## 禺 <br> A <br> B (0) <br> (0) $1 \%$ <br> (a) $i$ <br>  <br> A PLAYFUL JOURNAL TO KEEP THOUGHTS \& FEELINGS

by BILL ZIMMERMAN
Art by Tom Bloom


Listen ToYour Heart! It Will Give You Answers, escucha la Voz que llevas adentro, Tedara las Respuestas.



A B○○K
QUESTIONs

## A PLAYFUL JOURNAL TO KEEP THOUGHTS \& FEELIMGS

Questions in English and Spanish PREGUNTAS EN INGLES Y ESPANOL
by BILL ZIMMERMAN
Art by Tom Bloom


An Interactive Digital Journal from MakeBeliefsComix.com

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The author welcomes comments and suggestions about what you would like to see included in future editions.

## Please write to:

William Zimmerman, Guarionex Press Ltd.
201 West 77 Street, New York, NY 10024
Or email billz@makebeliefscomix.com.
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For other books by Bill Zimmerman, visit http://www.billztreasurechest.com or http://www.makebeliefscomix.com


## For Carlota,

who has so many questions:
May you find the answers,
And never take "no" for an answer.

## How to Use This Journal

I originally wrote this book of questions as a way to help me think through the many questions I had in my life, for posing questions puts one on the path to finding answers.

I found that the book, once published, took on its own life. Over the years I've received letters from a wide range of users-from teachers and children in elementary schools, to teenagers and young adults looking for fun and selfenlightenment, to harried business executives and working parents seeking a way to relax and touch base with themselves, to people in senior citizen centers wanting to reflect on their lives.

Many educators use this book of questions to encourage youngsters and adults who are learning how to read and write English to practice language, reading, and creative skills. Many teachers use the individual questions as subjects for essays, poems, and plays. Some have even replicated individual pages in poster form and asked each student to enter his or her contribution. Others have used the book as a model to encourage students to write their own journal of questions and answers.

For those who teach young and old how to read and write English or Spanish as a second language, A Book of Questions can be an invaluable tool for helping people try their new language skills in a nonthreatening manner. The questions are offered in both languages

This book has also been used by many counselors in therapy and recovery programs that encourage journal-keeping as a way to help people heal. I have found that writing a few minutes a day in this little book leads to better self-understanding.

For those of you who are parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles or big brothers and sisters, why not sit down with the child in your life one night or Sunday morning and answer a question together? Doing so can give you a unique insight into how your minds and spirits work. If your children are too young to read the questions on the page, you can read it for them aloud and ask the children to dictate a response that you can write for them. This will reinforce the value of their voice. That often was the way I encouraged my own daughter to write and to believe that what she thought was important.

But there is one thing to remember, too, in using this book. It is foremost a resource to have fun with, the fun that comes from having your own private journal to keep the thoughts that are yours alone, that capture your jokes and laughter, your sweet madness, your special way of looking at life and the world. Make this book your own personal treasure chest.

(This book is formatted as an interactive digital journal. When downloaded, it will allow your students to type directly on their computer screens into the areas under the writing prompts. When a student is done typing, simply save the document until the next time she or he is inspired to make new entries. Students can print out any individual pages that they want.)

## Foreword

(IIII= $=-$
This book will be unlike any other you have read because it will be written by you. It will hold the thoughts and feelings that belong only to you.

So many of us say we want to keep a journal, but when we decide to try, we're not quite sure what to write in it.

This book will enable you to begin, because it provides a simple way for you to think about your life; it questions you and encourages you to respond with written thoughts.

And such writing will help you decipher yourself. The questions in this book are here to help you to talk to and know yourself better through your written responses to them. They are questions I have asked myself throughout my life. I believe they will have meaning for you, too.

They are here to help you take your pulse, to hear your special voice. The questions are meant to free you, to amuse you, to puzzle you, to help you break away from the hard work you do.

Choose the ones you want to answer in any order; feel free to change them to meet your own needs-they are merely a guide. Simply write whatever thoughts come to mind in the space provided under the questions, and add to them with time. There also is a place to write the date for the thought.

