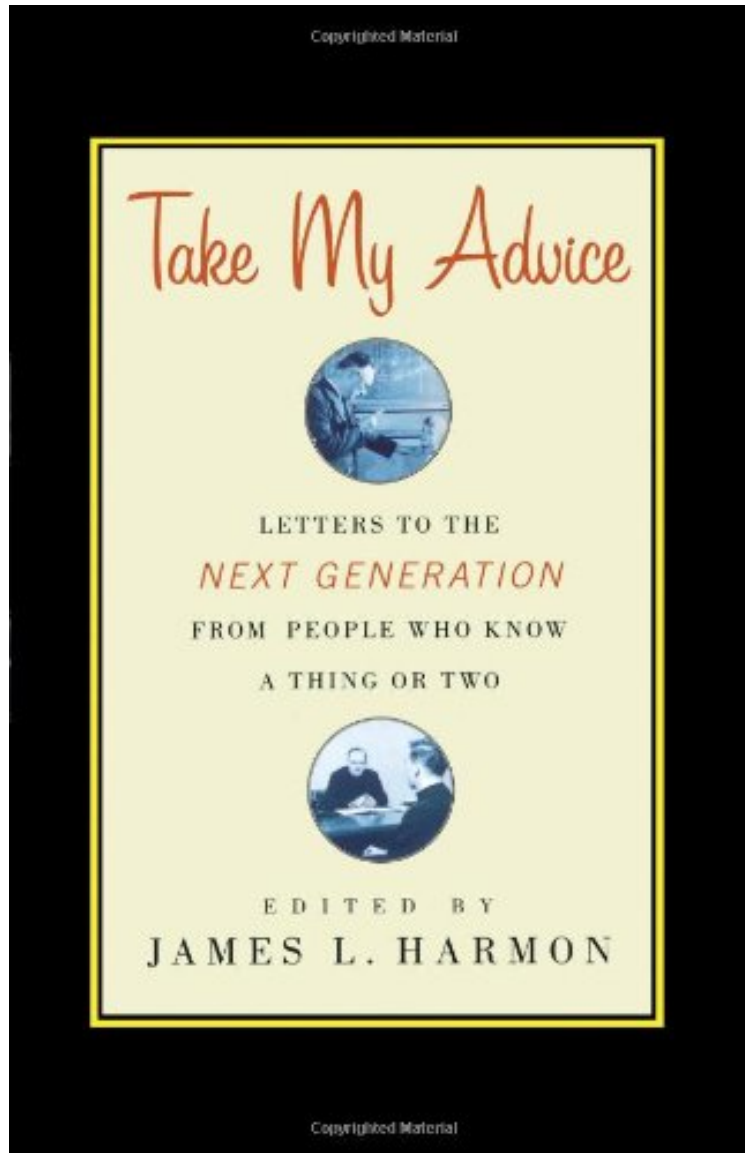


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## Take My Advice: Letters to the Next Generation from People Who Know a Thing or Two

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From Publishers Weekly In the spirit of Rainer Maria Rilke's Letters to a Young Poet, Harmon's tongue-in-cheek collection of words to live by should become a new classic. Over the past 10 years, he queried hundreds of social thinkers, academics, poets, artists and more--and received some fantastic responses. As Harmon says, "I would be a complete ingrate not to share those thoughts." And so, Mary McCarthy advises, "Be truthful... and pay attention. I would also recommend the avoidance of credit cards." Anita O'Day suggests, "Just get up there and let it rip!" Dr. Laura Schlessinger counsels, "Never sell your soul." And Katharine Hepburn recommends, "Work as hard as you can, whatever you do, and try to spread generosity of spirit." Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Determined not to make a "warm, gooey book with the shelf life of a banana," artist and writer Harmon asked a wide range of authors, activists, artists, radicals, journalists, and academics to offer their advice to a new generation just reaching adulthood. The resulting "letters" range from shocking to straightforward, intensely personal to generic, and the views are slanted far to the artistic left. There's sound advice: "Look for independent sources of information." And less sound advice: on the necessity of travel, one contributor scolds, "Don't say you can't afford it. In a pinch you can always smuggle something." And there's the completely outrageous: "Beware of whores who say they don't want money. The hell they don't." The best selections are wise, realistic, and not coddling, and they offer fine, provocative browsing to world-weary twentysomethings with artistic aspirations. Gillian Engberg Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved About the Author James L. Harmon is a descendant of the outlaw Cole Younger (Mom's side) and the renegade Comanche chief Quanah Parker (Dad's side). He rarely takes advice. A writer and artist, he lives in Portland, Oregon.