

ENDORSEMENTS FOR ALAN CLEMENTS BOOKS AND WORK

Praise for A FUTURE TO BELIEVE IN

“*A Future to Believe In* is a message the world needs to hear now!”

— Bill McKibben, Author of *Earth: Making a Life on a Tough New Planet*

“Distilling the essence of world religions, cultures, politics, and spiritual traditions, Alan Clements’ magnificent book provides a courageous and intelligent compass personifying our aspirations for freedom and wisdom. In so doing, he offers insights on how to actively shape a future that gives life hope. With our planet in peril, it is imperative that we act now to provide a secure future for our children and future generations; make this book your guide, mentor and friend.”

— Dr Helen Caldicott, Activist and Author of *Nuclear Power is Not the Answer* and *If you Love this Planet*; Founding President Physicians for Social Responsibility; Named one of the 100 most influential women of the 20th century by the Smithsonian Institute.

“*A Future to Believe In* is a treasure, not a mere book. It is a startling distillation of Clements’ life’s practice, a missal of contemplative activism, a catalyst for the torpor of our times, peppered with wisdom, a mala of verbal jewels that encircle the heart and provoke one’s insight past the familiar nostrums that rain upon the world.”

— Paul Hawken, Author of *Blessed Unrest* and *An Ecology of Commerce: A Declaration of Sustainability*.

“This culture is killing the planet. If we are to have any future at all, we must unlearn everything this culture has taught us and begin to listen to the planet, to listen to life — the core intelligence of nature and the human heart. This book not only helps us with that unlearning process — the greatest challenge humankind has every faced — it provides the essential wisdom, the spiritual intelligence, to open ourselves to finally start to hear.”

— Derrick Jensen, Environmental Activist and Author of *Culture of Make Believe*, *Endgame*, *Deep Green Resistance*, and *Dreams*.

“This book is the music of wisdom, a dance with the finest places of the human heart. It is also like a walk with your favorite friends, mentors and teachers as they point out the beauties of the journey. You will want to keep this timeless treasure within reach, so you can open it to any page, and let a paragraph or a line ignite you again to the truth of your own being.”

— Joanna Macy, Buddhist Teacher, Activist and Author of *World as Lover*, *World As Self* and *Pass it On: Five Stories that Can Change the World*.

“The greatest gift a book can offer is the wisdom and courage that elevates our consciousness into creative and compassionate actions that honor the interdependency of all life. *A Future to Believe In* delivers that gift with poetic beauty, fearless grace and the bold reality of what it means to be human. Reading it will inspire you, provoke you, keep you up at night, and most of all, change you. I highly recommend it!”

— Cheryl Richardson, New York Times bestselling author of *Take Time for Your Life*.

“*A Future to Believe In* provides us with a standing wave of insight, a perpetually central pivot pertaining eminently to private and political spheres, inextricable, after all. This book should be made mandatory world-wide for all heads of state.”

— Lissa Wolsak, Award winning Poet and Author of *In Defense of Being, Squeezed Light* and *Pen Chants*.

“We live in times that spread greed, violence, fear and hopelessness. We live in times when consumerism enslaves us while offering pseudo-freedom. Alan Clements labor of love, *A Future to Believe In: A Guide to Revolution, Environmental Sanity, and the Universal Right to Be Free*, brings us reflections that inspire us to be free and fearless.”

— Dr. Vandana Shiva, Author of, *Earth Democracy; Justice, Sustainability, and Peace, Soil, Not Oil*, and *Staying Alive*.

“For 10,000 years, the mantra of our material civilization has been Compete and Consume, but the inspiration for the new paradigm is to Cooperate and Conserve. Alan Clements’ elegant, humane Reflections teach us how to cooperate in order to cherish and preserve that good and beautiful and rapturous thing we call *freedom*. Achieving that is the key to building a future that loves and protects the biosphere within which we interdepend. This is a wonderful collection of wise and glittering things that will travel everywhere from hand to hand, and heart to heart.”

— Gregory David Roberts, Author of *Shantaram*.

“At a time when the contemporary spiritual landscape has become dangerously gentrified and domesticated, Alan Clements restores us to our senses — wild and elemental. He summons the voices of those who, along side him, have not traded their souls for the market-driven need to be tame or acceptable, and points us to the wilderness of true, engaged, fiercely authentic awakening. This is why we are alive — to set freedom free, in ourselves and for others, in every aspect of our lives from the most mundane daily task, to the most profound political act.”

— Kelly Wendorf, Author and editor *Stories of Belonging*.

“Alan Clements has put together an enchanting treasury of dharma jewels — inspired reflections and compassionate insights on life and freedom — in the cosmos, on Earth, in human society and above all in the human heart. The short pieces in this book will be cherished and savored for their soul-stirring beauty.”

— Ralph Metzner, Ph.D., Author of *MindSpace* and *TimeStream*.

