

# Happy, Happy, Happy

Phil Robertson , Mark Schlabach (With)

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This no-holds-barred autobiography chronicles the remarkable life of Phil Robertson, the original Duck Commander and *Duck Dynasty* star, from early childhood through the founding of a family business. Life was always getting in the way of Phil Robertson's passion for duck hunting.

An NFL-bound quarterback, Phil made his mark on Louisiana Tech University in the 1960s by playing football and completing his college career with a master's degree in English. But Phil's eyes were not always on the books or the ball; they were usually looking to the sky.

Phil grew up with the dream of living the simple life off the land like his forebears, but he soon found himself on a path to self-destruction—leasing a bar, drinking too much, fighting, and wasting his talents. He almost lost it all until he gave his life to God. And then everything changed.

Phil's incredible story tells how he followed a calling from God and soon after invented a duck call that would begin an incredible journey to the life he had always dreamed of for himself and his family. With great love for his country, his family, and his maker, Phil has finally found the ingredients to the "good life" he always wanted.

#### Happy, Happy, Happy Details

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## From Reader Review Happy, Happy, Happy for online ebook

#### Remy says

A real life version of the rags to riches stories. Phil Robertson fought through poverty, family alcohol and drug abuse, and now owns a multi million dollar business. from the first duck call in 1972.

#### Miley Smiley says

I love watching Duck Dynasty so reading this book for me was a must. I just find the lifestyle of the Robertson family so interesting and fascinating. In this book Phil tells about his early years and what it was like for him and his family when he was growing up. He grew up with not much at all and could have gone to the NFL. When reading this book I felt like Phil was my real grandpa and I was gathered around him with my siblings and he was sitting in a chair telling us stories from when he was younger. I felt as though he was really telling these stories to me, I wasn't just reading about them. Phil uses really good voice in his book, which had me hooked from the beginning of the book. I think that my watching the show helps with the aspect of this craft because I know how he talks, so I think that helps me hear his voice more so than if I was someone who didn't watch the show. I would share part of this book with my class and then share a clip from the show and have students compare the voice that the heard in the text compared to Phil's actual voice.

#### Dana says

My husband and I enjoy watching Duck Dynasty, one of the few shows I watch. And, I love how they end each show with a family meal and a prayer. But, I learned so much about this family through Happy, Happy, Happy. Not just about their past, but also about their faith.

Phil Robertson wasn't always a successful, godly man. He married Miss Kay when he was only 16 years old (and she was 15) and he went through years of hard times - drinking, fighting, & breaking the law. But, his life changed when he was 28 and he heard and accepted the gospel message. And, later he started a company he called Duck Commander.

The story is told in 14 chapters which are each a "rule" for "Living Happy, Happy, Happy." For example, Rule #8 is "never sell yourself short (you never know, you might become a millionaire." And Rule #10 is "If you're going to do something, do it right (instead of doing it again).

Each chapter discusses aspects of his life from a young man to being a father to leading us through times when some of his sons rebelled just like he did. Along the way he shares about hunting and duck calls and scripture and the gospel. I laughed and cried many times. It is a very heart-warming story.

#### Amanda says

I must say I am a fan of Duck Dynasty. I know it isn't everyone's cup of tea, but I thoroughly enjoy the

television show. When I found out that Phil Robertson had a memoir I just had to get my hands on it. I'm very interested in the history of the family and to find out more about their grassroots background and how they moved forward and accomplished the American dream. And they did accomplish it—truly.

The book wasn't a tell-all memoir. If that is what you are expecting then you will be disappointed. A lot of it is a cursory overview of Phil's life. The first sections kind of circled around each other often in a slightly confusing manner. However, it read awkwardly at first and then picked up a fluid motion once Phil became comfortable.

I loved learning about his life and the troubles he went through. The reason why I love reading things like this is because these books give hope back to the readers. Phil had a life that wasn't easy, but he lived it to the fullest. His ideaology is something I embrace wholeheartedly. I was reading other reviewers who skipped over aspects of the politics. However, I didn't skip it. I wanted to really understand how everything played into his life.

Phil is a man who doesn't do anything in half measures. When he takes on something he does it by giving 110%. I absolutely loved it. I love the values he represents and instills in both his book and his family. I'm not a Christian. I'm not actually anything. (So, no I am not an Atheist. I've yet to find a religion that speaks to me) At the end of the book I definitely felt like a heathen. But, that's okay! I think that is the point of his testimony. I definitely felt moved by his book.

I was pleasantly surprised to find out he had both his BA and his MA. I knew Phil was not a stupid man by any stretch of the means, but I had expected him to have only obtained his bachelors based on television show commentary. I didn't know he continued going on to get his masters. It is definitely inspiration for everyone to take from. At the end of the day Phil did have a back up plan whether he intended to or not. He may have gone in 100% for the creation of Duck Commander. However, that being said, if it did fail (and with a man who has that type of determination there was just no way he would have failed) he could have gone back into teaching. But, he made everything successful. He has the golden touch due to his faith not only in God (as he says) but also I believe it is in part his faith in himself and his family.

