 2015-03-10 Writing programs in prisons and rehabilitation centers have proven time and again to be transformative and empowering for people in need. Halfway houses, hospitals, and shelters are all fertile ground for healing through the imagination and can often mean the difference for inmates and patients between just simply surviving and truly thriving. It is in these settings that teachers and their students need reading that nourishes the soul and challenges the spirit. *Words without Walls* is a collection of more than seventy-five poems, essays, stories, and scripts by contemporary writers that provide models for successful writing, offering voices and styles that will inspire students in alternative spaces on their own creative exploration. Created by the founders of the award-winning program of the same name based at Chatham University, the anthology strives to challenge readers to reach beyond their own circumstances and begin to write from the heart. Each selection expresses immediacy--writing that captures the imagination and conveys intimacy on the page--revealing the power of words to cut to the quick and unfold the truth. Many of the pieces are brief, allowing for reading and discussion in the classroom, and provide a wide range of content and genre, touching on themes common to communities in need: addiction and alcoholism, family, love and sex, pain and hope, prison, recovery, and violence. Included is work by writers dealing with shared issues, such as Dorothy Alison and Jesmyn Ward, who write about families for whom struggle is a way of life; or Natalie Kenvin and Toi Derricotte, whose pieces reveal violence against women. Also included are writings by those who have spent time in prison themselves, such as Jimmy Santiago Baca, Dwayne Betts, Ken Lamberton, and Etheridge Knight. Eric Boyd ennobles the day he was released from jail. Stephon Hayes reflects on what he sees from his prison window. Terra Lynn evokes the experience of being put in solitary confinement. Because in 2011 almost half of all prisoners in federal facilities were in for drug-related offenses, there are pieces by James Brown, Nick Flynn, and Ann Marlowe, who explore their own addiction and alcoholism, and by Natalie Diaz, Scott Russell Sanders, and Christine Stroud, who write of crippling drug abuse by family and friends. These powerful excerpts act as models for beginning writers and offer a vehicle to examine their own painful experiences. *Words without Walls* demonstrates the power of language to connect people; to reflect on the past and reimagine the future; to confront complicated truths; and to gain solace from pain and regret. For students in alternative spaces, these writings, together with their own expressions, reveal the same intense desire to write and share one's writing, found in the Russian poet Irina Ratushinskaya, who scratched her poems on bars of soap in a Gulag shower, or the Turkish poet Nazim Hikmet, who smuggled bits of poetry out of jail in the clothing of visiting friends. Wole Soyinka, in solitary confinement forty years ago, wrote that "creation is admission of great loneliness." In these communal spaces, our loneliness is lessened, our vulnerability exposed, and our honesty tested, and through these revelatory writings students receive the necessary encouragement to share the whispering corners of their minds.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: *Ageism in Youth Studies* Gayle Kimball, 2017-05-11 Ageism is prevalent in a great deal of current scholarship in the social sciences as scholars fault youth for being delinquent or politically apathetic. Researchers ignore young people's actual voices,

despite their leadership in recent global uprisings, some of which unseated entrenched dictators. Neoliberalism must be exposed in its focus on youth sub-cultures and styles rather than economic barriers caused by growing inequality and rising youth unemployment rates. Ageism in Youth Studies also discusses the debate about "Generation We or Me" and if Millennials are narcissistic. Resources about global youth studies are included, along with the results of the author's surveys and interviews with over 4,000 young people from 88 countries.

i am an emotional creature eve ensl: Moonpies, Fireflies, Some Twisted Dreams, Some Truth, and Some Lies: Book One of Two James (Jim) Linn, 2023-08-22 About the Book In this memoir and bibliography, combined with philosophy and short stories, James (Jim) Linn has collected twelve years of quotes from others and how they spoke to him, his deep thoughts, some poetry, and thought-provoking memes. Linn also shares his observations about life and human nature. About the Author James (Jim) Linn played and managed softball teams, both men's and co-ed, for forty-seven years. He now enjoys playing pickleball five days a week. In his free time, Linn likes to spend time with his family and friends, travel to Europe and different cities in the US, and learn new things.

i am an emotional creature eve ensl: Spiraling Upward Wendy Wallbridge, 2016-11-03 Dual Winner -- 2016 Nautilus Gold Award (Women) and Silver Award (Business & Leadership). Women comprise 51 percent of the world's population, make up over half the workforce, and control 85 percent of consumer decisions. Never before have women been so degraded or so represented as decision makers in all areas of influence. Why, then, do we still feel as if success eludes us? Why do we sometimes struggle to keep our drive alive? The linear, heads-down, forward-at-all-cost approach to success that has been forged by men will never take us to the heart of fulfillment. Women are not designed for the straight and narrow path. But until now there hasn't been another choice. Pioneering corporate coach Wendy Wallbridge recognizes this unmet need of professional women for an alternative path to success. *Spiraling Upward: The 5 Co-Creative Powers for Women on the Rise* offers a cogent, step-by-step roadmap for professional women to unlock their power and achieve success on their own terms. The Spiral Up method teaches women to cultivate the five co-creative powers of energy, thoughts, feelings, speech, and action--the fundamentals of self-creation--in order to redefine success and re-author their lives. If you're ready to rise up and express your creativity, authenticity, voice, and power to effect the changes you want, *Spiraling Upward* will show you the way. Complete with easy-to-follow steps and exercises, as well as inspiring stories of successful women, this book offers a cogent road map for professional women looking to unlock their power and achieve success on their own terms.

