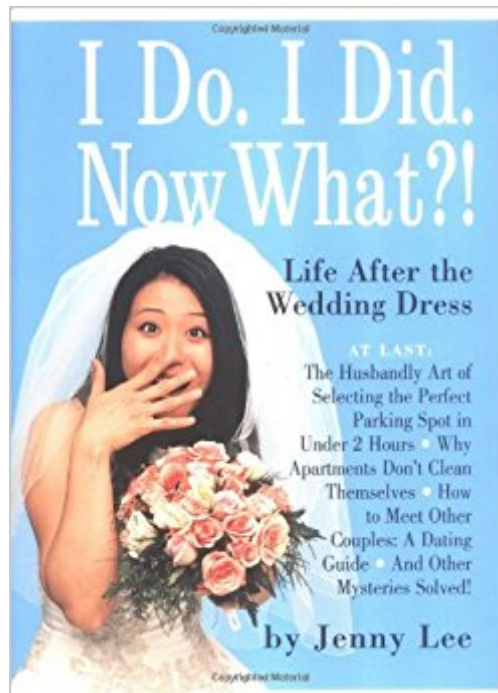




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I Do. I Did. Now What?!: Life After The Wedding Dress



Synopsis

Hello. My Name is Jenny. And I'm a Wife Her Vera Wang gown still warm, Jenny Lee explores the subject no friend would ever talk about: what happens after the band stops playing and the guests go home. Covering finances, the freakish occurrences of getting beaten at Scrabble, meeting other couples, and establishing principles ("It's not that I can't cook. I don't cook."), it's the hilarious, all-too-true story of what it means to be a wifeâ with a real-life husband, one television remote, and the sneaking suspicion that he's using your very, very expensive, very, very hard-to-find shampoo.

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Customer Reviews

Were Candace Bushnell to chronicle her first year of marriage, it might look something like former New Yorker-about-town Lee's frank, witty account of coming to terms with what matrimony really means. When the sparkles on her engagement ring have dimmed, the Vera Wang has been packed for posterity and the words "until death do us part" have begun to sink in, Lee confronts her "glass-slipper fantasy" of marriage. Reality, she discovers, requires a great deal of sacrifice (moving to frumpy Boston), compromise, (sharing her exorbitantly expensive shampoo) and adjustment (grappling with putting on the "newlywed nineteen"). From cooking to nagging, from cleaning to fiscal responsibility ("I learned the hard way that my husband doesn't consider a Neiman Marcus last-call shoe sale an emergency") and from the art of couple socializing back to nagging again, Lee's anecdotes from the post-honeymoon period go from very amusing to a bit stale by the book's close. Luckily, though, by then Lee has learned to appreciate those subtle yet intimate "happily-ever-after" moments, which is an important lesson for detail-obsessed brides destined for

disillusionment in the wake of all the nuptial hoopla. And to the bridesmaids who will purchase this book as a send-off, take comfort: now Bridezilla has someone else to bug. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Who is Lee? And why has she written a book on surviving marriage? While she intends to be whimsical and funny-the publisher, in fact, is marketing this to the Bridget Jones demographic-she comes off as snotty, shallow, and cold. She compares housewifery to slavery and insists that her flower- and jewelry-savvy husband is not gay, for example. Beautiful and married to a doctor, Lee dully drones on in a whiny list of likes (shoe shopping) and dislikes (picking up after her husband). Other concerns include expensive French sheets and rare, exorbitantly priced shampoos. Perhaps it's unnecessary for her to mention that she felt "wholly unprepared for how big an impact marriage would have" on her life. Accordingly, her "advice" is useless (e.g., "honeymoon calories don't count!"). Not recommended, even as light entertainment; for a more substantial view of matrimony, consider Iris Krasnow's *Surrendering to Marriage* or Anne Roiphe's *Married: A Fine Predicament*. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

These anecdotes will have you rolling! Hysterically funny and witty! I'm Korean-American like Lee and even though she doesn't delve too much into the whole racial/cultural issue just the stories about newlywed life are too candid to be made up! The part where she jumps up and says: "I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE DOING THIS! YOU'RE SPOILING HIM!" when Lee's traditional mother brings her new son-in-law his favorite drink (lemon-lime Gatorade - just like my own husband!) on a silver tray with a crystal highball glass filled with ice. This is something my own mother has actually done. The Great Dinner Debate is something we, to this day, still struggle with. Anyway, this is a fast-paced, endearing, comical read. Once you pick it up you won't be able to put it down!