This was a truly inspirational memoir that he has written. I have told everyone I know about it. They look at me like I am crazy. But, I keep telling them to read it and they will see.

#### **Darren German says**

Not a lot of new information, if you read Willie and Korie's book, and watch the show. I recommend their book over this one. It's more compelling, and there is not as much repeating what you've seen on the show.

Glad I read it though. He kinda blows it in the end when he delves into partisan politics. That's when he gets contradictory, mischaracterizes the words of others to bolster his own opinion. Standard partisan stuff. A shame really. It was a fairly decent read until I found myself listening to a sermon from a partisan soapbox.

The rest was cool though. The letters at the end from his sons and Ms Kay was cool.

#### Julia says

What a great book - started watching the show last year. This family has the values worthy of passing on!

#### Frank says

I enjoy the interaction among the family members on TV's Duck Dynasty and laugh at Jase's comments as he constantly gives brother (and company CEO) Willie a hard time. I also appreciate Phil's role as the wise, soft-spoken patriarch. Each show ends with a large family dinner and a prayer.

When I realized Phil had a best-selling book I wasn't sure what to expect but was pleasantly surprised with this readable account of his life growing up in the back woods, lakes and swamps of Louisiana. The large family was poor but learned to be independent and live off the land.

Unlike today's Phil, the younger version lived a wild life until circumstances and his wife, Kay helped him see the need for God. Since then the couple have been committed Christians and have taught their family godly values. Phil has gotten the opportunity to speak about his faith at a number of churches.

The book also explains how Phil's love of duck hunting and dream of building a better duck call led to his founding a duck call company over forty years ago. He crafted his product using an antique lathe he had purchased and enlisted his family members as labor. He drove from one retail store to another, at first building his business one small sale at a time.

The book is engaging and promotes good Christian and family values while not flinching from the details of how Phil had for a long period of time lived a dysfunctional life until God showed him how to be truly happy, hence the title of the book.

### Vivian says

I wasn't expecting to like this book as much as I did, considering Phil Robertson's political beliefs are on the opposite end of the spectrum from mine. But, at least in this memoir, he comes across as sincere and believable, and I got a glimpse into a way of life I knew nothing about. I've never watched the "Duck Dynasty" shows (if that's what they are called), and being an American living in Europe, I'm always curious about various cultural phenomena happening back "home." His descriptions of what it was like growing up in the small-town South, and his family being relatively poor but self-sufficient, were matter-of-fact and fascinating, at least to this suburban girl from the Northeast. I learned some things about my own country, and, if the end of the book veers into proselytizing for evangelical Christianity and justifying his views on where the U.S. has gone wrong, he is only being true to his beliefs, and at a certain level, I have to respect that. I don't have to like his viewpoints, but he does explain how those beliefs were formed, and that always helps in understanding. An interesting read.

#### **Charity says**

I haven't really watched much of Duck Dynasty because I'm an animal lover and my family warned me about all the snake shooting, duck shooting, squirrel shooting action going on -- but watching my family get hooked on the show and its characters has made me interested in the Robertsons as a family. So I borrowed this book from my dad and read through it.

There's a lot of chapters that have to do with killing things -- which is fine, if that floats his boat, so be it; I skimmed all of that or skipped it altogether. The best chapters for me were the ones people seem to hate the most -- Phil has had more success converting people to Jesus than just about any pastor I've ever met. He says it frankly and doesn't care if you like it or not. He says it like it is, and like he sees it, and if you don't like it, you can lump it. But often what he says sticks and brings people back to him later on.

It's fine to resent the message, but it's not fine to hate the messenger. Phil has a habit of not mincing words, and a lot of what he says is not only theologically sound but logical as well. He's a Christian. There's no two ways about that. And a Christian is going to share his faith and his politics if they mean anything to him. So what? He's much braver than I am -- and look at the result. He's happy, happy.

#### C.S. Wilson says

Phil Robertson for President!

This autobiography is a no-holds barred account of his life and the subsequent rise of Duck Dynasty. He doesn't gloss over the bad parts; he admits that he wasn't the best husband or father for a few years.

I have a lot of respect for him, for not pretending his life has always been perfect, for being man enough to admit that he chose the wrong path, and even more respect for him getting on track and raising his family according to his core values.

The world needs more of the Robertson family and less of Teen Mom/Jersey Shore/The Real World.

#### **Hunter Kimball says**

I defiantly liked this book, although it wasn't as good as si-cology it was overall still a book that i was interested in. I liked how he talks about the different moments in his life, like how he was drinking a lot, and was doing drugs, and how he just turned to god to turn his life. There is something that some people might not like about this book. That would be the amount of the book that references the bible, and or Christianity. Overall good book.

