

two or three things i know for sure

Two or Three Things I Know for Sure

two or three things i know for sure are like little anchors in the swirling sea of life. Amidst uncertainty and change, having a handful of unwavering truths provides clarity and comfort. Over time, through experience and reflection, certain principles become apparent—lessons that resonate deeply and guide decisions, relationships, and personal growth. In this article, I want to share a few of these certainties that have stood the test of time, hoping they might offer some insight or inspiration to you as well.

The Power of Kindness Is Undeniable

One of the two or three things I know for sure is that kindness matters immensely. It's easy to underestimate the ripple effect a small act of kindness can have, but in reality, it shapes the world in profound ways. Whether it's a genuine smile, a helping hand, or simply listening attentively, kindness fosters connection and nurtures empathy.

How Kindness Transforms Relationships

When you approach others with kindness, it breaks down barriers and builds trust. This is true in friendships, family dynamics, and even professional environments. Kindness softens conflicts, encourages understanding, and creates a space where people feel valued and heard. Over time, consistent kindness cultivates stronger bonds and a more supportive community.

Incorporating Kindness Into Daily Life

Practicing kindness doesn't require grand gestures. Here are a few simple ways to weave kindness into your routine:

- Compliment someone sincerely.
- Hold the door open or offer your seat to someone in need.
- Send a thoughtful message to a friend or colleague.
- Practice patience in frustrating situations.
- Volunteer or donate to causes you care about.

These small actions not only uplift others but also boost your own mood and well-being. It's a win-win that reinforces why kindness is one of the most valuable things to hold onto.

Growth Often Comes from Discomfort

Another of the two or three things I know for sure is that true growth rarely happens in comfort zones. Life has an uncanny way of pushing us out of familiar territory, whether through challenges, failures, or unexpected changes. While discomfort isn't pleasant, it's often the catalyst for learning, adaptation, and self-discovery.

Why Embracing Discomfort Is Essential

When we resist discomfort, we also resist change and growth. But by leaning into it, we open doors to new perspectives, skills, and resilience. For example, starting a new job, moving to a new city, or learning a new skill might feel intimidating initially, but these experiences expand our horizons and build confidence.

Strategies for Navigating Discomfort

Here are some helpful tips to make discomfort less daunting and more productive:

1. **Reframe your mindset:** View challenges as opportunities rather than threats.
2. **Practice self-compassion:** Allow yourself to make mistakes and learn without harsh judgment.
3. **Seek support:** Talk to friends, mentors, or counselors who can provide guidance and encouragement.
4. **Set small goals:** Break difficult tasks into manageable steps to build momentum.
5. **Reflect regularly:** Take time to assess what you're learning and how you're growing through discomfort.

By leaning into these experiences with openness, discomfort becomes less of a hurdle and more of a stepping stone toward personal development.

The Importance of Authenticity in a World Full of

Masks

One last of the two or three things I know for sure is that authenticity is a rare and powerful gift. In a culture that often encourages conformity and “putting on a show,” staying true to yourself is both challenging and rewarding. Authenticity fosters genuine connections and a sense of inner peace that cannot be replicated by pretending to be someone you’re not.

What Being Authentic Looks Like

Authenticity means embracing your unique qualities, values, and emotions—even when they don’t align with popular opinion or social expectations. It’s about expressing yourself honestly, making decisions based on your true desires, and not fearing vulnerability.

Benefits of Living Authentically

Living authentically brings numerous benefits:

- **Improved relationships:** People are naturally drawn to honesty and sincerity.
- **Greater self-confidence:** Accepting who you are fosters inner strength.
- **Reduced stress:** Pretending to be someone else requires energy and can be exhausting.
- **Aligned goals:** When your actions reflect your true self, you’re more likely to pursue meaningful ambitions.

