

The background of the book cover is a photograph of a beach at sunset. The sky is a mix of soft orange, pink, and blue. The ocean waves are gently washing onto the shore, creating a rhythmic pattern of white foam and dark water. The beach is a light tan color, and the overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

PARKER J. PALMER

Author of Let Your Life Speak

ON the BRINK
of EVERYTHING

Grace, Gravity & Getting Old

Parker J. Palmer

On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity, and Getting Old



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From beloved and bestselling author Parker J. Palmer, "the brink of everything is merely another word for nothing at all left to lose, a period to dive deep into lifestyle, not withdraw to the shallows. Drawing on 8 decades of lifestyle -- and his career because a writer, teacher, and activist -- Palmer explores the questions age group raises and the guarantees it keeps. " Palmer (Let YOUR DAILY LIFE Speak, The Courage to instruct, Healing the Heart of Democracy), comes a beautiful publication of reflections on what we are able to learn once we move nearer to " he writes, "" Keep Reaching Out: Staying Engaged with the WorldVI. It was written to encourage adults of most ages to explore the way their lives are unfolding. It's not really a how-to-do-it book on ageing, but a set of meditations in prose and poetry that switch the prism on this is(s) of one's life, refracting new light at every turn. The Watch from the Brink: What I Can See from HereII. On the Edge: Where We Go When We DiePostludeFrom starting to end, the reserve is certainly laced with humor in addition to gravitas -- beautifully enhanced by three free downloadable tracks from the gifted singer-songwriter Carrie Newcomer, created in response to styles in the book. Young & Vocation: Composing a LifeV. Getting Real: From Illusion to RealityIV. Work & Old: The Dance of the GenerationsIII. But this publication isn't for elders only. Keep Reaching In: Remaining Engaged together with your SoulVII. Table of ContentsPreludeI.



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Part Poetry, Part Wisdom—All Great This is the first-time I have already been introduced to Parker J Palmer. He writes with a straightforward but powerful honesty.! He's part poet, part storyteller. I am in my own 40's and it is refreshing to have someone in the sunset of life discuss what it is prefer to age—but do so gracefully. I think two rates from the publication sum his wisdom up greatest: "I would be lying if I said that I am awed by all that comes with later years . his poetry spoke to my spirit and provided voice to my encounters of aging and surviving in this time of history. As I read through this publication I recognized that I must say i am 'on the brink of everything' and that realization touched my core in quite profound ways. A thoughtful and encouraging reserve on aging Having found myself thinking a lot about this time of life I have been blessed to get myself in (aging), We was interested to find what Parker Palmer experienced to say about this issue." I will be using this, partly, as a roadmap of how exactly to arranged my sights as I move through life. Plenty of wisdom here. A book on aging as opening rather than closing As I've witnessed my children and mentors age, I've often wondered what sets apart those who manage to start to the globe, get more humble, more curious, more grateful, more awed, and the ones that close in, get bitter, start navel-gazing, lose sight of wonder and the wideness of the world. This book feels as though one extremely readable, frequently funny, deeply vulnerable version of the solution.for me, this is the question at the guts of aging. It's about pausing to take in the preciousness of the brief, terrible, gorgeous lives. I laughed, cried, reflected and wondered as I read. He always makes you are feeling like you're having a 1:1 discussion when you examine him. It's such something special. His thoughtful and thought-provoking essays touched me; A must-read for anybody who cares about conscious aging. Having enjoyed the satisfaction of reading an progress copy of On the Brink of Everything, I actually am delighted to motivate anyone thinking about "conscious aging" to treat themselves by reading this book! I really believe Parker Palmer is ideal that aging well, irrespective of one's circumstances, is mainly about choosing to give consideration, to listen more and speak much less, and to continue to find out, instead of resigning oneself to a life of silent desperation and irrelevance. The key top features of this book that lead me to provide it a high rating are: (1) It builds on the lifetime connection with a man who's nearly 80 and has served as a teacher, a community organizer, the founder of a non-profit organization, and a writer and lecturer. It's nature's way. Grace and Gratitude Let this "evaluate" go in to the bottom drawer and produce it's way up the next drawer and another. For all the wrinkles and get worried lines, it's a beautiful thing only to be among those who's lived lengthy enough to say, 'I'm getting aged.'"Imagine collaborating together with your aging! This publication proceeds to suggest many ways one just might do this! The invitation here's to consider the privilege and responsibility that is

