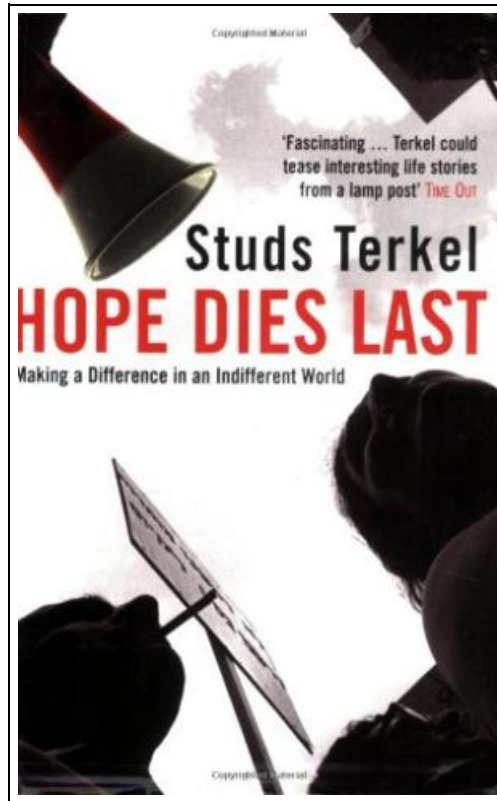


## Hope Dies Last: Making a Difference in an Indifferent World



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## HOPE DIES LAST: MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN AN INDIFFERENT WORLD

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Granta Books, 2005. Paperback. Book Condition: BRAND NEW. Studs Terkel is a legendary figure on the American political left and a veteran writer-activist since the 1940s whose previous works have dealt with substantial topics such as the Depression, the job, race, war and death. Hope Dies Last is a collection of interviews with over 50 Americans talking about hope, reflecting on the question of where hope springs from and how they have sustained and nurtured social hope in their own lives. The topic may seem rather vague but make no mistake, the result is fascinating reading. The book opens with a short autobiographical section entitled "Personal Notes" and it is here that one sees why Terkel is almost uniquely qualified to put a book such as this together. In 1945 Terkel was a commentator at WCFL, the Chicago Federation of Labor radio station, and after a brief stint training to be a lawyer, he became involved in activities spanning the cultural spectrum, including acting in radio soap operas, disc jockeying classical, jazz and folk music and being a TV personality when live improvisation programmes were sponsored. During this time Terkel became involved in leftist politics and subsequently fell victim to the McCarthy witch-hunt, finding himself blacklisted. Since then he seems to have met and befriended a fascinating host of unsung heroes of the left--people who get into trouble putting their careers and sometimes their lives on the line standing up for others. Each interview is in effect a personal potted history and because the interviewees are so diverse you get what amounts to a fascinating social and political history of America through the 20th century. Some of the figures interviewed are well known, such as Victor Reuther and JK Galbraith, but many are just ordinary citizens. Terkel speaks with men...



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