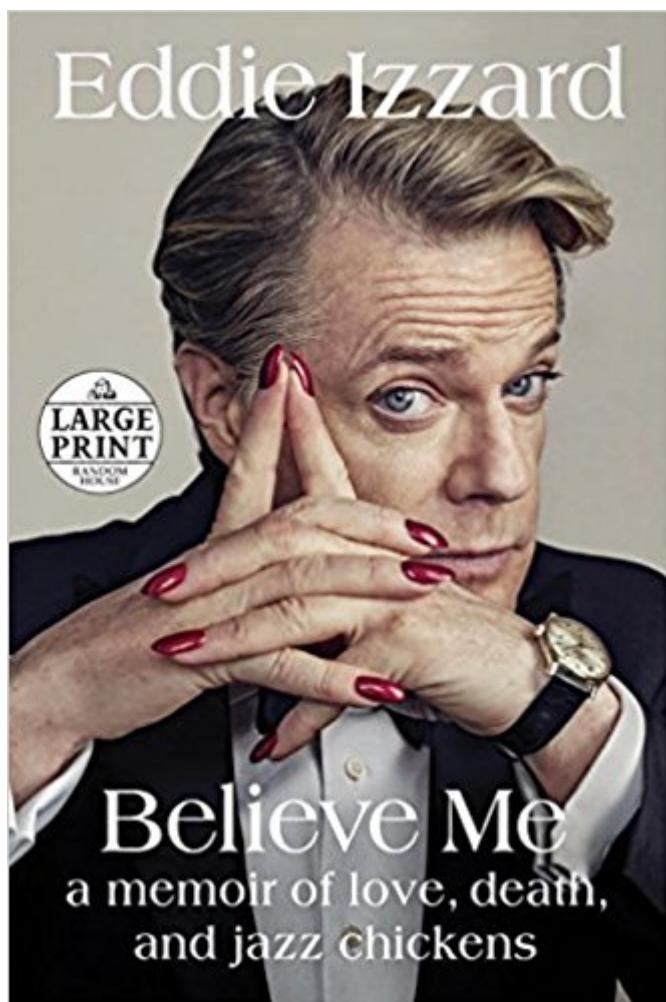


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# **Believe Me: A Memoir Of Love, Death, And Jazz Chickens (Random House Large Print)**



## Synopsis

New York Times Bestseller" Izzard is one of the funniest people alive, a talented actor, a sharp cross-dresser, an experienced marathon runner, and a greatÃ Â writer. You will have to read this if only to find out what a jazz chicken is."Ã¢â€¢The Philadelphia InquirerWith his brand of keenly intelligent humor that ranges from world history to historical politics, sexual politics, mad ancient kings, and chickens with guns, Eddie Izzard has built an extraordinary fan base that transcends age, gender, and race. Writing with the same candor and insight evident in his comedy, he reflects on a childhood marked by the loss of his mother, boarding school, and alternative sexuality, as well as a life in comedy, film, politics, running and philanthropy. Honest and generous, *Believe Me* is an inspired account of a very singular life thus far.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Brimming with surreal humour and disarming candour \* Evening Star \* King of the Universe . . . Comic genius . . . Entertainment incarnate \* Telegraph \* Izzard is Wikipedia in heels. He's made his career out of hilarious, dizzying, surreal routines held up by their own daft logic . . . A force of nature \* Radio Times \* Sheer Comic Genius. His humour reflects the scattershot lunacy of Monty Python, but with a sophisticated silliness that is entirely his own. He is the most brilliant stand-up comedian of his generation \* New York Times \* A comedy gem \* Guardian \* Izzard has a knack for reducing centuries' worth of history to just a few exquisite words (the Romans were just 'fascist plumbers', for

