

+Suggested Interview Questions

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Suggested interview questions for William Powers, author of *Twelve by Twelve: A One-Room Cabin off the Grid and Beyond the American Dream*

- Why did you decide to retreat to a 12' by 12' house with no electricity or running water?
- We can't go back to living in caves and eating roots and berries. Isn't that what you're arguing here?
- What is permaculture?
- What is wildcrafting?
- Isn't clean technology the way to slow global warming? We need scientists, not philosophers to help us.
- Isn't this just another stunt—living 12x12—like No Impact Man?
- Why are you so opposed to Thomas Friedman's "Flat World"? What is the "Soft World" you advocate instead in *Twelve by Twelve*?
- You talk a lot about FLO—fair, local, and organic—but isn't opposing globalization akin to opposing earthquakes? It's inevitable.
- Tell me about this renegade physician Jackie and why she gives most of her salary back to the hospital?
- Why is Jackie a tax resistor?
- Jackie's spiritual path is adapted from Buddhism but there's a lot that's new here—what does she mean by see-be-do?
- What's the most inspiring thing you learned from Jackie and your 12x12 experience? What the main thing we can learn?
- Why do you argue that development aid "punishes people for living sustainably"?
- What is the Leisure Ethic?
- You met a shaman in Bolivia who had a fascinating way of talking about climate change and hope for the planet through inner change. Tell us about his message.



About the author

William Powers has led development aid and environmental initiatives in Latin America, Africa, and Washington, DC. The author of the memoirs *Blue Clay People* and *Whispering in the Giant's Ear*, his essays on global issues have appeared in media including the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, and *Slate*. He has been interviewed on programs including *Fresh Air* and *Living on Earth* and is a senior fellow at the World Policy Institute. Powers lives part-time in New York City. His website is www.williampowersbooks.com. For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Dan O'Connell at 617-480-6585 or dan@danconnellmedia.com.



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