i am an emotional creature eve ensl: Smile Sarah Ruhl, 2021-10-05 * A People Best Book of the Year * Time and The Washington Post's Most Anticipated List * Longlisted for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence * From the MacArthur genius, two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist, and playwright, this "captivating, insightful memoir" (Kirkus Reviews, starred review) is "a beautiful meditation on identity and how we see ourselves" (Real Simple). With a play opening on Broadway, and every reason to smile, Sarah Ruhl has just survived a high-risk pregnancy when she discovers the left side of her face is completely paralyzed. She is assured that 90 percent of Bell's palsy patients experience a full recovery—like Ruhl's own mother. But Sarah is in the unlucky ten percent. And for a woman, wife, mother, and artist working in theater, the paralysis and the disconnect between the interior and exterior brings significant and specific challenges. So Ruhl begins an intense decade-long search for a cure while simultaneously grappling with the reality of her new face—one that, while recognizably her own—is incapable of accurately communicating feelings or intentions. In a series of piercing, profound, and lucid meditations, Ruhl chronicles her journey as a patient, wife, mother, and artist. She explores the struggle of a body yearning to match its inner landscape, the pain of postpartum depression, the story of a marriage, being a playwright and working mom to three small children, and the desire for a resilient spiritual life in the face of illness. An intimate and "stunning" (Publishers Weekly, starred review) examination of loss and reconciliation, "Ruhl reminds us that a smile is not just a smile but a vital form of communication, of

bonding, of what makes us human" (The Washington Post). Brimming with insight, humility, and levity, *Smile* is a triumph by one of America's leading playwrights.

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i am an emotional creature eve ensler: Fearless Femininity by Women in American Theatre, 1910s to 2010s Lynne Greeley, 2015-08-06 In this unprecedented, fascinating book which covers women in theatre from the 1910s to the 2010s, author Lynne Greeley notes that, for the purposes of this study, feminism is defined as the political impulse toward economic and social empowerment for females or the female-identified, a position perceived by many feminists as oppositional to ideas of femininity that they see as personally and politically constraining and that femininity comprises social behaviors and practices that mean as many different things as there are women, some of which are empowering and others of which are not. This book illuminates how throughout the twentieth century and into the twenty-first, playwrights and artists in American theatre both embodied and disrupted the feminine of their times. Through approaches as wide ranging as performing their own recipes, energizing silences, raging against war and rape, and inviting the public to inscribe their naked bodies, theatre artists have used performance as a site to insert themselves between the physicality of their female presence and the liminality of their disrupting the role of the feminine. Capturing that place of liminality, a neither-here-nor-there place that is often unsafe, where the established order is overturned by acts as banal as raising a plant, women have written and performed and disrupted their way through one hundred years of theatre history, even within the constraints of a variably rigid and usually unsympathetic social order. Creating a feminist femininity, they have reinscribed their place in the culture and provided models for their audiences to do the same. This comprehensive tome, part of the Cambria Contemporary Global Performing Arts headed by John Clum (Duke University) is an essential addition for theater studies and women's studies.

i am an emotional creature eve ensler: The Vagina Monologues Eve Ensler, 2018-01-09 A landmark in women's empowerment—as relevant as ever in the age of #MeToo—that honors female sexuality in all its complexity It's been more than twenty years since Eve Ensler's international sensation *The Vagina Monologues* gave birth to V-Day, the radical, global grassroots movement to end violence against women and girls. This special edition features six never-before-published monologues, a new foreword by National Book Award winner Jacqueline Woodson, a new introduction by the author, and a new afterword by One Billion Rising director Monique Wilson on the stage phenomenon's global impact. Witty and irreverent, compassionate and wise, this award-winning masterpiece gives voice to real women's deepest fantasies, fears, anger, and pleasure, and calls for a world where all women are safe, equal, free, and alive in their bodies. Praise for *The Vagina Monologues* "Probably the most important piece of political theater of the last decade."—The New York Times "This play changed the world. Seeing it changed my soul. Performing in it changed my life. I am forever indebted to Eve Ensler and the transformative legacy of this play."—Kerry Washington "Spellbinding, funny, and almost unbearably moving . . . both a work of art and an incisive piece of cultural history, a poem and a polemic, a performance and a balm and a benediction."—Variety "Often wrenching, frequently riotous. . . . Ensler is an impassioned wit."—Los Angeles Times "Extraordinary . . . a compelling rhapsody of the female essence."—Chicago Tribune

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