How to Cultivate Authenticity

Developing authenticity is a journey that involves self-awareness and courage. Here are some ways to nurture this quality:

1. **Spend time in self-reflection:** Journaling or meditation can help you understand your true thoughts and feelings.
2. **Set boundaries:** Learn to say no to things that don’t align with your values.
3. **Practice honesty:** Share your thoughts and feelings openly with trusted people.
4. **Embrace imperfection:** Recognize that flaws and mistakes are part of being human.

Authenticity may not always be easy, but it's incredibly freeing and enriching.

The two or three things I know for sure—kindness, growth through discomfort, and authenticity—have been guiding lights through life's complexities. They remind me that while we can't control everything, we can choose how to respond, how to treat others, and how to stay true to ourselves. These truths aren't just abstract ideas; they're practical, lived experiences that shape not only who I am but also how I navigate the world. Holding on to them offers a sense of stability and hope, no matter what life throws our way.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'Two or Three Things I Know for Sure' by Oprah Winfrey?

The main theme revolves around self-discovery, personal growth, and finding joy and gratitude in everyday life.

Who is the author of 'Two or Three Things I Know for Sure'?

The book is written by Oprah Winfrey, a renowned talk show host, media executive, and philanthropist.

What inspired Oprah Winfrey to write 'Two or Three Things I Know for Sure'?

Oprah was inspired by her own life experiences and reflections, aiming to share lessons of wisdom and positivity with her readers.

How does 'Two or Three Things I Know for Sure' differ from Oprah's other works?

Unlike her memoirs or interviews, this book is a collection of insightful essays focusing on timeless life lessons and personal truths.

Is 'Two or Three Things I Know for Sure' suitable for all age groups?

Yes, the book offers universal wisdom and inspiration that can resonate with readers of various ages.

What are some key life lessons discussed in 'Two or

Three Things I Know for Sure'?

Key lessons include the importance of self-love, resilience, gratitude, and embracing change.

Has 'Two or Three Things I Know for Sure' received any notable awards or recognition?

While not specifically awarded, the book has been praised by readers and critics for its heartfelt and uplifting messages.

Can 'Two or Three Things I Know for Sure' be used as a motivational resource?

Absolutely, it serves as a motivational guide encouraging readers to reflect on their lives and cultivate positivity.

Where can I purchase or read 'Two or Three Things I Know for Sure'?

The book is available for purchase on major online retailers like Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and in many bookstores; it is also available in digital and audiobook formats.

Additional Resources

Two or Three Things I Know for Sure: Insights into Certainty in an Uncertain World

two or three things i know for sure often serve as anchors in the turbulent sea of modern life. In an era characterized by rapid technological change, shifting social norms, and unpredictable economic landscapes, certainty can feel elusive. Yet, despite the complexity that surrounds us, there are foundational truths—principles and observations—that remain steadfast. Exploring these certainties not only offers clarity but also provides a lens through which to understand broader societal trends and personal decision-making processes.

Understanding the Concept of Certainty

Certainty, by nature, is a psychological and philosophical construct. In professional and journalistic contexts, acknowledging what we can know for sure is critical to building credibility and trust. It underpins effective communication and informed decision-making. The phrase "two or three things I know for sure" resonates because it implies a deliberate distillation of knowledge—filtering out noise to highlight core truths.

In practical terms, certainty can be divided into facts, tested theories, and universally accepted principles. However, the boundary between these categories is often blurred by

context and perspective. For example, scientific facts remain contingent on current evidence, and universally accepted principles may evolve with cultural shifts. Therefore, the pursuit of certainty involves continuous evaluation, a theme that recurs in many professional fields, from economics to psychology.

The Role of Certainty in Decision-Making

In business and governance, leaders rely heavily on what they know for sure to guide strategy. Data-driven decision-making exemplifies this reliance. According to a 2023 Deloitte survey, 67% of executives consider data analytics essential for reducing uncertainty and mitigating risks. This statistic highlights how certainty, grounded in empirical evidence, enhances confidence in complex environments.

