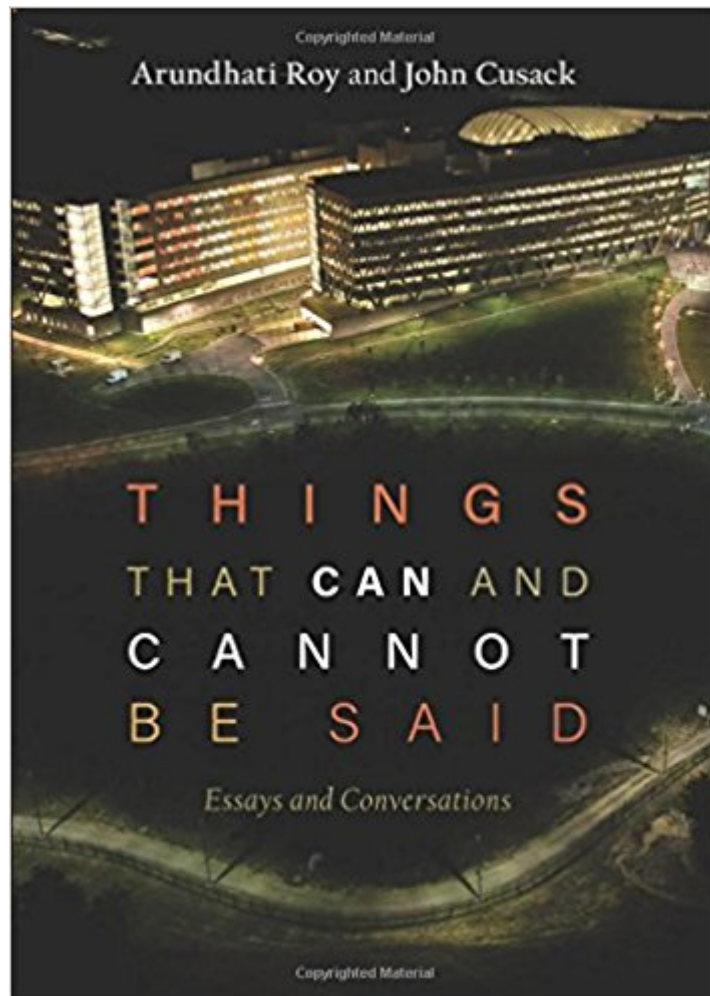




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Things That Can And Cannot Be Said: Essays And Conversations



Synopsis

In late 2014, Arundhati Roy, John Cusack, and Daniel Ellsberg travelled to Moscow to meet with NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden. The result was a series of essays and dialogues in which Roy and Cusack reflect on their conversations with Snowden. In these provocative and penetrating discussions, Roy and Cusack discuss the nature of the state, empire, and surveillance in an era of perpetual war, the meaning of flags and patriotism, the role of foundations and NGOs in limiting dissent, and the ways in which capital but not people can freely cross borders. Arundhati Roy is a writer and global justice activist. From her celebrated Booker Prize-winning novel *The God of Small Things*, to her prolific output of writing on topics ranging from climate change to war, the perils of free-market "development" in India, and the defense of the poor, Roy's voice has become indispensable to millions seeking a better world. John Cusack is a writer, filmmaker, and a board member of the Freedom of the Press Foundation. He has written the screenplays for the movies *Grosse Pointe Blank*, *High Fidelity*, and *War, Inc.*, with Mark Leyner and Jeremy Pikser, among many others. His writing has appeared widely, including the *Guardian*, *Truthout*, and *Outlook India*.

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Customer Reviews

"Arundhati Roy is one of the most confident and original thinkers of our time."#151;Naomi Klein
"The fierceness with which Arundhati Roy loves humanity moves my heart."#151;Alice Walker
"[Roy is] an electrifying political essayist. . . . So fluent is her prose, so keen her

understanding of global politics, and so resonant her objections to nuclear weapons, assaults against the environment, and the endless suffering of the poor that her essays are as uplifting as they are galvanizing."#151;Booklist

Arundhati Roy studied architecture in New Delhi, where she now lives. She is the author of the novel *The God of Small Things*, for which she received the 1997 Booker Prize. The novel has been translated into forty languages worldwide. She has written several non-fiction books, including *Field Notes on Democracy: Listening to Grasshoppers* and *Capitalism: A Ghost Story*, published by Haymarket Books. John Cusack is a writer, filmmaker, actor, and a board member of the Freedom of the Press Foundation. He has written the screenplays for the movies *Grosse Pointe Blank*, *High Fidelity*, and *War, Inc.*, with Mark Leyner and Jeremy Pikser, among many others. His writing has appeared widely, including the *Guardian*, *Truthout*, and *Outlook India*.

This little book is a treasure! Love the candid conversations and thoughts. My only complaint is that it left me wanting more.

Arundhati Roy is a writer for modern living with old thoughts in mind. Bought all of her books.

Everyone should read this. And then make your friends read it. And then talk about it. That's my plan at least.

Great book! Good read!

I'm very much in favor of the accountability the authors advocate in this book. But, the writing style is difficult. It sounds like they're trying too hard to sound smart and cool, and it hurts.

This book made me want more and made me want to know more. I wanted to be a fly on the wall listening to Snowden and Ellsberg. Even in the short snippets of their conversation in the book, you felt the raw emotion coming from Ellsberg at being with a kindred spirit. Roy, as always, packs a punch in an almost lyrical way. Cusack asks the right questions, follows with his own thoughts and it never felt contrived or staged. I found myself doing more research and reading more books to be more informed. What I took most from this book was that we cannot sit idly by and wait for politicians and those in charge to do what we want. We have to act and not blindly have faith in a

transparency that will never exist. When I finished the book, I reread it and picked out the quotes, statements and or facts that I wanted to learn more about. As much as a follow-up book would be appreciated, I was given enough from this book to continue becoming better informed on my own. In fact, since reading this I've read Robert S. McNamara's book and just started a Noam Chomsky book.

Excellent book

Illuminating, thought-provoking, wonderful.

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