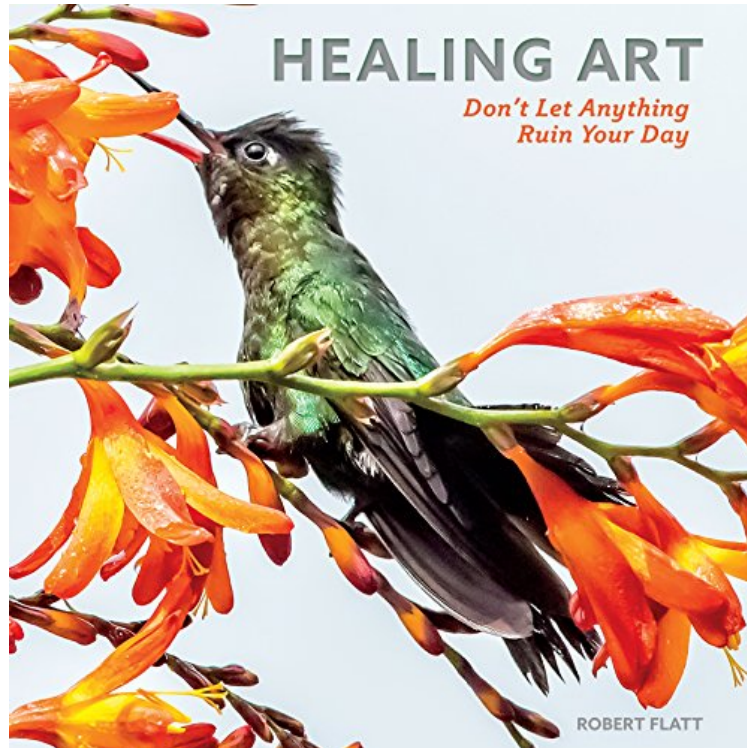


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## Healing Art: Don't Let Anything Ruin Your Day

*Robert Flatt*

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**Robert Flatt : Healing Art: Don't Let Anything Ruin Your Day** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Healing Art: Don't Let Anything Ruin Your Day:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A book that makes you feel goodBy A. J. DesslerA beautiful, uplifting book. It would be a fine book if it had only the photographs. Some pictures of birds in flight seem almost miraculous in their timing. All are wonderful works of photographic art. But what I thought was the best thing about the book was its uplifting prose. Get one and read it when you feel life is getting the better of you. As the book's title tells you, "Don't let anything ruin your day".0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Earle P. Martin, Jr.The Best!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful InspiringBy CustomerA stunning nature photography book with an inspiring message of remaining positive through life's challenges.

Robert Flatt always held the belief that life is good. When he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, he refused to let the news alter his fundamental perspective. Robert viewed this unexpected hurdle as an opportunity: the debilitating disease granted him the gift of time to pursue his artistic interests. Through photography, he discovered the beauty in his own backyard and the immense healing power of art. Taking vivid photographs of the wonders he had previously overlooked helped him cope, and he realized the power of the beauty he observed could help others, too. Despite his physical limitations, he began traveling the world to pursue this passion that made him feel so intensely alive. Robert's irrepressible good nature, patience, and undeniable talent have resulted in this collection of images both intimate and

grand that showcase the wonders that surround each of us, if we take the time to look and have the right perspective to see. Coupled with Robert's candid, empowering reflections on existence and his illness, the vision of the world revealed in *Healing Art* urges readers to live in the present, relax, and remember that life is good. Despite the nature of our burdens, if we can focus on an image of beauty today, we have not let our challenges define us. And for another day, we have been fully alive and open to the presence of joy. Could we really ask for more?

Robert Flatt spent three decades in the oil service industry before he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 1999. Rather than see his diagnosis as a devastating setback, however, he took it as an opportunity to pursue his true passion: photography. *Healing Art*, in which these photographs and excerpt appear, is his newest book. He has also self-published two previous photography books, *West Boulevard Night-Herons* and *Rice's Owls*, a chronicle of the daily life of a family of owls that took up residence on the Rice campus in 2010, and which won the 2013 IndieReader Discovery Award for photography. A number of his photographs are in the permanent collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. (Rice Magazine 2017-02-12) About the Author Robert Flatt earned his bachelor of arts and masters of science in electrical engineering from Rice University and his MBA from Harvard University. He spent thirty-one years in the oil service industry as an engineer and businessman before he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 1999. In the wake of his diagnosis, he left Cameron International Corporation and enrolled in photography courses at Rice University to pursue his passion for photography. His ties to his alma mater grew when he became an adjunct professor of the Jones Graduate School of Business Administration. His photographs appear in the permanent collection of the Museum of Fine Arts Houston and have been on permanent display at Rice University, the Katy Prairie Conservancy and many hospitals throughout Houston, including the Neurology Department of the Baylor College of Medicine and Memorial Hermann Hospital. His photography has been selected for exhibition at FotoFest five times since 2008 and for the Houston Center for Photography 32nd Annual Membership Competition. He has self-published two photography books, *West Boulevard Night-Herons* and *Rice's Owls*, which garnered multiple awards. Robert and his wife, Nancy, live in Houston, Texas. They have two children and five grandchildren.