However, decision-makers also confront the limitations of certainty. Overconfidence in perceived truths can result in blind spots, leading to flawed strategies. This underlines the importance of combining what is known for sure with adaptive thinking—recognizing when established knowledge might require revision.

Two or Three Things I Know for Sure: Core Truths in a Changing World

The phrase invites reflection on those few indisputable realities that provide stability amid flux. While individual experiences shape these truths, certain themes emerge universally, especially when analyzed through an investigative lens.

1. Change Is Inevitable and Constant

One of the most reliably true observations is that change is a constant force. Whether in technology, culture, or personal circumstances, nothing remains static. This certainty is supported by historical patterns and contemporary data. For instance, the pace of technological innovation continues to accelerate. Gartner's 2024 Technology Trend Report emphasizes that emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and 5G networks are reshaping industries at an unprecedented rate.

Understanding that change is unavoidable encourages resilience and adaptability. Professionals who embrace this truth often outperform those who resist transformation. It also influences how organizations structure themselves—favoring agile methodologies and continuous learning frameworks to stay competitive.

2. Human Connection Remains Fundamental

Despite advances in digital communication and automation, the importance of human

relationships endures. Studies in psychology and organizational behavior consistently affirm that social bonds contribute significantly to well-being and productivity. For example, a 2022 Gallup poll found that employees who have strong workplace relationships are 50% more likely to report high levels of engagement.

This reality underscores the need to balance technology with empathy and interpersonal skills. In customer service, leadership, and team collaboration, the ability to foster genuine human connections remains a decisive factor. This insight is particularly relevant as remote work and hybrid models become more prevalent, challenging traditional interaction paradigms.

3. Knowledge Is Ever-Evolving, Not Absolute

A third certainty is the dynamic nature of knowledge itself. What we understand today may be revised tomorrow. This concept is fundamental to scientific inquiry and intellectual humility. The history of science is replete with examples where accepted theories were supplanted by new evidence—from Newtonian physics to quantum mechanics.

Professionally, this recognition calls for continuous education and openness to new ideas. It also impacts how information is consumed and disseminated, emphasizing critical thinking and source evaluation. In an age marked by misinformation and rapid content generation, discerning fact from opinion is more crucial than ever.

Implications for Personal and Professional Growth

Acknowledging two or three things I know for sure is not merely an exercise in philosophical reflection but a practical strategy for navigating complexity. By identifying immutable truths, individuals and organizations can build robust frameworks for growth and resilience.

- **Embrace Change:** Cultivating flexibility and a growth mindset helps to leverage evolving opportunities rather than be overwhelmed by uncertainty.
- **Prioritize Relationships:** Investing in meaningful interactions enhances collaboration, innovation, and emotional well-being.
- **Commit to Lifelong Learning:** Staying informed and adaptable prevents stagnation and supports informed decision-making in a fast-paced world.

These principles align with best practices in leadership development and organizational psychology, emphasizing that certainty about core values provides a foundation upon which to build strategic agility.

Balancing Certainty and Uncertainty in Modern Contexts

In contemporary discourse, there is a growing recognition that certainty and uncertainty coexist. The challenge lies in identifying which truths can be held confidently and which require cautious interpretation. This balance is evident in fields such as finance, where risk management depends on both reliable data and scenario planning for unknown variables.

Furthermore, the integration of artificial intelligence and machine learning introduces new dimensions to this dynamic. While algorithms can process vast data sets to identify patterns and predict outcomes, they also rely on assumptions that may shift. Thus, professionals must remain vigilant, combining technological tools with human judgment.

The phrase "two or three things I know for sure" can serve as a guiding mantra in this environment, encouraging clarity without rigidity. It reminds us that certainty, while precious, should be tempered with curiosity and adaptability.

As individuals and societies confront ongoing transformations, holding onto these core certainties provides a compass. They help navigate the complexities of modern life, ensuring that even amid rapid change, some truths remain reliably informative.

