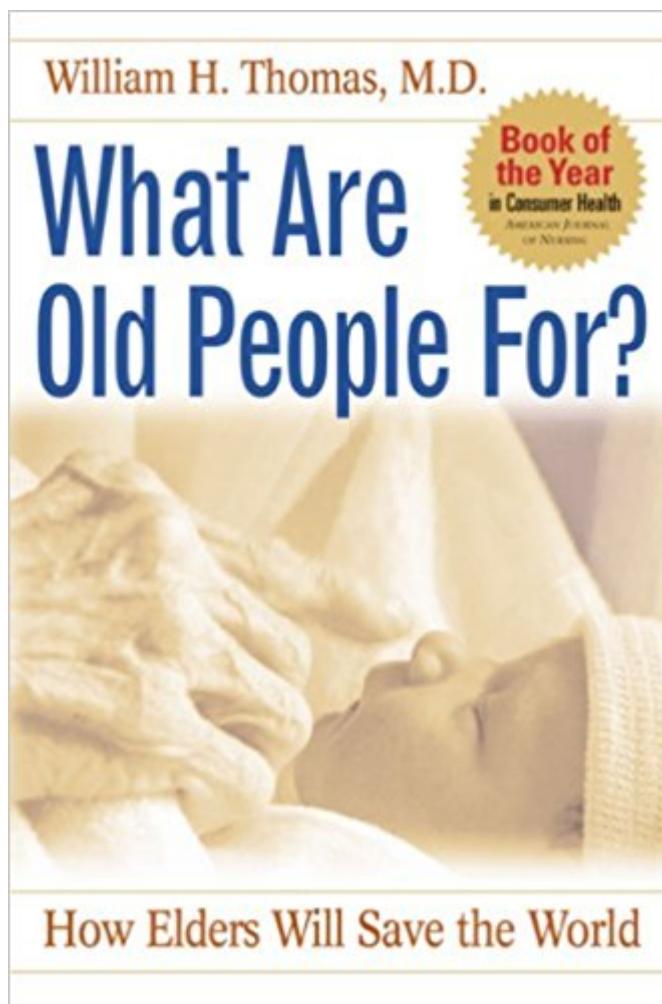


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# What Are Old People For?: How Elders Will Save The World



## **Synopsis**

We live in a society that opposes aging, despite the evidence that each of us is, in fact, aging. This anti-aging bias has prevented us from thinking about old age in a way that feels good or that will create a good elderhood. Removing our ageist blinders, Dr. Thomas provides a motivational and visionary blueprint for old age as a healing force in society.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

2005 Award Winner in Trade-book category -- American Medical Writers Association, September 2005A ground-breaking book that should change forever the way we think about the meaning of aging. -- Harry R. Moody, International Longevity Center and ElderhostelA seminal work and a call to arms--a struggle will (must) ensue. -- Arthur Rashap, Jefferson Area Board for AgingElectrifying new book ... as revolutions go, this is one we've all been waiting for. -- N.Y. Daily News, September 26, 2004On target! My head is spinning with where all of this can lead. -- Denise Hyde, Eden Alternative Regional CoordinatorThomas takes on the role of the abolitionist as he challenges the fundamental orthodoxy of forever-young adulthood. -- The Washington Post, October 5, 2004 --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

William H. Thomas, M.D., is a Harvard Medical School graduate, an author, a geriatrician, a consultant for AARP, and a speaker to diverse health care professionals, academics, and other researchers. He is president of two not-for-profit organizations that promote holistic approaches to aging and elder care. Winner of the America's Award (established by Norman Vincent Peale and

sometimes called "The Nobel Prize for Goodness"), the Molly Mettler Award from the Health Promotion Institute, and an award from the Giraffe Project (for sticking his neck out), Bill Thomas most recently has received a three-year fellowship from Ashoka, a global nonprofit organization that searches the world for social entrepreneurs--extraordinary individuals with unprecedented ideas for change in their communities. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Seller gets a 5 star for speed and excellent condition of the book. The book itself get a one star. The author never answered the question raised by the title. The book just rambled on from one subject the next, and it was difficult to integrate and understand. After reading the book, I still don't know what old people are for, and I'm one of the them. I will continue my search for the answer.

Some good insights and ideas, but uneven and not very well edited. I don't think Thomas delivers on the sub-title: how elders will save the world.

While Bill Thomas is best known for his writings on reinventing nursing homes with the Eden Alternative, the wisdom he shares in his latest effort has something for every organization selling to or serving older adults - with the aging of the baby boom that's everyone. This book should be required reading in every college and business. Further, it is must read for anyone that would like to develop positive aging self awareness and thus add some years to their life and definitely some life to their remaining years. I have been conducting workshops on marketing to middle age and older adults for over 20 years and this book will be recommended reading at every future seminar.

My close friends mom is in a nursing home in Mississippi that uses this method. It's an awesome place. Employees interview potential employees. They de-institutionalize everything. The book describes the reason the author started this philosophy in nsg homes and explains it.

Title sounds like an opening line at a comedy club...gets your attention, but may put folks off. Sub title says it better. This is a book for Adults as well as Elders. Important to learn about "doing" and "being" at an early point in life. Easy read that makes you think.

Anyone with older parents or anyone who realizes you are getting "older" will benefit from this book. Thomas is a great writer, and a great story teller, and this book will give any reader a good insight into what aging can be. Don't wait until you are old to read it.

The book gets off to a slow start, First chapter is a real turn off. But around page 80 it gets pretty interesting. If you're old, this book will raise your insecurities, so you have to hang in there. We did it as a Book Discussion Group, oldest 82, youngest 64, so it hit home to all of us. Despite the slow start the book helps to have you look at aging in a different way and offers hope to those who are already "old", best done in a group so you can express your insecurities and fears.

As soon as I finished this book I wanted my dad to read it. I think anyone thinking "what's next" or "what's left for me?" in the later years of their lives, needs to read this book. It will inspire them to take another look at what they have to offer and all the skills they can still share with others.

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