

*If I had to live my life over again, I'd try to make more mistakes next time. I'd try not to be so damn perfect.*

*I'd relax more, I'd limber up, I'd be sillier than I've been on this trip. In fact, I know very few things that I would take quite so seriously.*

*I'd be crazier, and I'd certainly be less hygienic. I've had too many hang-ups about personal hygiene.*

*I'd take more chances, I'd take more trips, I'd climb more mountains, I'd swim more rivers, and I'd watch more sunsets.*

*I'd burn more gasoline.*

*I'd eat more ice cream and fewer beans. I wouldn't deny myself as I have in the past.*

*I'd have more actual troubles and fewer imaginary ones. Ninety percent of what I worried about didn't happen anyway.*

*You see, I was one of those people who lived prophylactically and sanely and sensibly, hour after hour and day after day. Oh, that doesn't mean I didn't have my moments, but*

*if I had it all over to do, I'd have more of those moments. In fact, I'd try to have nothing but wonderful moments, side by side. Life really is a wonderful series of Nows.*

*I've been one of those people who never went anywhere without a thermometer, a hot water bottle, a gargle, a raincoat, and a parachute. If I had it to do all over again, I'd travel lighter next time.*

*If I had my life to live over again, I'd start barefoot earlier in the spring, and I'd stay that way later in the fall. I'd play hookey a lot more. I'd ride more merry-go-rounds, I'd smell more flowers, I'd hug more children.*

*I'd tell more people that I love them.*

*If I had my life to live over again...*

*But, you see, I don't.*

*Dr. Leo Buscaglia (1924-1998),  
paraphrasing something he read in the  
Journal of Humanistic Psychology. The  
item was written by an 85-year-old  
who had just learned he was going to die.*

