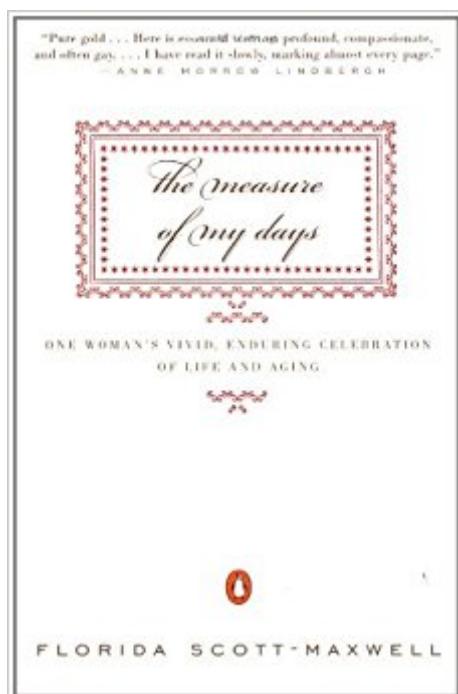


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# The Measure Of My Days: One Woman's Vivid, Enduring Celebration Of Life And Aging



## **Synopsis**

Playwright and Jungian analyst Florida Scott-Maxwell explores the unique predicament of one's later years: when one feels both cut off from the past and out of step with the present; when the body rebels at activity but the mind becomes more passionate than ever. Written when Maxwell was in her eighties, *The Measure of My Days* offers a panoramic vision of the issues that haunt us throughout our lives: the struggle to achieve goodness; how to maintain individuality in a mass society; and how to emerge--out of suffering, loss, and limitation--with something approaching wisdom. Maxwell's incredible wisdom, humanity, and dignity make *The Measure of My Days* both timeless and timely--an important contribution to the literature of aging, and of living.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 150 pages

Publisher: Penguin Books; First edition (April 26, 1979)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140051643

ISBN-13: 978-0140051643

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.4 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 26 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #115,972 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #47 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Social Scientists & Psychologists #405 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Aging #1581 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Specific Groups > Women

## **Customer Reviews**

Florida Pier Scott-Maxwell (1883-1979) was a writer, playwright, and suffragist who took up a career in analytical psychology in 1933, studying under Carl Jung in both Scotland and England.

I found this book from an article written by Parker Palmer in which he cited from her book, "you need only claim the events of your life to make yourself yours... My mother and my mother-in-law recently died at the age of 93 and 91 and I watched their slow demise from active women. Ms. Scott-Maxwell captures my own thoughts about aging, slowing down, becoming invisible yet defines life however inactive as enjoyment as accepting as oneself both successes and joys as well as failures and sadness. Her thoughts are a confirmation of my own thoughts and unspoken feelings as well as an

inspiration for defining my future aging. Well worth the read. I know I will refer back to her musings for strength.

The writer was born Florida Piers into one of those British families who tried to settle in Florida. (Personal knowledge: many of them tried growing oranges but were defeated by a series of cold winters in the late 1800s; they fled.) As a small child she encountered alligators and cotton-mouth moccasins; she survived, so the encounters are amusing rather than horrifying. This book is a summation of her long and productive life -- she was a playwright in the U.K. It is one of those books that are guideposts on the way to growing old. I had read it years ago and ordered a used copy to share with friends. So I am re-reading slowly and finding more in it this time around.

I was so touched by this beautiful little book. I am quite young (under 30), but I have bought copies for my mother-in-law and grandmother as well.

I keep buying this one and end up giving it away. She was an incredible woman with an incredible story and her writings are brief and to the point. Thoughtful and provocative.

Not a wasted word or thought. Lovely, thoughtful, honest writing that carefully measures a life and provokes much thought in the reader.

Interesting book.

I can understand how young people might not relate to this book, but I found it reflecting many of my own journal entries (I'm in my later 60s). Her perceptions of the changing world, as well as her inner world, were insightful and thoughtful. It must be remembered that the book is a compilation of notes she would jot down as they came to her. She's sharing what her experience of aging is; it's a very personal, rich, intimate book which I found very special. I would like to have known this woman.

Love this book!

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