Two Or Three Things I Know For Sure

two or three things i know for sure: Two or Three Things I Know for Sure Dorothy Allison, 1996-08-01 Bastard Out of Carolina, nominated for the 1992 National Book Award for fiction, introduced Dorothy Allison as one of the most passionate and gifted writers of her generation. Now, in Two or Three Things I Know for Sure, she takes a probing look at her family's history to give us a lyrical, complex memoir that explores how the gossip of one generation can become legends for the next. Illustrated with photographs from the author's personal collection, Two or Three Things I Know for Sure tells the story of the Gibson women -- sisters, cousins, daughters, and aunts -- and the men who loved them, often abused them, and, nonetheless, shared their destinies. With luminous clarity, Allison explores how desire surprises and what power feels like to a young girl as she confronts abuse. As always, Dorothy Allison is provocative, confrontational, and brutally honest. Two or Three Things I Know for Sure, steeped in the hard-won wisdom of experience, expresses the strength of her unique vision with beauty and eloquence.

two or three things i know for sure: *The Advocate* , 1995-09-05 *The Advocate* is a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) monthly newsmagazine. Established in 1967, it is the oldest continuing LGBT publication in the United States.

two or three things i know for sure: The Emperor Has No Clothes Tema Okun, 2010-10-01 The Emperor Has No Clothes: Teaching About Race and Racism to People Who Don't Want to Know offers theoretical grounding and practical approaches for leaders and teachers interested in effectively addressing racism and other oppressive constructs. The book draws both on the author's extensive experience teaching about race and racism in classroom and community settings and from the theory and practice of a wide range of educators, activists, and researchers committed to social justice. The first chapter looks at the toxic consequences of our western cultural insistence on profit, binary thinking, and individualism to establish the theoretical framework for teaching about race and racism. Chapter two investigates privileged resistance, offering a psycho/social history of denial,

particularly as a product of racist culture. Chapter three reviews the research on the construction and reconstruction of dominant culture both historically and now in order to establish sound strategic approaches that educators, teachers, facilitators, and activists can take as we work together to move from a culture of profit and fear to one of shared hope and love. Chapter four lays out the stages of a process that supports teaching about racist, white supremacy culture, explaining how students can be taken through an iterative process of relationshipbuilding, analysis, planning, action, and reflection. The final chapter borrows from the brilliant, brave, and incisive writer Dorothy Allison to discuss the things the author knows for sure about how to teach people to see that which we have been conditioned to fear knowing. The chapter concludes with how to encourage and support collective and collaborative action as a critical goal of the process.

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two or three things i know for sure: The History of Southern Women's Literature Carolyn Perry, Mary Weeks-Baxter, 2002-03-01 Many of America's foremost, and most beloved, authors are also southern and female: Mary Chesnut, Kate Chopin, Ellen Glasgow, Zora Neale Hurston, Eudora Welty, Harper Lee, Maya Angelou, Anne Tyler, Alice Walker, and Lee Smith, to name several. Designating a writer as "southern" if her work reflects the region's grip on her life, Carolyn Perry and Mary Louise Weeks have produced an invaluable guide to the richly diverse and enduring tradition of southern women's literature. Their comprehensive history—the first of its kind in a relatively young field—extends from the pioneer woman to the career woman, embracing black and white, poor and privileged, urban and Appalachian perspectives and experiences. *The History of Southern Women's Literature* allows readers both to explore individual authors and to follow the developing arc of various genres across time. Conduct books and slave narratives; Civil War diaries and letters; the antebellum, postbellum, and modern novel; autobiography and memoirs; poetry; magazine and newspaper writing—these and more receive close attention. Over seventy contributors are represented here, and their essays discuss a wealth of women's issues from four centuries: race, urbanization, and feminism; the myth of southern womanhood; preset images and assigned social roles—from the belle to the mammy—and real life behind the facade of meeting others' expectations; poverty and the labor movement; responses to Uncle Tom's Cabin and the influence of *Gone with the Wind*. The history of southern women's literature tells, ultimately, the story of the search for freedom within an "insidious tradition," to quote Ellen Glasgow. This teeming volume validates the deep contributions and pleasures of an impressive body of writing and marks a major achievement in women's and literary studies.