“In this radiant book is an orchard — trees of wise ripe fruits, where you may stroll, gathering such fulfilled thoughts and emotions...to savor each’ flavor, aroma, ambience — to then contemplate within this luxuriant garden a new consciousness and, thereby, chose, pick — strike forth — and act with such sure support to shape a future to believe in.”

— Lowry Burgess, Artist and professor at Carnegie Mellon — creator of the first official Non-Scientific Art Payload taken into outer space by NASA in 1989; also author of the *2001 Toronto Manifesto*, *The Right to Human Memory*.

“*A Future to Believe In* is a book that carries the necessary tension to encourage and motivate the critical self reflection so necessary for the healing and transformation so desperately needed in the world.”

— Claude AnShin Thomas, Award winning author of *At Hell’s Gate: A Soldier’s Journey from War to Peace*. Zen Buddhist Monk and Vietnam Combat Veteran.

“Radical wisdom, from a revolutionary spirit. These reflections inspired me to be kind, compassionate and unflinching in the face of suffering and ignorance. This is a field guide for spiritual revolutionaries, a manifesto of liberation. If you care about anything, read this book.”

— Noah Levine, Buddhist Teacher and Author of *Dharma Punx* and *Against the Stream*.

“*A Future to Believe In* is rich feast of wisdom best taken in small bites, calling us to the highest and best within each of us — to a life of integrity, perspective, and compassion.”

— Dan Millman, Author of *Way of the Peaceful Warrior* and *The Four Purposes of Life*.

“Alan Clements’ book is well-timed, in that, most people in our world have lost hope for the future. I am confident that *A Future to Believe In* will rekindle in their minds a new vision — inspiring all to listen fully to their own hearts, and learn to understand the universal laws of Nature that govern us — that make life and Cosmos the miracle of love that it is. Please spread this book far and wide.”

— Dr. A.T.Ariyaratne, Founder of Sarvodaya Movement of Sri Lanka.

“Drawing on a wonderful blend of artists, poets and teachers, activists, scientists, and sages, Alan Clements offers us reflections that call forth our hearts. They invite a dedication to creating a peaceful, vibrant, beautiful world — one that honors the sanctity of freedom, dignity, and human rights.”

— Tara Brach, Buddhist Teacher and Author, *Radical Acceptance*

“This brilliant almanac of wisdom for everyday life is a must-read for anyone seeking inspiration, and spiritual know-how, in these challenging times. I’ve never read anything quite like *A Future to Believe In*. Absolutely wonderful.”

— Mark Matousek, Author of *Ethical Wisdom: What Makes Us Good* and *When You’re Falling, Dive: Lessons in the Art of Living*.

“I value this book enormously. It is packed with transformative insight, compelling ideas, and remarkable articulations about the nature of being — who we are and what we can become. Rather than expecting us to embrace some bright belief in a path to enlightenment or peace, it ignites in us the passion of adventure and the courage to keep an open mind — free of conclusions — as we explore deep personal, social, and planetary transformation. I hope this book serves as a catalyst for both political activists and spiritual aspirants to keep alive the questioning mind, and further, a manual for contemplations and conversations to co-create newly true communities of deepening, committed, powerful people.”

— Tom Atlee, Author of *The Tao of Democracy* and *Reflections on Evolutionary Activism* and founder of the Co-Intelligence Institute

“Alan Clements once again offers words that shift our attention away from the too easy to identify sordid events of the world and toward the heartbeat that enlivens the spirit in all of us, a spirit that yearns for discovery, growth, and peace. *A Future to Believe In* will inspire readers to reflect on the personal philosophies that shape their thoughts and then, most importantly, subtly nudge them into some new caring and creative course of action.”

— Dr. Sam Richards, professor of sociology and co-director of the World in Conversation Project at Penn State University

“*A Future to Believe In* is a tapestry of wisdom and inspiration from countless cultures and eras of humanity.”

— Eunice Wong, Essayist and Books Editor at *Truthdig*

“This surprising collection of aphorisms, reflections, and anecdotes is a rare thing: both a deep source for inner renewal as well as a manual for changing ourselves and the world around us.”

— Stephen Batchelor, Author of *Buddhism without Beliefs*

“Clements ranges far and deeply through the world’s thinkers, mystics, activists, and poets to create a tapestry of challenge and encouragement — encouragement by showing that others have gone before us, and a challenge to go further, that the universe is waiting for our own contribution to the eternal process of liberation and fulfillment.”

— Dale Pendell, Author of *Pharmako/Gnosis*, *Plant Teachers and the Poison Path*, and *The Great Bay, Chronicles of the Collapse*

“This book is an act of spiritual activism. It comes to us from the frontline of the revolution in consciousness underway in the world today. It is a gift of wisdom that awakens us to the changes we need to make, but always seen from a spiritual perspective. Buy it as a daily reminder that will lift your awareness towards a better future.”

— Hardin Tibbs, Futurist and writer on industrial ecology, sustainability, cultural values, change, and other future-focused topics.

