

MEMOIRS' IN-SIGHTS

Inspiration, Information, Reflection and Vision
(An electronic version of our Corporate Ethical Will)

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Memoirs
PRODUCTIONS

*An Ethical Will &
Video Biography Company*

SPRING 2012, VOL. 5, ISSUE 1

LETTER FROM THE PRODUCER

The month of May is associated with Mother's Day, and therefore the timing seemed perfect to do an issue about women. May is named for the Greek deity Maia, the goddess of fertility, and with the flowers in bloom around us, it certainly seems to be a very "feminine" time of year. With some of our most recent projects, we have been especially struck by the perspective of the women whom we have interviewed on screen and off, and the special nature of their confidences and the legacies they wish to leave. We are fortunate to work with many incredible men and women every day. Considering the immense strides that women have made historically in the last century, it is all the more impressive for us to encounter smart, compassionate, powerful women who have wonderful legacies to share. And I am personally inspired every time.

Be well, go safely,
Iris

P.S. This issue is dedicated to my beloved 86-year old Mother who is always inspirational, full of great wisdom, and my very best friend. I love you Mom!

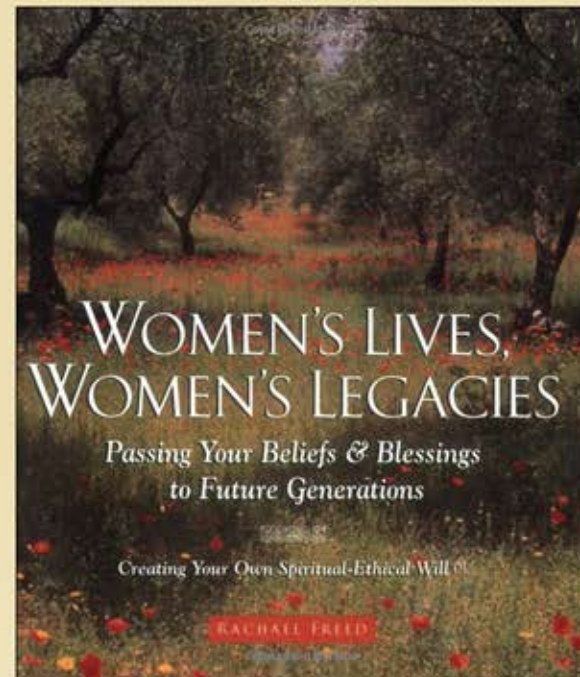


Iris E. Wagner
Executive Producer

WOMEN AND LEGACIES: THE NATURAL CONNECTION

A woman as a storyteller, whether it is comforting her children as they fall asleep or recounting the past with her grandchildren at her knee, is a familiar image. Many authors and others have explored the particular intimacy that women have in sharing their legacies and the impact of these stories. Used as powerful vehicles for philosophizing, teaching or just plain entertainment, the tales that women tell informally are often considered the “glue that binds”. By remembering together the stories of events and ideas that matter, women weave the threads that link the present to the past and their descendants to their predecessors.

In the book *Women’s Lives, Women’s Legacies*, published by Fairview Press, author Rachael Freed offers insight for transforming the informal storytelling done by women daily into a more structured and ultimately, inspiring format of Ethical Wills. For the woman who is interested in creating her own legacy in writing, this handy book is a great place to start.



WHY DO WOMEN LIVE LONGER – AND DO THEY HAVE MORE STORIES TO TELL?



“ The real trick is to stay alive as long as you live.

ANN LANDERS ”

Most of know that, on average, the typical North American woman lives almost five years longer than the average male. According to Scientific American, the old myths about men having more stressful lives or women being less likely to abuse tobacco or alcohol need to be put aside. Instead, research from an experimental gerontologist has revealed that perhaps biology is a factor.

In this study, the researchers found that in fact females of almost all species are longer lived than their male counterparts. This could be attributable to the fact that women are less “disposable”, in their terms, than males because of their reproductive capacity and need therefore to have more robust systems.

