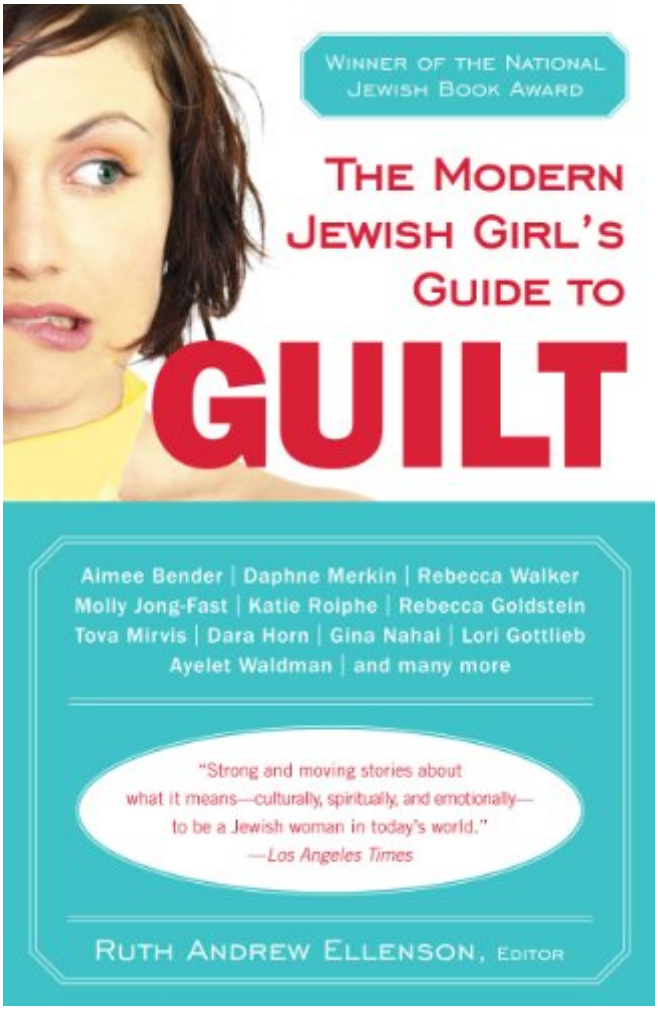
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The Modern Jewish Girl's Guide To Guilt



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Synopsis

Twenty-eight of todayÃ¢â ¬â„¢s top Jewish women writers tell the truth about all the things their rabbis warned them never to discuss in public in this hilarious and provocative collection.Includes original essays on: Ã¢â ¬Â¢ Finding (and Divorcing) the Perfect Jewish ManÃ¢â ¬Â¢ Not Calling Your MotherÃ¢â ¬Â¢ Marrying a GermanÃ¢â ¬Â¢ Failing to Supply Enough GrandchildrenÃ¢â ¬Â¢ Learning to RSVP NoÃ¢â ¬Â¢ And many other guilty pleasures . . . Includes pieces by: Elisa Albert, Aimee Bender, Jennifer Bleyer, Kera Bolonik, Rabbi Sharon Brous, Baz Dreisinger, Pearl Gluck, Rebecca Goldstein, Lori Gottlieb, Lauren Grodstein, Dara Horn, Molly Jong-Fast, Rachel Kadish, Jenna Kalinsky, Cynthia Kaplan, Binnie Kirshenbaum, Amy Klein, Daphne Merkin, Tova Mirvis, Gina Nahai, Katie Rophie, Francesca SegrÃƒÂ©, Wendy Shanker, Laurie Gwen Shapiro, Susan Shapiro, Ayelet Waldman, Rebecca Walker, Sheryl Zohn

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Customer Reviews

Today I read an article in People magazine on Leah Remini’s defection from the Church of Scientology, and I had to LOL, especially when she is considering entering the Catholic church. I

recommend this book for all women for all religions.

I only took away one star because the description made it sound like a collection of funny essays. But about half of them are serious or thoughtful. Not that I minded that - some of those were among my favorites. But it’s not what you’re expecting. And if you got this for a funny and lighthearted read, that might disappoint you. But all in all, a great book for Jewish women trying to figure out exactly what that identity is in the modern world!

my book. I am not Jewish, nor know much about Judaism, and I loved reading this book! The stories in this book are very heart felt and yet they contain great sense of humor. I had many laughs and many tears from reading it and have learned so much about myself and about human dynamics. I have recommended and have gifted this book to many friends since reading it.

The essays in this book were consistently excellent, with few exceptions. I was raised in an ultra-orthodox household, rebelled to modern orthodoxy in my teen years, and am generally non-practicing as an adult -- with the exception of making a kickin’ matzoh ball soup when the urge hits me. In reading these essays, I laughed frequently, and felt that the writers (who span the complete spectrum) really expressed the jewish culture, while, at the same time, had unique stories to tell. I couldn’t believe how well I related to so many of these women. If you are a jewish women of any bent, I think you will as well. Some essays assume specific knowledge of judaism without explanation (i.e. using the word "shadchan" instead of "matchmaker") but even those without this knowledge could probably pick up what they don’t know because of context. I think some of my catholic friends would also enjoy this "guilt" book.As a little bit of additional heresy, I kept this book as bathtub reading, since each essay was about as long as a short story. Full of laughs! I highly recommend.

Thought-provoking, relatable, enlightening. I’ve enjoyed reading the essays. They might be good to use in a study group. Not the whole book, but choose one or some to discuss. Perhaps in a Rosh Hodesh women’s group.

amazing, feel good, identifiable, laughable, guilty pleasure- perfect for all Jewish girls out there who have kooky grandmothers, overbearing mothers, problems dating jewish men, etc, etc...This book is definitely needed and should be widely accepted.

Ruth Ellenson, the editor of this collection clearly worked overtime to gather a diverse group of women contributors to her "Modern Jewish Girl's Guide to Guilt." Much of the material here covered, dating, mothers, grandmothers, marriage, surely will come as no surprise and while well written will hardly rankle. Others, however, like Rabbi Sharon Brous's explanation of the tribulations of being a woman Rabbi will surely give much food for thought. Likewise the offering of novelist Aylete Waldman, as well written statement of Jewish anti-Zionism as one can find, will surely make more than a few readers uncomfortable. All the authors, or at least almost all of them, however, manage to mix a dollop of humor into their offering, keeping it entertaining even when topics turn weighty.More than a few commentators have observed that we are living in an age of the renaissance of the essay as a form, whether on NPR's `This American Life' or the blogosphere. Ellenson here demonstrates how entertaining and provocative one can be when gathering contributions by a group of smart and thoughtful people. Generally funny, rarely preachy, and with enough schmaltz to make you giggle, this work will make a fine companion for summer travelers or even if you are just sitting around feeling guilty that you can't manage to get away.

My sister bought me this book and I've been reading it over the holidays, story by story (I've skipped around a bit)but almost every story speaks about something powerful and thoughtful and funny (there were some that didn't for me, but I'm sure that's true for every reader). It's a phenomenal book, and it features not only some of my favorite writers but some of the most thought-provoking approaches to Judaism and women I've ever read.The man from Israel who just posted a review obviously didn't read the book: there's nothing about the triumph of eating cheeseburgers on Yom Kippur (note to reviewer: try to read the actual book before you write about it in public! Reading reviews and then commenting on those just makes you look like an idiot)What I found in these pages were great writers talking about a wide range of Jewish experiences--some I'd felt, some I didn't--but all of them taught me something and made me think about what being Jewish means to me (and, you know, I laughed a lot too) If you're expecting to hear about Jewish mothers (well, okay they're in there some) and liking bacon you will be surprised.

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