Praise for INSTINCT FOR FREEDOM and ALAN CLEMENTS

“One of the most important and compelling voices of our times . . . Alan Clements is a riveting communicator — challenging and inspiring. He articulates the essentials of courage and leadership in a way that can stir people from all sectors of society into action; his voice is not only a great contribution during these changeful times, it is a needed one.”

— Jack Healy, former director of Amnesty International

“Alan’s life is material for a legend. An intellectual artist, freedom fighter, former Buddhist monk, he shares his insights and experience with a passion rarely seen and even more rarely lived. He’ll make you think and feel in ways that challenge your entire way of being.”

— Catherine Ingram, *In the Footsteps of Gandhi and Passionate Presence*

“During an era when a spate of shallow, narcissistic fiction has found a niche as “sacred literature,” Alan Clements’ work and writing is a wonderful relief and reminder that the heart of spirituality still is, and will always be, compassion. I am thrilled to see his rich and productive search being shared with wider and wider audiences.”

— Bo Lozoff, Human Kindness Foundation author of *We’re All Doing Time*

“Courageous and compelling, *Instinct for Freedom* is a vivid account of how one man’s renunciation gave way to his own love and desire. This is a haunting and beautiful story, one full of teachings for seekers of all persuasions.”

— Mark Epstein, M.D., author of *Going to Pieces without Falling Apart*

“Rarely has a book touched me as deeply and personally as *Instinct for Freedom*. This profound book is a call to action, a spiritual force for change. May the beauty of Alan's writing and the power of his personal journey compel you to be true to your own heart so that we may all experience the gift of freedom in its purest form.”

— Cheryl Richardson, author of *Stand Up for Your Life*

“This superbly written, profound, and moving work addresses head-on the central question of our time — how to put meditation into action and so transform the real conditions of the real world. Its honesty and passion are liberating, and its message both timeless and acutely timely.”

— Andrew Harvey, author of *The Direct Path* and *Sacred Activism*

“Alan Clements is uniquely qualified to widen our perspectives, both of ourselves and of meaningful action in the world. His eloquence and sincerity calls us closer to our fullest potentials.”

— Joseph Goldstein, author of *One Dharma: The Emerging Western Buddhism*

“Alan Clements is a refreshing underground alternative to mainstream spirituality. Both direct and daring, he invites challenge to all forms of compromise and blind allegiance to dogma or authority. As one of the West's senior-most dharma teachers, he speaks on the nature of consciousness and freedom in ways rarely heard, translating ancient and complex Eastern truths into modern and practical Western realities.”

— Marcia Jacobs - A psychotherapist specializing in victims of war, rape and trauma. And a senior U.N. representative for Refugees in Bosnia and Croatia from 1993 - 1997.

“I have known Alan for over a decade. He is my first call when I seek insight and candor concerning personal and professional advice. As a speaker, his eloquence moves audiences to ask the questions behind questions about how we live, why we work, and how it fits together.”

— Robert Chartoff, *Producer of Rocky, The Right Stuff, and Raging Bull.*

“Vision and the name Alan Clements are synonymous terms. His experience as a human rights activist, coupled with his penetrating knowledge of contemplative traditions, inspires us to recognize the depths of our unlimited nature. In hearing him speak, one's mind and heart can only expand; in direct communication with him, one reveals truths normally confined to dreams.”

—Julia Zarudzka, former chair AIDS Vancouver and the Seva Service Society

Praise for Burma: The Next Killing Fields?

“One of the most important and compelling voices of our times . . . Alan Clements is a riveting communicator — challenging and inspiring. He articulates the essentials of courage and leadership in a way that can stir people from all sectors of society into action; his voice is not only a great contribution during these changeful times, it is a needed one.”

— Jack Healy, former director of Amnesty International

Praise for Burma’s Revolution of the Spirit: A Nation’s Struggle for Freedom and Democracy (co-authored with Leslie Kean).

“Burma’s Revolution of the Spirit is an outstanding photographic essay on a difficult and inspiring subject. It reflects with power and sensitivity the enduring beauty and the ongoing destruction in Burma, and the profound struggle of Aung San Suu Kyi, with all of Burma’s peoples, for spiritual and democratic freedoms. Their struggle has great meaning for the human rights — and the humanity — of us all. We must each, in our own way, make the struggle our own.”

— Representative Tom Lantos, United States Congress.

Praise for The Voice of Hope — Conversations with Aung San Suu Kyi

“The Voice of Hope is a message that the world should hear.”

— Former US President Jimmy Carter

“Every leader on the planet should read this book at least once.”

— Alice Walker, Pulitzer-Prize winning author of *The Color Purple*

“The dialogues in *The Voice of Hope* express Aung San Suu Kyi’s humor, erudition, wisdom and accessibility, and demonstrate why she has become a world spiritual leader.”

— *The New York Times Book Review*

"Reading this book, one can well understand why [Aung San Suu Kyi] has been compared to such heroes of freedom as Nelson Mandela and Vaclav Havel."

— *The San Francisco Chronicle*

“Whatever the future of Burma, a possible future for politics itself is illuminated by these conversations.”

— *The London Observer*