#### Gail Welborn says

\*\*\*Wise words from the Duck Commander--who learned to be wise the hard way \*\*\*

Phil Robertson, popular star of A&E's "Duck Dynasty" writes about his "Duck Commander" life and legacy in, Happy, Happy, Happy. He begins with the description of an idyllic 1950's childhood in West Monroe, LA.

Phil's childhood family lived in a "turn-of-the-century" log cabin and they depended on home-grown vegetables, fruits and the pigs' chickens and cattle they raised for food. Since money was scarce they "...rarely went to town for groceries" and the deer, squirrels, ducks or fish they caught were a much-anticipated plus. Their family lifestyle resembled that of the 1850's frontiersmen more than post-war 1950's.

When asked what his priorities are today, this now famous-for-his-duck-call family patriarch is quick to reply, "Faith, family, ducks—in that order." Yet, it wasn't always that way. Phil lived a "romping, stomping and ripping" lifestyle until he had a "come-to-Jesus- moment" at age twenty-eight.

His warm, genuine autobiography begins with a no-holds-barred account of Phil's life before that moment arrived. He describes growing up with rough and tumble brothers, a football career, teaching position, managing a "honky-tonk" bar, brawls, arrests and more that led to his wife Kay leaving him for three months...Full Review: www.examiner.com/list/happy-happy-happ...

#### Kristen Wampner says

I am a fan of this family and their show and what they believe and stand for so I was super excited to read this book that I had received as a Mother's Day gift. Here goes my review:

Book Cover - Loved this book cover and found it very attractive and fitting. \*

Story - Loved reading Phils words, thoughts, & stories of growing up, raising his family, & building Duck Commander. The book was fast paced and was a great read. \*

Author - Phil Robertson is a very respectable person and a great author. \*

Religious Factor - Phils life is an amazing example of how God can use anybody no matter where they are or what they have come from. Phil speaks strongly about his faith and relationship with God Almighty. I also loved the fact that Phile had verses printed throughout the book to back up his thoughts and beliefs. \*

Cleanlieness - There was no profanity, sex, violence, etc. used in this book. \*

Overall Review: I was so glad that I wasn't diassapointed and that this book met my expectations. It was an great read that I didn't want to put down. I loved feeling like Phil brought me along for the journey from the beginning of his life to meeting Kay from starting a family to building Duck Commander. I really wish that there was more people who would stand up for their faith like this family does. I am behind them 100% and think they are doing a great job with their ministry, show, business, & books. Keep up the great work guys & keep the books coming!

#### Jake Ratliff says

Jake Ratliff 10/17/13 Mr. Welsh English

#### Нарру, Нарру, Нарру

I enjoyed this book very much. It is the best autobiography I have ever read. Now I know that that sets it at a high standard, but it definitely hit the mark. It is about a simple man with a very interesting life story. Phil Robertson is a man that had a vision to make a new type of duck call that boomed in the duck call industry, and has evolved into the company that the Duck Commander is today. This year alone they have already sold 700,000 duck calls. Phil grew up in the heart of Louisiana. He had four brothers and two sisters growing up and was very poor. He went to Louisiana Tech University. He played baseball, ran track, and played quarter back in front of the Hall of Fame quarter back Terry Bradshaw. I think that it crazy to think that this all came from one man in 1972 trying to make something new. He now has a show on the A&E network, and has a very successful business. He is also a very devout Christian. He didn't always used to be such a great person though; he used to have a substance abuse problem, and was not fully committed to his wife Kay Robertson. He then gave his life to Christ and has been preaching the Word ever since. I thought that the book showed a side of him you would have never guess he had if you only watched the television series. He is a great role model, and I think the thing that I like about him the most is how strong he is in his faith. He was confronted by A&E Network and asked to stop praying at the end of the show and he told them that he wouldn't because it was what he know is right. It is a great book and I would definitely recommend it to others. It was a really good read, and it made me Happy, Happy, Happy.

## **David says**

A quite enjoyable book. Robertson is an interesting character from the few episodes I've seen of Duck Dynasty. His back story is so much different than my own, yet we are brothers in Christ and share the same faith. There is much I admire about the man.

A few details that stood out to me: he regularly uses the phrase "when I repented" to describe the time he became a Christian. I like that. No ambiguity about what it means to be a follower of Christ.

Second, he is a true laborer in God's harvest field. Robertson has taken his unique gifts, talents, interests and passions and used then for God's glory. No one else could live for Christ the way Robertson does, because no one else is designed to.

His view on the environment may be politically incorrect, but it is Biblically sound. On page 160-161, he lays out both sides of his view: we have permission to "rack and stack anything that swims, flies or walks", yet he is also compelled to make sure that the duck habitat is not damaged. These are not inconsistent, as one might suppose, but an indication of being a wise steward.

If you love hunting, or love Duck Dynasty, or just love a story about a guy who is fulfilling his unique calling before God, no matter how unique it is, then read this book.