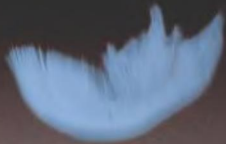


ILLUSIONS

The Adventures of a Reluctant Messiah

***An inspirational classic of
profound and enduring wisdom***



Richard Bach

Author of Jonathan Livingston Seagull

Reprinted in Arrow Books, 1998

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IT WAS A question I heard more than once, after *Jonathan Seagull* was published. “What are you going to write next, Richard? After *Jonathan*, what?”

I answered then that I didn't have to write anything next, not a word, and that all my books together said everything that I had asked them to say. Having starved for a while, the car repossessed and that sort of thing, it was fun not to have to work to midnights.

Still, every summer or so I took my antique biplane out into the green-meadow seas of midwest America, flew passengers for three-dollar rides and began to feel an old tension again – there was something left to say, and I hadn't said it.

I do not enjoy writing at all. If I can turn my back on an idea, out there in the dark, if I can avoid opening the door to it, I won't even reach for a pencil.