

WILLIE NELSON has been writing songs for decades, stirring the hearts and minds of listeners around the globe. From stepping on the Nashville music scene in the 1960s to debuting the iconic pigtail braids and red bandanna in the 1970s, to being inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 2023, Willie's music has transcended the boundaries of time and made him a steadfast and unshakable presence in our lives.

Now, in *Energy Follows Thought*, Willie reflects on his life's journey, using 160 of his songs to trace the life of a man defined by his love of music. He recalls the experiences, both mundane and remarkable, that served as inspiration for his lyrics. He also reveals, for the first time, the stories he dreamed up that transformed into some of his most beloved songs. Through it all, Willie is disarmingly honest, meditating on themes he has explored his entire life: creative love and destructive infidelity; heavy sorrow and uplifting hope; and, especially poignant at this stage of his life, unavoidable mortality.



WILLIE NELSON has won a dozen Grammys, the Library of Congress Gershwin Prize, and the Kennedy Center Honors. For more than seven decades, his records have topped the charts the world over. He has written bestselling books, starred in films, and supported environmental and Native American causes as well as the legalization of cannabis. He is a cofounder of Farm Aid.

DAVID RITZ, the author of sixty books, has collaborated with everyone from Aretha Franklin to Ray Charles. He cowrote "Sexual Healing" with Marvin Gaye.

MICKEY RAPHAEL, one of the country's leading harmonica players, has been a member of Willie's Family band for fifty years. He has performed on hundreds of albums and has served as a producer and arranger.

READ BY WILLIE NELSON & ETHAN HAWKE



Running Time: Approx. 6.75 Hours • Unabridged

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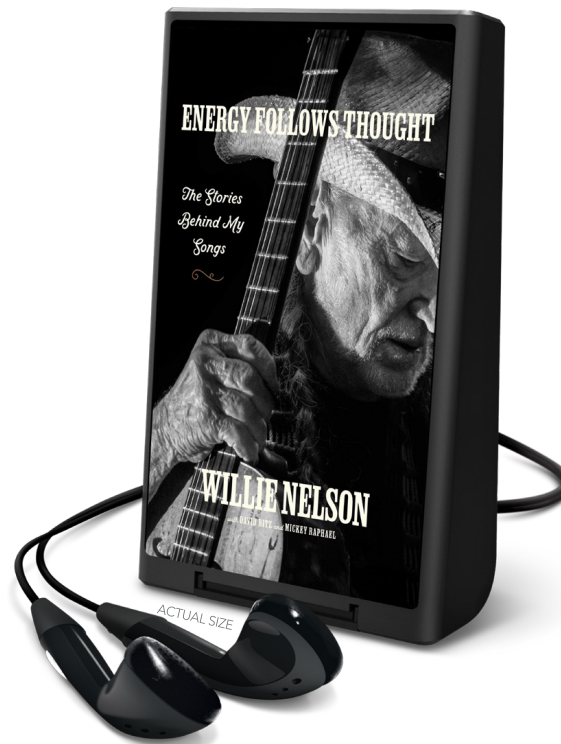
The Stories Behind My Songs

WILLIE NELSON

with DAVID RITZ and MICKEY RAPHAEL



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