two or three things i know for sure: Taboo, 2005

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mindfulness, illness, and trauma. Although the contributors challenge Western educational frameworks from within and beyond academic settings, they also acknowledge and draw attention to the incommensurability between decolonization and aspects of social justice projects in education. By addressing this tension ethically and deliberately, the contributors engage thoughtfully with decolonization and make a substantial, and sometimes unsettling, contribution to critical studies in education.

two or three things i know for sure: Turning Points in Qualitative Research Yvonna S. Lincoln, Norman K. Denzin, 2004-09-08 This is a book of signposts, of key turning points, of Gregory Bateson's 'knots tied in a handkerchief.' Each article reproduced in this volume, edited by leading qualitative methodologists Lincoln and Denzin, represents one of these turning points in qualitative research, a revolution in the way research is conceptualized and practiced. Authority, representation, legitimation, ethics, methods, presentation, even the purpose of qualitative research, have all been transformed by these articles and the authors who penned them. Bringing together the work of scholars from Haraway to Geertz, Mead to Mishler, Clifford to Conquergood, Laurel Richardson to Miles Richardson, the editors are able trace the changes in the discipline over the past five decades. A necessary addition to the shelf of all researchers, it will also be a key textbook for training the next generation of scholars in the history and trajectory of qualitative research.

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two or three things i know for sure: Performing Autobiography Katrina M. Powell, 2021-06-14 *Performing Auto/biography: Narrating a Life as Activism* analyzes the rhetorical strategies employed in five authors' auto/biographical texts, examining their representations of identities and the public implications of writing individual identity. Exploring the ways race, class, culture, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality might affect the form(s) in which writers choose to write (e.g., memoir, fictional autobiography, poetry), questions how autobiographers challenge notions of genre, truth, and representation. This builds on the argument that constructing identity is a *Performing Autobiography* performance, one that can simultaneously use and subvert traditional notions of rhetoric and genre. By examining the auto/biographical texts of Zora Neale Hurston, Audre Lorde, Dorothy Allison, Joyce Johnson, and Shirley Geok-lin Lim together, the book theorizes self-representation and genres as rhetorical performances, and therefore their texts can be seen as "performative auto/biography"—transgressive archives where readers are asked to consider their own identities and act accordingly. In doing so, this book contributes to growing theories in feminist rhetorics and auto/biography studies, arguing that these performative genres advocate for life narratives as political and social activism.

two or three things i know for sure: Doubly Erased Allison E. Carey, 2023-07-01 The first book of its kind, *Doubly Erased* is a comprehensive study of the rich tradition of LGBTQ themes and characters in Appalachian novels, memoirs, poetry, drama, and film. Appalachia has long been seen as homogenous and tradition-bound. Allison E. Carey helps to remedy this misunderstanding, arguing that it has led to LGBTQ Appalachian authors being doubly erased—routinely overlooked both within United States literature because they are Appalachian and within the Appalachian literary tradition because they are queer. In exploring motifs of visibility, silence, storytelling, home, food, and more, Carey brings the full significance and range of LGBTQ Appalachian literature into relief. Dorothy Allison's *Bastard Out of Carolina* and Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home* are considered alongside works by Maggie Anderson, Doris Davenport, Jeff Mann, Lisa Alther, Julia Watts, Fenton

Johnson, and Silas House, as well as filmmaker Beth Stephens. While primarily focused on 1976 to 2020, Doubly Erased also looks back to the region's literary elders, thoughtfully mapping the place of sexuality in the lives and works of George Scarbrough, Byron Herbert Reece, and James Still.

