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A fresh perspective for troubling times

Bestselling author Andy Andrews provides proof of hope with new book

NASHVILLE – In uncertain times like these, it’s easy to get caught up in the day-to-day emotional drain of financial woes, relationship strain and work stress. In fact, a recent Gallup poll found our national well-being has hit a new low, with only 35 percent of Americans reporting feeling happiness or enjoyment without stress or worry. Our nation doesn’t need inspirational sentiments or promises that the economy will eventually rebound—we need definitive proof that there is reason to have hope.

Perhaps no one knows what hitting rock bottom feels like better than Andy Andrews, internationally renowned speaker and author of the bestselling novel, *The Traveler’s Gift*. Once homeless, directionless and living under a pier, Andrews is now a bestselling author and an in-demand speaker for U.S. presidents, top corporations, celebrities and the U.S. military. With his latest book, *The Noticer* (Thomas Nelson | April 28, 2009 | 978-0-7852-2921-1 | Hardcover | \$17.99), Andrews draws on his own remarkable true story to reveal the healing power of perspective.

Deeply affected by the death of his parents when he was only 19, Andrews’ life spiraled downward until he found himself homeless on the Alabama Gulf Coast. However, it was during this time that Andrews began to consume biographies of more than 200 great figures throughout history. He noticed a pattern in their shared characteristics, which became the seven principles for leading a remarkable life Andrews outlined in *The Traveler’s Gift*.

An international bestseller with more than a million copies sold, *The Traveler’s Gift* became an ABC “Good Morning America” book-of-the-month selection and the subject of a two-hour PBS special. Andrews’ new book, *The Noticer*, is set in his hometown of Orange Beach, Ala. It follows “Jones,” a mysterious older man who enters into the lives of residents in the midst of crisis – on the brink of divorce, on the verge of financial ruin, about to give up on life – to impart sage-like perspective on how to change their view of the world to move past life’s biggest challenges.

“The fact is, we are all in a crisis, coming out of a crisis or headed for a crisis,” says Andrews, called “one of the most influential people in America” by *The New York Times*. “Lurking in my memory are some days that did not begin well, and very quickly got worse. The mornings after my parents died were tough. Waking up under a pier or in a stranger’s garage is not fun. Three and a half years of rejection by 51 publishers was a discouraging start for *The Traveler’s Gift*. I know what it is like to wake up full of doubt and fear, aching despondent and demoralized.”

However, Andrews says he has discovered a proof of hope that has consistently lifted his heart, mind and spirit to a point of forward motion: the fact that he, like all of us, is still breathing.

“If you are still breathing, there is hope,” he says. “The most important part of your life has yet to be lived, and it doesn’t really matter how old you are or how broke you are or how depressed you might be. Without a doubt, there is more laughter to come and more success in the future. You are still here.”

Andrews currently resides in Orange Beach, with his wife and two sons. His combined works have sold millions of copies worldwide, and *The Traveler’s Gift* landed spots on *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today* and *Publishers Weekly* bestseller lists. For more information, visit www.AndyAndrews.com.

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To schedule an interview with Andrews, or to receive a review copy of *The Noticer*, please contact Amy Currie at (512) 478-2028 ext. 211 or acurrie@phenixpublicity.com.