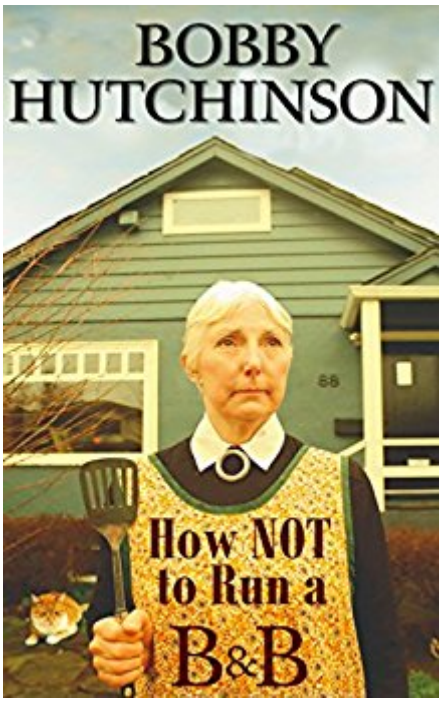
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How Not To Run A B&B



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Synopsis

HOW HARD CAN IT BE?? A HUMEROUS MEMOIRBobby Hutchinson, a best selling Harlequin romance writer, decides to open a B&B in Vancouver, B.C.Despite never having stayed in a B&B and knowing absolutely nothing about running one, she jumps right in. Strange people from nearby and halfway around the world arrive at her home with their stories and struggles, not to mention their baggage, psychological and otherwise.In explaining why she opened a B&B, she says, "I was far too old for prostitution, the only other job I could think of which might net enough to pay the mortgage."Ã‹Æ'Ã‹Æ'Ã‹Æ' HUMOR, A LITTLE TRAGEDY AND MANY LIFE LESSONS. (But mostly humor.)What does a hostess do when a dog rips the bathroom apart? Or gerbils reproduce in the attic?Make wonderful breakfasts and keep on keeping on.Ã‹Æ'Ã‹Æ'Ã‹Æ' SURE FIRE BREAKFAST RECIPESLots of other recipes as well, guaranteed to turn out. And some advice that may or may not work, but what can you lose by trying?Scroll up and grab a copy of HOW NOT TO RUN A B&B!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Bobby Hutchinson reveals herself as a hilarious raconteur (and ultimately skillful host) in this

memoir of her five years running a B&B out of her old home in Vancouver. Her stories are laugh-out-loud funny and she comes across as an endearing eccentric. However, there is a darker side to the story, and as I progressed through the book I noticed that Bobby was revealing some of the more painful aspects of her life (abusive husbands, disabled son, etc). It has clearly been a difficult life. And I have noticed in my own life that the people who are most devastatingly funny are often the people who are hiding the most "stuff." Bobby has clearly not always been the compassionate person she strives to be in this memoir, and there are moments when her own judgmental side peeks out. She also has the tendency to fall over herself doing things for people and then get back at them by verbally skewering them. It makes for a very entertaining book...and there are some wonderful recipes she throws in that I am considering trying.But it's better to read about this journey from afar than be in the middle of Bobby's chaotic life, I think. With that caveat, great book.

As I'm not a big romance reader, I haven't read anything by Bobby Hutchinson, despite her "bestseller" status. However, I'm always in the mood for a funny read, especially when it also doubles as a memoir or true-life experience -- sometimes the best comedy can be found in real-life experiences, and often real life is much weirder (and more hilarious) than fiction. I've never stayed at a bed-and-breakfast before but have always wanted to, and so when I came across this book I decided to give it a read. If nothing else, I would get a chuckle, right?If you're expecting an actual "how-to" book, this isn't it (though Bobby does have some thoughtful advice). But if you're in the mood for a delightfully funny read with a few serious and heartfelt moments, this will do you just fine.Romance novelist Bobby Hutchinson is a middle-aged romance writer who finds that being a novelist doesn't necessarily pay all the bills... and decides that her British Columbia home is spacious enough that she can refit it as a bed-and-breakfast and make some extra income. How hard could it be? As the reader will probably expect, she soon gets a lot more than she bargained for, as she struggles to account for he guests' dietary restrictions, the eccentricities of her neighbors and friends, and all sorts of problems that are funny in hindsight but mortifying at the moment. From the Jewish family that rents out (and floods) the basement to the "rat" infestation that turns out to be something much weirder, from the neighbor who wakes up guests at odd hours of the night to find his missing cat to the lively Spanish family that invades the establishment for weeks on end, Bobby's story will tickle the funny bone... and provide some unexpectedly touching moments.Bobby has a wry, friendly writing style that serves her subject matter well. She pulls no punches in describing the foibles and idiosyncrasies of her guests, her neighbors, and her friends (whom she

calls The Lost Boys for obvious reasons). She also doesn't shy away from describing sexual matters, however, so the reader stands warned. She also has some unusual views on religion, but I find these didn't detract from the book.Bobby also includes some of the things she's learned from her B&B adventures -- recipes, lessons learned from difficult guests, tips on dealing with challenges big and small, etc. And almost every chapter ends with a moral of some sort, like a modern-day Aesop. Sometimes these "lessons" feel a little forced, but most of the time they fit naturally with each story.I like Bobby, and it was a pleasure to get to know her. I feel like she could be a friend, or at least a friendly confidante. And her story of running the Blue Collar B&B is both funny and touching, and I wish her all the best in both her writing career and in her further adventures as a hostess-for-hire. If you like a story that's a good mix of humor and heart, this is a good read.

What a wonderful read! Not even close to what I expected, and sometimes that is just what we need from the Universe. I have been reading way too many technical "how to" books on starting an inn, but Bobby shares how to put your Heart into it, and that is the irreplaceable thing that makes us return to a host/hostess every time! "Too old for prostitution" seriously, I nearly snorted out my coffee with that line, and yeah, I am there. In looking for help to do what is needed to be done, I have been prompted to be mindful of what is IMPORTANT to do, because it is not always the TO DO list in front of us. Yet somehow this delightful hostess managed to get through the to do lists too. Bobby, thanks for sharing yourself in this book, it was lovely to "meet" you. I will totally be trying these breakfasts!

I got this book because I'm soon to be a bed & breakfast proprietor. But I was not prepared for how entertaining this book was going to be! Some parts were just laugh out loud funny, and many others will have you smiling. A few parts are even a bit emotional because the author really pours her heart into her writing.There is some good advice in these pages, and I'm going to try several recipes because they look easy, healthy and delicious. If you really want all the nuts and bolts about a B&B - there are other books for that. But the biggest reason people should read THIS book is because it's SO entertaining. I read the whole thing in under 24 hours, and it only cost 99 cents for the Kindle version. Best reading bargain I have EVER purchased on ! I have already suggested the book to my friends that are not in the B&B business because it's just that kind of book. It was Funny, heartwarming, and very realistic.

Don't know why I bought this book. I usually get free books in exchange for reviews, but this one

caught my eye. It had me laughing out loud at 3am, at which point my husband woke up and asked me what the hell I was laughing at. Highly recommended for a good laugh, and maybe even a tear or two.

The story is engaging and well told.However, if you are buying this as a physical book, be aware - this is an epub that is cheaply printed.This isn't of a quality that you would want to get as a gift for someone.The cover is a very very fuzzy image, taken (I'm assuming here) directly from whatever low-resolution graphic is being used for the online version.The book reads fine, but it is short, and feels cheap in your hands - kinda the opposite of what someone is looking for when they buy a physical book. Simply improving the cover art would do tons.

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