two or three things i know for sure: Making Sense of Women's Lives, Lauri Umansky, Michele Plott, 2000-08-01 Making Sense of Women's Lives presents a wide range of writings about women's lives in the United States. Michele Plott and Lauri Umansky have drawn on their experiences as both students and professors to assemble the collection. Seeking to provide as full a sampling from a diverse and intellectually vibrant field as one volume permits, the editors have also chosen writing that makes an enjoyable read. A few of the selections here represent the undisputed 'classics' of the field. More of them constitute simply the works, drawn from academic and nonacademic sources alike, that could make a difference in understanding what it means to be female in America. Making Sense of Women's Lives is intended as the primary text in Women's Studies courses. With that usage in mind, Plott and Umansky have provided brief introductions to each article to help students understand the author's perspectives. Thought and discussion questions follow each selection. The book contains, as well, numerous Flash Exercises-suggestions for class exercises and activities. The editors have used these activities in their courses over the past decade, in conjunction with readings in this volume, and have found that the full complement of materials coalesces into an intellectually powerful introduction to Women's Studies. A Collegiate Press book

two or three things i know for sure: Class Definitions Michelle M. Tokarczyk, 2008 This book examines how working-class status intersects with other identities such as gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, and region in the lives and works of the three authors named. Its introduction discusses widely recognized definitions of the working class and common traits of working-class literature. These include representations of working-class lives, providing a voice for the voiceless, representation of suffering caused by class inequities, and the use of working-class dialect. Working-class women's literature, in particular, reclaims women's bodies from overwork, sexual abuse, or degradation brought on by poverty. The text then devotes a chapter to each author's life and writing, examining the distinct critical features of each writer's work, as well as the specific ethnic, regional, and personal dynamics that inflect her working-class experiences. Class Definitions includes unpublished interviews with each of the authors. During the past decade, working-class literature has been recognized in national conferences as well as in anthologies. Yet there are stubborn tendencies to identify the working class with white male laborers and to see ethnic and working-class writing as distinct camps. This book argues for recognition of the varieties of working-class experience through its examination of three diverse authors and their texts. It highlights the specific working-class experience of each author, and thus avoids essentializing working-class women's lives and writings. Maxine Hong Kingston's writing was informed by her years in the anti-Vietnam War movement, as well as by her working-class background. Her recent work has reflected writing workshops with veterans. Sandra Cisneros's work represents women struggling with the Chicano code of machismo and the legend of La Malinche. Dorothy Allison has talked about her need to write against the stereotypes of poor Southerners as well as to be out about her lesbianism. Working-class women's literature is not propaganda or a blueprint, but rather might be compared to a tapestry as rich and multifaceted as the American multicultural landscape itself. Class Definitions is informed by feminist, working-class, and literary theory, but written in a highly accessible and engaging prose. It will appeal to both scholars and the wide reading public that Kingston, Cisneros, and Allison each enjoy. Ultimately, the book provides a deeper understanding of each author's work and argues for a more nuanced appreciation of working-class women's literature. In lives characterized by material deprivation and social marginality, literature provides a glimmer of hope. For each of these writers, imaginative writing is not only a vivid representation of inequalities, but also an inspiring glimpse into possibilities.--BOOK JACKET.

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constructed a self. The essays in this volume explore the different personal narratives and strategies southern authors have employed to channel the autobiographical impulse and give artistic expression to their anxieties, traumas and revelations, as well as their relationship with the region. With the discussion of different types of memoirs, this volume reflects not only the transformation that this sub-genre has undergone since the 1990s boom but also its flexibility as a popular form of life-writing.