example) \* Time Out \* The funniest man in England \* John Cleese \* The funniest man in, well, pretty much all of the known universe \* Los Angeles Times \* Izzard is fleet of foot - even in Cuban heels \* Independent \* Had the Pythons stuck it out, they'd certainly be doing Izzard-like gags \* Chicago Tribune \* A consistent intelligence underpins Izzard's whimsy \* Chortle \* True Izzardians are every bit as committed in their fandom as Star Trek or Dr Who fans \* Guardian \* Eddie Izzard is my favorite stand-up chameleon -- Eric Idle I had never heard of Eddie Izzard before, but judging by this delightful memoir, he has a glittering career ahead of him. I particularly enjoyed his descriptions of working in a Vatican slaughterhouse, acting as Deputy Foreign Minister in Gladstone's first administration, his whacky exploits at his uncle's Taxidermy Cafe, and his tragic death at the age of only eight at the Morris Dancing Finals in Bruges -- John Cleese --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Eddie Izzard is a world-renowned comedian, actor, writer, runner, and activist. He made his West End debut in 1993 in a one-man show called Live at the Ambassadors, for which he received an Olivier Award nomination for Outstanding Achievement. He recently appeared on television as Dr. Abel Gideon in Hannibal, and he produced and starred in the FX Networks series The Riches. His films include Valkyrie; Ocean's Thirteen and Ocean's Twelve; Across the Universe; Mystery Men; Shadow of the Vampire; The Cat's Meow; Lost Christmas; Castles in the Sky; and Whisky Galore. His stage appearances include David Mamet's Race and The Cryptogram; the title role in Marlowe's Edward II; 900 Oneonta; and A Day in the Death of Joe Egg in London and on Broadway, which garnered him a Tony nomination for Best Actor. Izzard's hit one-man shows include Dress to Kill, Stripped, and Force Majeure. His performance in Dress to Kill earned him two Emmy Awards. In 2010, the documentary Believe: The Eddie Izzard Story received an Emmy nomination. In 2009, Izzard ran forty-three marathons in fifty-one days throughout the United Kingdom, and in 2016, he ran twenty-seven marathons in twenty-seven days across South Africa in honor of Nelson Mandela's twenty-seven years in prison. By running these seventy marathons he has helped raise £4.8 million (\$6 million) for the UK charity Sport Relief.Â

This is a case where the audio book far surpasses the written text. This is much more than Mr. Izzard reading his book aloud. He constantly veers off into "footnotes" which steal the show. They add a richness, color and personality to the stories which the book alone could never do. It's like being at one of his shows - but it goes on for days and has you riveted. The memoir is the audio

book. The written text should be considered the abridged version.

I adore Eddie Izzard. We have some of his dvds, and got to see him live here in Phoenix, but I was more glad to read about his life. We embrace the trans community here and work with PFLAG, and have always felt like he was "family". Now we KNOW he is. I wish him the best of life. I cried in a waiting room full of people when I read the part about finding out that his mom had called him Edward... I wanted to hug him...as I think Im his mom's age.

If you are an Eddie Izzard fan this book is a must. I have the audio version which has a ton of stuff in it that is not in the book since he riffs on things he wrote in the book given he did the audio after he wrote the book.. I also have the book which has the pictures. If you never heard of Eddie well you can see his Emmy winning "Believe" show online and see if you like it then if so do get the audio version of the book..

Eddie Izzard is a great comedian (though after listening to this audio book, I now know he would prefer to be a great actor). If you have ever seen him in person, you know that he has a tendency to get off topic but always manages to get back to his routine. I have no doubt that this book is good as a written work but, I strongly advise you to get the audio book because, as he does when performing stand up, he diverges from the script quite often resulting in additional information and a lot of the book's entertainment. The audio book unabridged is 12 disks. I don't know how long the written book is but I suspect that there is anywhere from 2 to 4 disks of extra content on the audio book. The book evidently has some photos which, obviously, are not on the audio book but other than that, I can see no reason to read it when you can get so much more from listening to it.

A pleasure to read. Izzard's keen intelligence and humble understanding of human experience come forward. Delightful, insightful and sometimes surprising, this wildly hilarious man recounts his life in sober passages. An inspiring spirit drives this wonderful man.

I saw Eddie Izzard at Town Hall in NYC promoting this book, which I enjoyed very much. Actually reading the book without benefit of Eddie's endearing signature delivery is not as entertaining as listening to him read and comment on Audible. Do that. You'll love it!

Wonderful book with fab pictures. It is nice to peek into the life of someone who is just human and

wonderful. I saw him reading excerpts in Arizona and gave my copy to a friend so purchased on a Kindle so I could read it on the Trolley.

What can I say -- it's Eddie Izzard, the amazingly funny, ultimate executive transvestite. And, he's written an amazingly funny, yet touching book about his gloriously eccentric life. Of COURSE it's terrific!. :)

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