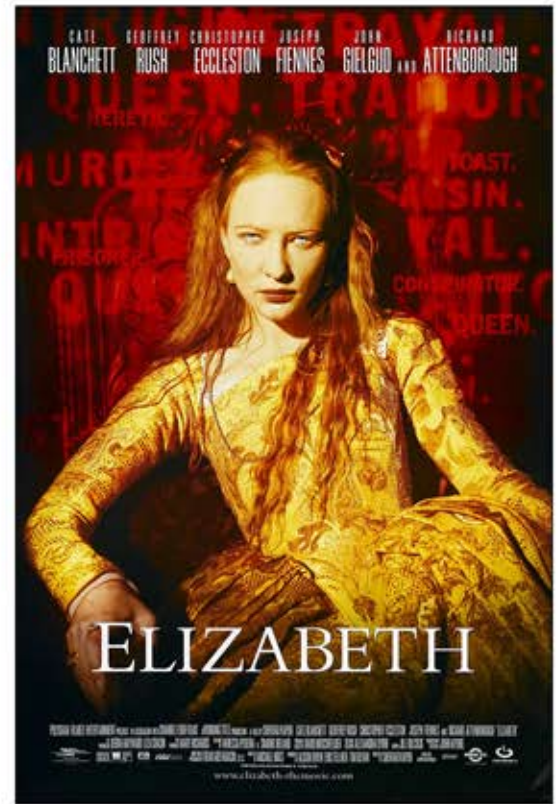
In other words, nature appears to give women the biological advantage for having a long life, but it is up to them to do something with it! What would you do if you had five years at your disposal?

INSPIRATION

GREAT FEMALE MOVIE BIOGRAPHY: ELIZABETH

The 1998 film starring Cate Blanchett and Geoffrey Rush, directed by Shekhar Kapur, is considered one of the great movie biographies of recent years on a subject that never seems to grow old, our fascination with England's royal family. Elizabeth I is a popular subject for bio-pics, and her momentous life certainly lends itself well to reinterpretation. In the film "Elizabeth", we get a modern Queen Elizabeth I. She is first shown in the months preceding her ascension to the throne, a young woman with fiery red hair, she represents dynamism and energy, while the scheming Catholics at court move through a world of dark chambers and shadow.

The queen's role is to embody the enlightenment that allows England to emerge from the Dark Ages with a sense of pragmatism and acceptable that will take the place of the repression that previously predominated. The divisions are clear: the ailing Queen Mary is not likeable, beheading Protestants left and right. She's homely while Elizabeth is sweet, making it clear whose side we should be on. Not only does Cate Blanchett have the look down with her wide-set eyes and the blank face often seen in Renaissance paintings, she also intelligent in a direct, engaging manner. This is a clever and well-told version of Elizabeth I's life story, and is a highly recommended download or Netflix choice on an evening when watching a smart, powerful woman achieve security and ultimately greatness is just what you were looking for.



A WOMAN'S BEAUTY

The beauty of a woman
Is not in the clothes she wears,
The figure that she carries,
Or the way she combs her hair.

The beauty of a woman must be seen from in her eyes,
Because that is the doorway to her heart,
The place where love resides.
The beauty of a woman is not in a facial mole
But true beauty in a woman is reflected in her soul.

It is the caring that she lovingly gives,
The passion that she shows,
And the beauty of a woman
With passing years only grows!

- **Written by Teresa Mahieu**

FAMILY OFFICE REVIEW

We have been invited to be a columnist on Legacy in the Family Office Review - an online publication for family members and their senior staff.

To read the first article entitled, “*Part I: Personal Legacies - The Meaningful Matters*” visit this link: <http://bit.ly/IAHdRW>.

Stay tuned for future articles, or visit our website for immediate updates.

IRIS WAGNER'S SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS & CONFERENCES

- March 15, 2012
Purposeful Next-Gen Collaboration, *Guest Speaker for World Wide Webinar*, Purposeful Planning Institute, Denver, Colorado.
- June 13, 2012
Bergdorf Goodman Documentary “Wrap Party”, The Core Club, New York, New York. We are thrilled to be invited to co-produce this legacy documentary of the iconic 111-year old store in New York City.
- August 1-3, 2012
Purposeful Planning Collaboration Rendezvous - Women and Legacy 2012, Westin Hotel and Resort, Westminster, Colorado.
- November 20, 2012
TIGER 21 Montréal Group Guest Speaker on *Preserving Legacies of Values*, 357c Club, Montréal, Canada.

A WOMAN'S PERSPECTIVE



“ Life is either a daring adventure or nothing. To keep our faces toward change and behave like free spirits in the presence of fate is strength undefeatable.

HELEN KELLER

”



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