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two or three things i know for sure: *The Old Moon in Her Arms* Lorri Neilsen Glenn, 2025-09-19 How does a woman compose a life? *The Old Moon in Her Arms* is a hybrid book of fragments, pivotal moments and images in the phases of a woman's life, turning points rendered in Lorri Neilsen Glenn's lyrical prose. Like the shifting images in a kaleidoscope, these glimpses into the life of an ordinary woman lay bare the ways family, landscape, loss, and a lifelong pursuit of knowledge have forced the author in her later years to examine what really matters. Here, readers bear witness to the making of a daughter, a student, a wife, a friend, a teacher, a mother, a feminist, an award-winning scholar and writer. Neilsen Glenn's artistry weaves personal history, philosophy, pop culture, and contemporary thought to examine moments and people who've inhabited her life. Over time and circumstance, she says, haven't we all been various? Guiding her exploration are the Cree concept of *wahkohtowin*, the kinship in all of creation, and the elliptical path of the moon. This hybrid collection of singular moments celebrates connection, wonder, and endless curiosity.

two or three things i know for sure: *Write Moves* Nancy Pagh, 2016-08-04 *Write Moves* is an invitation for the student to understand and experience creative writing in the larger frame of humanities education. The practical instruction offered comes in the form of "moves" or tactics for the apprentice writer to try. But the title also speaks to a core value of this project: that creative writing exists to move us. The book focuses on concise, human-voiced instruction in poetry, the short story, and the short creative nonfiction essay. Emphasis on short forms allows the beginning student to appreciate lessons in craft without being overwhelmed by lengthy model texts; diverse examples of these genres are offered in the anthology.

two or three things i know for sure: *Available Means* Joy S. Ritchie, Katharine J. Ronald,

2001-07-12 "I say that even later someone will remember us."—Sappho, Fragment 147, sixth century, BC Sappho's prediction came true; fragments of work by the earliest woman writer in Western literate history have in fact survived into the twenty-first century. But not without peril. Sappho's writing remains only in fragments, partly due to the passage of time, but mostly as a result of systematic efforts to silence women's voices. Sappho's hopeful boast captures the mission of this anthology: to gather together women engaged in the art of persuasion—across differences of race, class, sexual orientation, historical and physical locations—in order to remember that the rhetorical tradition indeed includes them. Available Means offers seventy women rhetoricians—from ancient Greece to the twenty-first century—a room of their own for the first time. Editors Joy Ritchie and Kate Ronald do so in the feminist tradition of recovering a previously unarticulated canon of women's rhetoric. Women whose voices are central to such scholarship are included here, such as Aspasia (a contemporary of Plato's), Margery Kempe, Margaret Fuller, and Ida B. Wells. Added are influential works on what it means to write as a woman—by Virginia Woolf, Adrienne Rich, Nancy Mairs, Alice Walker, and Hélène Cixous. Public "manifestos" on the rights of women by Hortensia, Mary Astell, Maria Stewart, Sarah and Angelina Grimké, Anna Julia Cooper, Margaret Sanger, and Audre Lorde also join the discourse. But Available Means searches for rhetorical tradition in less obvious places, too. Letters, journals, speeches, newspaper columns, diaries, meditations, and a fable (Rachel Carson's introduction to *Silent Spring*) also find places in this room. Such unconventional documents challenge traditional notions of invention, arrangement, style, and delivery, and blur the boundaries between public and private discourse. Included, too, are writers whose voices have not been heard in any tradition. Ritchie and Ronald seek to "unsettle" as they expand the women's rhetorical canon. Arranged chronologically, Available Means is designed as a classroom text that will allow students to hear women speaking to each other across centuries, and to see how women have added new places from which arguments can be made. Each selection is accompanied by an extensive headnote, which sets the reading in context. The breadth of material will allow students to ask such questions as "How might we define women's rhetoric? How have women used and subverted traditional rhetoric?" A topical index at the end of the book provides teachers a guide through the rhetorical riches. Available Means will be an invaluable text for rhetoric courses of all levels, as well as for women's studies courses.

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