included with living a long life, to be "fierce with reality" and own your whole life journey, using its shadows, failures, successes and light, and regulate how to spend the precious time you have gone in meaningful ways. For folks like me, the notion that old age is a time to dial it down and play it secure is a cop-out. "Even more than fearing the expense of taking dangers for the things I value, I fear maturing into irrelevance. Parker brands many of the underrated aspects of aging, including a new freedom to use time differently, and commit ourselves to stuff we care deeply about, unencumbered with the pressures and needs of the first half of lifestyle, like proving ourselves, seeking good, etc. We elders should be raising hell with respect to whatever we care about: freedom's yet another word for not needing to count the cost." The notion of raising hell in what we care about. In addition, it is a prosperity of resources due to other inspirational works that are cited within it. As I surrender the wish of achieving anticipated "outcomes" and consider that the worthiness and "rightness" of might work may be plenty of, I feel a feeling of peace that I have not earned. It's about interactions. What do you value now, and how will you take part in that caring? Here's a question in the centre of both writing and faith. Although this book undoubtable can serve as a source of guidance and motivation to those of us who are developing into our elderhood, it is not simply for us "older" people. ... When you pray, get into your area, and close the door...' (Matthew 6:5) Or, as Mrs. To create and live in faith, we should let God end up being God—original, wild, free, a innovative impulse that animates most of life, but can never be included within the limitations of what we think, say and do. When I write, I seem to be partnering with a thing that is not however me or mine—or with something more truly me and mine than I as a rule have usage of. In a strange way, the necessity for discernment about vocation and phoning gets more intense with age, very much like when we were youthful people getting started. Thank God for that. My greatest guess is that the answer is "Yes. We can use the wisdom in these often brutish moments of political and personal rancor. Patrick Campbell might say, "When you pray, don't frighten the horses. Once we probe reality with words or with leaps of faith, are our results discoveries or inventions?" As I am certain you can tell, ON THE BRINK OF EVERYTHING emerges out of hard-earned encounter from Parker's 79 years. Palmer has trained me to become a better teacher and today he's teaching me how exactly to age with purpose and with joy. There are clear drumbeats of designs he has discussed throughout his lifetime: embracing wholeness; the paradoxical nature of truth; the "primal wildness" of God and the soul; his romantic relationship with Thomas Merton, silence and solitude; the notion of faithfulness to what we care about; that just how with pain and depressive disorder is normally down and through to be able to receive its hard lessons; and non-violent engagement amid great political and racial unrest, all woven together with humor, his personal poetry, and memorable tales. Like most of Parker's books, I am sure