## Don't worry if you don't have answers to a particular question.

 Come back to it when you feel ready.This book is formatted as an interactive digital journal. When downloaded, it will allow readers to type directly on their computer screens into the lined areas under the question prompts. When you are done typing, simply save the document until the next time you are inspired to make new entries. You also can print out any pages which you want.

Enjoy my book of questions. Through use, it becomes your book of answers. Remember, once you complete it, there will be no book like it in the world because it is created by you. Start this book when you are ready to listen to yourself.

Sincerely,


## P.S. Dear reader,

I have included a special message throughout the book written in sign language that can be deciphered with help from the sign language alphabet found on the following page. By spelling out the sign letters found on the bottom of each left-hand page, you will discover this message to sweeten your path to answers. I use sign language in this book because, increasingly, many of us are learning this beautiful language as a way to communicate with others. You also will see that the book's questions are written in Spanish, as well as in English, as so many of us also are beginning to use this language in our daily lives.
Enjoy!

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p,p,s,
    And Remember, There Are No
#R1GHT<< ANSWERS... ONLY THOSE
that Come From Your Heart
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American Signlanguage Alphabet
As You turn the pages, You Will Find The Signs for Different Letters On The Bottom Of each right. Hand Page. Decipher Them In Order And You Will Discover that They Spell Out An encouraging Message to Help you on Your path to answers.


## A Book of Questions



- TUS pensamientos/YOUR THOUGHTS


## $\square$



## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



That Get You
Through The Hard Times? ¿Que son las Destrezas que Te facilitan Sobresalira Duras penas?

TUS PENSAMIENTOS/YOUR THOUGHTS
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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

If You Could Create Something Very Beautiful For the World, What Would it Be?
Si Pudieras Crear algo bien bello Para el MundoniQueseria?
YOUR THOUGHTS
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If You Could Discovera New Star, What Would You Call It? Si pudieras nombrar una estrella nueva" ¿Comola llamarias?
YOUR THOUGHTS
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## A Book of Questions



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A Book of Questions
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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

What Bad Memory Or Dream Keeps Playing Over And Over In Your Head Like a Broken Melody? ¿que Recuerdo 0 sueno desgraciado te Roca Repitadas veces por la cabeza como una melodia que no Se Termina?
 YOUN THOUGHTS

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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

What Is The Greatest Experience You Ever Had? ¿Cual es la experencia mas fabulosa que has tenido tu?

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## A Book of Questions



A BOOK OF QUESTIONS

## A Book of Questions

What Kinds $O_{\text {a }}$ People do You Like Most? ¿Que clase De gente te Gusta? ?
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If You Could Give a Beat Of Your Life To Someone, Whom Would It Be ?
¿SI Pudileas darle a Algulen un Latioo detu vida, a quien Seria?

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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

You are a Sorcerer Ano have The Power To Cast a Spell. What Words Would You Use, And How Wovid You USE THE SPELL? tu Eres Hechicero(a)y Tienes El Poder De encantar, ¿Que Palabras USARIAS Y COMO TE SERVIRIA ENCENTAR?
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If You Could Write a Sweet Blessing, What Would You Say?
Si Pudieras escribir una benedicion dulce" ¿que Dirias?
YOUR THOU GHTS
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## A Book of Questions

Once When You Were $I_{\text {LL }}$ And You Said You
Would Change If Only You Got Well $A_{\text {gain, }}$ What Did You Mean?
Una Vez Que entuviste enfermo y Diviste que Cambiarias tu Manera de ser Si mejorabas Otra Vez." ¿Que Querias Decir Con Eso?
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## A Book of Questions


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## A Book of Questions

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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

$\qquad$ What Are The Things You Can Do To Envoy Your Life More?
¿Cuales son las cosas Que Puedes hacer
Para afrovechar tu VIda mas?
YOUR THOVGHTS
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## A Book of Questions



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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

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¿Que de Envejecer Te Da el Mas miedo

YOUR THOUGHTS
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## A Book of Questions



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A Book of Questions


## A Book of Questions

(I) F You Could Use Your IMAGINATION To Get Back At SOMEONE
Who Hurt You, WhatWould You Do To Them?
S. pudieras usar tu imaginacion para vengarte De alguien que Te Hizo Mal- ¿Que Te harias?
YOUR THOUGHTS
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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

