

I specifically chose objects I believe have an excellent chance of increasing in value over time. I imagine the worth of many of these pieces will probably have risen, perhaps significantly, by the time you discover their whereabouts. I also curated these items to appeal to a broad range of ages, demographics, and interests. As such, our treasure is comprised of a diversity of objects. My thought was simple. Variety would increase the odds that there might be some items you'd find especially appealing.

I do think you will like this treasure. My family members and few close friends who had a chance to view the treasure before I hid it seemed genuinely filled with amazement and wonder. There were many "oohs" and "aahs." A few asked, "Are you really sure you want to give all this away?" But in time, each one came to understand that was exactly what I wanted to do. And their reactions shifted from awe to overwhelming support.

I separated the contents of this fortune into five custom-made treasure boxes. I secreted away these boxes in five different locations within the United States. I spread out their final resting spots in hopes that at least one of our boxes would lie in close proximity to you.

Four of these treasure boxes were forged in a similar size. The dollar value of each of these four boxes, including contents, is comfortably in the six figures. To help you locate these boxes, I wrote four chapters. Each of these four chapters is dedicated to one box and contains the clues and information you will need to find it. I chose to create these four chapters as a way to avoid confusion as to what clues led to which box. You will find these chapters in Part Two of this book.

The fifth and final box is substantially larger than the other four boxes and contains inside it the lion's share of our valuable trove. There is no one particular chapter solely devoted to helping you find this larger treasure box. Instead, the clues and hints that will lead you to its hiding place may be found anywhere inside this book. For instance, there may be helpful information found here in this introduction. And almost every chapter in Part One of this book offers at least one important detail to help guide you to the location of the largest box.

You are free to search (or not) for any number of these hidden treasure boxes as you wish and in any order that you choose. It's my hope that you find all five boxes if that is what you want to do. I believe your life should be filled with an abundance of treasure!

Now that we've covered these basics, you might be wondering, "Jon, what on earth compelled you to do this?!" It's a question I hear often when a person learns for the first time about the treasures I've hidden. Some people ask me out of genuine curiosity. More than a few think I've lost my mind (Maybe I have! But I don't think so.) Still, others surmise if they can figure out how my brain works, it might help them figure out where I hid the five treasure boxes.

I've given different responses to this question on different occasions. However, upon much reflection, I have come to realize that the most accurate answer is simply my most honest one—like the proverbial moth to the fiery