it'll be one I will reread often to guide me in my own elder years. I highly recommend this reserve to people who want to explore such things. Well spoken and a relaxed voice Thought book about stuff having to be thoughtful approximately. Right out the gate, he states: "I don't need to fight the gravity of ageing. He has a wide range of experience, and he's discovered a lot from it. (2) As the publication faces squarely into the challenges that include aging and coming to terms with mortality, it can so with good humor and compassion for the human struggle, both personal and communal. (3) Though I am much younger compared to the author and also have pursued a different outer path in life, I came across his insights to be highly relevant to me and, I believe, people of many age groups - insights that feel general, not age bound. (4) The book has the courage to address the existing political scenario, and the author gets the courage to confess his personal complicity in it, as a citizen. I hope you discover it to be so as well! I wish to collaborate with it as greatest I can, in hopes of heading down with something similar to the loveliness of that sunset.. I am grateful.. Being faithful is enough and you have already been one instructor who has shown me what that appears like.as your dad advised you, Parker. Read this Like the author. In the darkness of winter, the light of wish shines forth from this stunningly candid, courageous and uplifting meditation on our human being journey. I am ageing, feeling gravity (real and metaphorical) yet some way of measuring grace is making it's way if you ask me. You have confirmed that in spite of appearances, my life's are an educator for over 40 years matters.. I believe that's called grace.. Parker is one of the most intimate authors I know.. Wisdom for the journey On the Brink of Everything is the kind of reserve that leaves you wanting to go through it again--and so I did. I came across that I loved it the next time even more as I discovered noiseless truth I acquired overlooked the first time through. Parker Palmer is certainly sage and story-teller, prophet and poet. Why possess I not read some of his books before? He clearly and unapologetically speaks the reality as he views it but always in a manner that lets the reader know that he says what he says due to the fact he cares about us all.Finally, I especially enjoyed his reflections about the writing life and its' link with the faith journey:"Since writing may also be a form of prayer for me, here's another parallel between faith and writing: 'When you pray, don't be just like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing...on the street corners to be seen by men. Those who are not really there yet will get a new method of looking at their very own inevitable aging and find wisdom for the trip. I desire I had read this publication twenty years ago. I suggest reading this at any stage of lifestyle. In On the Brink of Everything, Parker Palmer's own human soul is seen to us all as he invites us to get the courage to do the same. This book will restore your faith in humanity--and yourself! Your body of your writing and your life, for example, are an incredible gift if you ask me. Parker says, "When we

feel sure that the individual soul is not any longer at work on the planet, it's time to be sure that ours is seen to someone, somewhere"... I laughed, I cried, I thank and salute the writer. Lovely Inspiring Thoughtful Eldership is often lost in the busyness and frequently thoughtless world we reside in. Parker Palmer has been a thoughtful gentleman his life time and this volume can be a dear expression of the reflections of an eighty some odd year old."And why possess faith, if God is so small concerning be contained within our finite phrases and formulae? Take a period out and savor the wisdom. Honest, Vulnerable, and Joyful: Parker Palmer Teaches Us How to Age Well I have long been a fan of Parker Palmer's function and he has been very influential in my own thinking as an educator and a Christian. While I am not really of his generation, I found I could very easily relate to a lot of what he reveals and ponders in this latest work. It is a treasure-trove of tales and reflections that communicate so much more than simply essays on "how to age," with the authority and wisdom of his aged, youthful soul, and his gorgeous gift of composing. I was particularly moved by the vulnerable method he writes about his battles with depression. If you have a problem with depression or love someone who does, these portions are cause enough to get and browse the book. Like most of Parker Palmer's writings, ON THE BRINK is certainly honest, intimate, original, courageous and inspiring. When it creates it's method to the top drawer for your reading and factor, I am hoping you will hear and receive my message. An unself-conscious spiritual summing up in the author's elder years. I'm a Parker Palmer fan. He's thoughtful about those things deserving to end up being thoughtful about. Grace, gravity and obtaining old are worth discussing and worthy of exploration especially for men like me who want to make sense of what the rest of our lifestyle is supposed to look like. Palmer isn't big on providing prescriptions and formulas. He is, however, quite adept at permitting his own life journey speak.. yet for the reason that of the diminishments old, not in spite of them, that I frequently discover myself in awe as I stand on the brink of everything. In a tradition that celebrates youth, which appears to be resistant to even thinking about ageing, this book is usually a breath of fresh air. There's much wisdom to be found in lives that have been well resided that must definitely be shared. This publication shares a lot of such wisdom. It is thoughtful, insightful, honest and beautifully written. I bought my dad, who is well into his 80's, a duplicate for Christmas. Living Genuinely and Gracefully in a period of Turmoil I initially borrowed this book by Parker Palmer, among my favorite spiritual guides, from my local library. I'll give this reserve to every older friend and relative I've.. I loved it therefore much that I bought a copy for my companion - and one for myself!



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