》A MESSAGE TO THE MASSES《


A Book of Questions


## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



You Could Be A Toy, What Would You Be? Si Pudieras Convertirte En Juguete ¿A Cualte convertirias?
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## A Book of Questions



A BOOK OF QUESTIONS

## A Book of Questions


hen are The Times You feel Most Like HIMHMG? Where Would You Like To Go?
¿en que ocasiones te dan mas por esconderte? ¿a donde

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## A Book of Questions



A BOOK OF QUESTIONS

## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

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## A Book of Questions


ow did You Learn To Stand On Your Own Two Feet?
¿COMO APRENDISTE VOLAR CON TUS propias alas?
YOUF THOUGHTS
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## A Book of Questions


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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions


phen Was The Time You found The Power Within You?
¿Cuando Fue que encontraste el poder por Dentro?

- roun Thoughts

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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

What 信首; Problems are You Strug gling With? What BIG Problems Did You Have a Year Ago? How Did You Solve Them?
¿con que Problemas enormes luchas? ¿Que Problemas EnORMES TENIAS HACE UN Ano, Y COMO LOS RESOLVISTE?

- YOUR THOUGHTS.
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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions


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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

hat are the Things you Want To tell a Child To Help Them Along In Life?
¿Cuales son las cosas que le contarias a un (a) Nino(a) Para Ayudarles a Bregar Con la Vida?
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A Book of Questions


## A Book of Questions

》SPARKS In The Dark <


A Book of Questions

Whom Do You ADMIRE? Why?
¿A QUIEN ADMIRAS? ¿POR QuE?
-TUS PENSAMIENTOS
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## A Book of Questions


¿Que Amakgura Tienes En tu Alma?
YOUR THOUGHTS


## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

## What are The Things That Make You feel More Powerful

 in Life? What Would You Do With More Power?¿Que Hay que te Hace sentir Mas Poderoso(a) en lavida?
¿Que harias Con Mas poder?

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## A Book of Questions



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## A Book of Questions



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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



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## A Book of Questions

If You Could Write a Poem Or Sing a Song What Would it Be? How Would It 60?
5. pudieras Escritir un poema o Cantar Una Cancion. ¿CUALSERIA? ¿AQUE SONARIA?

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A Book of Questions


## A Book of Questions

What Truth Have You Learned That You Want To Share?
¿Que verdad apren oiste tu que Deseas Compartir? YOUR THOUGHTS

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A Book of Questions


## A Book of Questions


hat Was the Most Wonderful Thing That Ever Happened To You?
¿que fue lo mas Maravilloso De tu VIDA Que te Ha Pasado?


## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

Hat Strange Adventure WouldYou Lite To Have?
¿QUE AVENTURA RARA TE GUSTARIA TENER?
YOUR THOUGHTS
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## A Book of Questions



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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

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Si Pudieras ser distinto ¿Como Serias?

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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

" Wall Scrawl"
WMITE.DRAW OR COLOR THIS SPACE


## A Book of Questions

What Are The Things About Your Parents Or Someone Close to You That Worry You?
¿Cuales Son las Cosas Que tienen Que Ver Con
tus Padres o Con un livtimo Que Te Preocupan?
2 TUSPENSAMIENTOS
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## A Book of Questions

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hat name Would You Choose If You Could Name Yourself? Why This Name? Does It Have a Meaning?
¿Que Nombre Escouerias Si Pudieras Darte Tu Propio Nombre? ¿YPORQUE ESE NOMBRE? ¿TIENE SIGNIFICADOALGUN?
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f We Were to Become Rainbow people, What Color Would You Choose?
Si Nos Convertieramos ala Gente Del Ancolris" ¿Que Color ESCOGERIAS?
YOUN THOUGHTS -


## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

If You Could Ster Outside Your Body to See Yourself Clearly, what Kind of Person Would You SEE ? How Would You LIKE To BE?
S) Pudieras alejarte de te Cuerro para verte mas Claramente.. ¿Que clase de persona verias? ¿COMO TE Gustania Ser?
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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

Are Some Things You Have Achieved In Youv Life So Fak?
¿CUALES SON LAS METAS QUE HAS Realizado En
TU VIDA HASTA HOY EN DIA?
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## A Book of Questions



A BOOK OF QUESTIONS


## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

$55 \int$ HAT Do You Expect From Death?
¿Que Esperas De La muerte?


## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

\#F You Could Be a SMEll, $\pm$ What Would You Be?

Si pudieras Ser un Olfato" ¿Cual Serias?
$\qquad$ vour thoughts.


## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions

OULD You Write SOMETHING IN A Secret Language That No One Else Could Figure Out? (Please Write The Translation NMOO ヨOISd Some place On This page Justin CASE YOU FORGET What THe WORDS Or SOUNDS MEAN.)
¿ Podrias escribir en algun idioma Secreto Que vadie Mas Pudiera DECIF RARLO? (Por FAVOR ESCRIBELA TRADUCCION S3AByTV)

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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



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A Book of Questions
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A Book of Questions

What is The Question You're Afraid
to Ask Yoursele?
¿Cual es la pregunta Que Te Temes Hacerte atimismo(a)?
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A Book of Questions


What's The Funniest Thing That Ever Happened To You?
¿Que es la cosa Mas Divertida Que te haya Ocunarido?
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## A Book of Questions


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## A Book of Questions

What Kind Of Person Do You Want To Be?
¿Que Clase de Persona Desens Ser?
¿Que clase de persona des eas ser?
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## A Book of Questions

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Rite Something Beautiful To The World (It Can Be in Your Secret language.)
iescribele Algo Hermoso Al Mundo!
(puede ser en tu ldioma secreto.)


## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



A Book of Questions


## A Book of Questions


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## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



F You Could be An Animal, What
WOULD YOU BE?
5. Pudieras ser animal" ¿cual Serias?
your thoughts
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F, Like Adam, You Could Name a new $C_{\text {reature, }}$ What Would You Call It?
Que Si, Como Adan, Tu le Pudieras Ponerle Nombre a. Un amimal Visto por primera vez-" ¿Que lo llamaria?
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## A Book of Questions



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A Book of Questions
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>Cave Painting <<


## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions


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## A Book of Questions



A BOOK OF QUESTIONS

## A Book of Questions

If You Could Be a Different Element".

"Which WOULD YOU BE? WHY?
Si pudieras Ser un Elemento terrestre" ¿CUAL SERIAS. TIERRA, AgUA, AIRE O FUE GO? ¿PORQUE?

YOUK THOUGHTS


## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



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A Book of Questions
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## A Book of Questions

》 Sky Writing <<


## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions



## A Book of Questions




## ABOUT the AUTHOR

In his many books and work as a newspaper editor, Bill Zimmerman has pioneered innovative writing techniques to help people express all the important things within them. His books and web sites are used in literacy and English language learning programs around the world and to encourage creative thinking.

## His web sites are:

http://www.billztreasurechest.com (which features excerpts from all his books)
http://www.makebeliefscomix.com (which enables visitors to create their own online comic strips)
http://www.somethingtowriteabout.com (his writing prompts blog for students)
Please visit them.

## Among his popular books are:

- Pocket Doodles for Kids
- Make Beliefs: A Gift for Your Imagination
- Lunch Box Letters: Writing Notes of Love and Encouragement to Your Children
- How to Tape Instant Oral Biographies.



## ABOUT the ILLUSTRATOR

Tom Bloom is an artist who has brought joy to the world with his cartoons and illustrations which have appeared in publications such as The New York Times, The New Yorker, Fortune and Barron's. He has collaborated with Bill on many other books.

## SHARE WITH US

We would wholeheartedly welcome your feedback on using A Book of Questions. Please send us your thoughts or suggestions on how we can improve this book, along with your permission to use your ideas. We also welcome your ideas for new question prompts. For every idea used, a free copy of one of Bill Zimmerman's books will be sent to you. What was your experience like in using this book? Please share with us.


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Bill Zimmerman Guarionex Press Ltd. 201 West 77th Street New York, NY 10024
E-mail: wmz@aol.com

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- Make Beliefs to Spark Your Imagination
- Words I Wish Someone Had Said to Me As A Kid
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