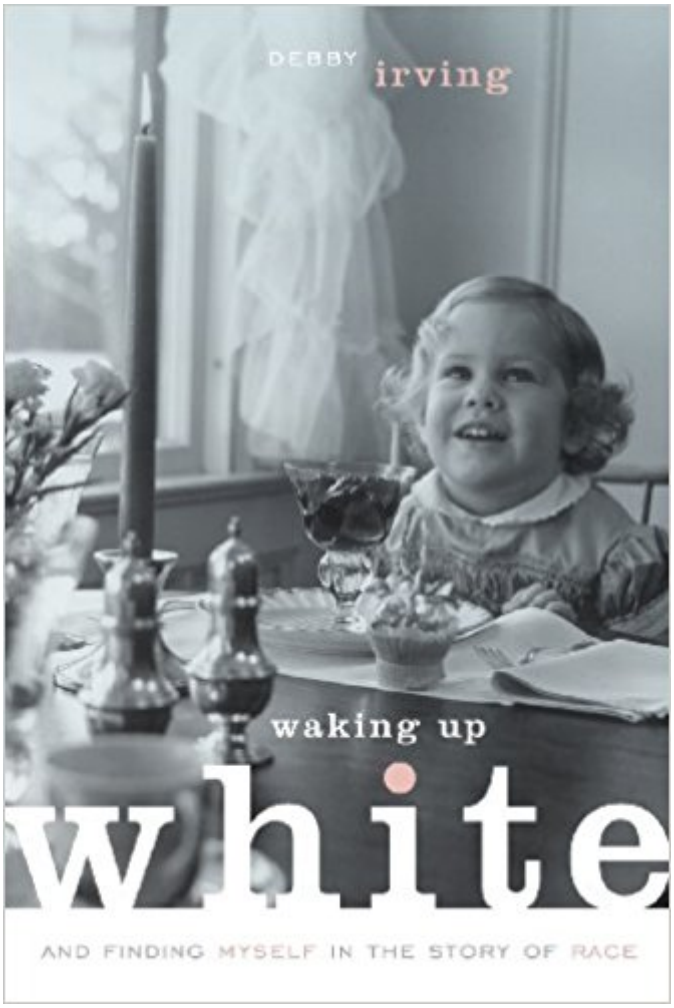
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Waking Up White, And Finding Myself In The Story Of Race



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Synopsis

For twenty-five years, Debby Irving sensed inexplicable racial tensions in her personal and professional relationships. As a colleague and neighbor, she worried about offending people she dearly wanted to befriend. As an arts administrator, she didn't understand why her diversity efforts lacked traction. As a teacher, she found her best efforts to reach out to students and families of color left her wondering what she was missing. Then, in 2009, one "aha!" moment launched an adventure of discovery and insight that drastically shifted her worldview and upended her life plan. In Waking Up White, Irving tells her often cringe-worthy story with such openness that readers will turn every page rooting for her-and ultimately for all of us.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Debby Irving's powerfulÃ Â Waking Up White opens a rare window on how white Americans are socialized. Irving's focus on the mechanics of racism operating in just one life -- her own -- may lead white readers to reconsider the roots of their own perspectives -- and their role in dismantling old myths. Readers of color will no doubt find the view through Irving's window fascinating, and telling." -- Van Jones, author,Ã Â Rebuild The Dream,Ã Â The Green Collar Economy: How One Solution Can Fix Our Two Biggest Problems;Ã Â President,Ã Â Rebuild The Dream;Ã Â Co-host,Ã Â CNN CrossfireÃ Â "Waking up White is a brutally honest, unflinching exploration of race and personal identity, told with heart by a truly gifted storyteller. Much as Irving's family sought to shield her from the contours of the nation's racial drama, so too do far too many white Americans continue to do the same. For their sakes, and ours, let's hope Irving's words spark even more truth-telling. They

certainly have the power to do so." -- Tim Wise, author, White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged SonÃ Â "I readÃ Â Waking Up WhiteÃ Â in one sitting.Ã Â To say I loved it is an understatement. It's such a raw, honest portrait .... Irving's experience on display - warts and all - will help white people, who haven't noticed the role systemic privilege has played in their lives, start to see the worldÃ Â in a new way." -- Jodi Picoult, author, The Storyteller, My Sister's KeeperIrving's personal and moving tale takes us on an adventure to a world utterly new to her as she wakes up to the reality of how, without her knowledge or active pursuit, she lives in a society which is set up to reward her at the expense of people of color. I cannot imagine a more understandable and compelling invitation to learn about how racism lives on in our homes, communities, and nation. -- Bishop Gene Robinson, Retired Episcopal Bishop of New Hampshire and Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress, Washington, DC"Deborah Irving'sÃ Â Waking Up White is a courageous, insightful, and critical contribution to awareness of race in the United States. A virtual one-woman Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Deborah's journey from anÃ Â 'ah-ha' instant to consciousness is a journey for all Americans." -- Thomas Shapiro, author, The Hidden Cost of Being African American;Ã Â Director, Institute on Assets and Social Policy

Dear readers - Thank you so much for your interest in Waking Up White. I hope it will give you or someone you know new insights into how racism works and why you (or white people you know) can get so anxious when it comes to talking about race and racism. Writing the book was not only my way to reach out to other white people confused and/or curious about racism, it was like writing a five-year long journal entry in an effort to make sense of all I learned and experienced in my research. Happy reading ~ Ã Â Debby

Although I have a masters degree in social work and each of our courses addressed issues of class and race, this book still helped me recognize times when I misstepped and let me anxiety about race interfere with a real connection. I think it is a helpful book for the many who may not have had a close relationship with people of color and who may need help seeing the many ways we misunderstand and disrespect them. I read this in conjunction with a study group, and the discussion was very helpful. It reads quickly and the discussion questions are useful for the group or individual contemplation.

This is the story of a white woman learning to explore privilege, justice, and the work of anti-racism.

I recommend for anyone who considers themselves a liberal or a progressive but is still not sure what time policing is, or who fear that "political correctness" has gone "too far". If you've ever thought any of this, READ. Very insightful.

An excellent book about waking up to white privilege. The part about Black GIs not receiving the education and loan benefits that their White counterparts was astounding. Not just that it happened, but that none of my friends and I (both Black and White) had any idea. Why didn't we know about this?

This is confrontive personal journey book -- for the author & all who read it. While the author's growing up experience in white privilege was not my growing up experience, I share with her the lifelong struggle of Waking Up White.

Every white person on the planet should read this book, I mean really slowly read this book.Racial prejudice is everywhere, even in the hearts of well-meaning whites. We must awakenfrom our oblivion of white privilege! This book is incredible... and very important. Buy it and one for a friend.

This book will help white people begin to confront the reality of our own radicalized identity in order to take first steps toward regarding people of all races as companions and not aliens in henchman family.

This book was recommended by the teacher who is giving a course on Race in our church. Very thought provoking

If you are white, read this book. If you are middle class America, read this book. It helped me with new perspective on so much of my personal and family history. Things I thought happened because of my effort or work ethic are in fact products of my cultural privilege. Read this book. Everyone, read this book.

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