This book is so hilarious!!! Highly recommended (if you like light, funny type of reads)!

I really struggled to get through this book and had to force myself to finish. I bought it thinking that I might learn something, but the tone is self-obsessed and narcissistic and gives very little helpful information. It's more like a diary entry - which could be interesting, but not in this case. She comes across as a very spoiled young girl, not the savvy New Yorker that she portrays herself as. She's perennially pissed off because she had to move from her beloved New York City to the far-away, peasant-filled hinterlands of Boston - and it shows. Once there, she can't make friends - even with

the nicest of neighbors - because she is too insecure and jealous that other women are prettier, smarter and a better cook than her. So we have to endure a chapter of jibes and comments about someone who seems to be the friendliest of sorts, who has come to be her friend - but whom she really treats badly. In fact, nasty jibes and comments are par for the course, throughout the book. The author really comes across as mean-spirited, in general. She's even jealous of her best friend! When she isn't obsessing about her neighbor or giving designer name-dropping details about every article of clothing she's ever worn, she's freaking out because her husband put a mustard-covered knife on a clean dishtowel or used her expensive shampoo. One entire chapter is devoted to a whine about how he took her on a surprise weekend getaway (yes, we should all be so fortunate), but wanh! - she has to buy GROCERY STORY LIPSTICK instead of her special designer lipstick. These are the kind of "problems" we have to endure recitation of throughout the book, and it becomes very annoying, very quickly. Her greatest challenge in life seems to be when she has to invite her husband's colleagues over for dinner. Imagine that, a stay-at-home doctor's wife who can barely get her act together to make a meal - and we are supposed to feel sorry for her. As if that isn't enough, she then starts obsessing about whether that same couple is socializing more with other couples than with them. It's supposed to be funny (she uses an analogy i.e. the couples are "dating" one another) but it comes across as neurotic. Like a lot of things in this book, actually. The worst thing is that the author never seems to have a revelation about how selfish and bratty she is - or about how fortunate she is to have such a kind, long-suffering, supportive husband. It would be almost tolerable if she did - but she doesn't, even when she is blatantly wrong. Most of the book is a big whine about how sorry we should feel for her while she is treating her husband, her neighbors and even her friends terribly and obsessing about her weight, her clothes and her looks. She comes across as so hateful that it is difficult to imagine what this man sees in her, and even more astonishing that he stays married to her. Maybe her next book will be about divorce. Meanwhile, I can't help but be suspicious of reviewers who just "happen" to know that moviestars have optioned a certain book. That information is rarely made public (even in "the trades"), so the positive reviews of this book sound fishy. Scroll down for other reviews that aren't quite so glowing. And even if Hudson should turn this thing into a film, well, I have three words: "Alex and Emma."

I read this book on a plane, trapped with no other reading, and wished I'd brought more options. It is entertaining enough, with observations on newly married life, but every observation has been made before in much the same way. I am a newlywed, too, but Lee seems very proud of herself for being a newlywed and thinking about marriage a bit, and chapters like, "who cooks dinner?" just don't do it

for me. Plus, her repeated comments about wanting to be a thin bride, wanting to be a thin wife, and how to not tell the truth to your husband because he may not "like" you if you do, disappoint the semi-liberated reader. This book feels like a throwback disguised as contemporary, and treats marriage like a manipulative game of deceit-and not in a funny, wry way, either.

i know this book is targeted to newlywed women or soon to be wed women. but i think it is a funny and insightful read for men as well. i am thinking a lot of women have similar experiences and expectations as the author and this book can help guys figure out what the heck is going on behind the mind of the married woman. it is funny and i have to laugh at the husband because thats probably me too.

Jenny Lee rode the English major book publishing wagon, then jumped into the internet marketing bubble. And as that bubble was deflating, she got hitched, and took good notes on her life as a newlywed. The results are hilarious. In seven chapters (maybe a seven year itch sequel?), each titled for one of the marriage clauses ("for richer or poorer"; "in sickness and health"), Lee recounts the mostly petty, irrational (a.k.a. serious) but funny incidents that make up couplehood. The book opens as the Vera Wang wedding dress comes off and the \$500 silk negligee stays on for a whopping span of 3 minutes. After 5 years of dating him and contemplating marriage, kids, and even real estate(!), they're hitched. Now what? A lot of laughing on the reader's part. Her physician husband is mostly oblivious to the things that set her off and the domestic duties she performs. She rents a parking garage for their car, yet unbeknownst to her, he spends 30-90 minutes sometimes circling the block like a vulture, waiting for an on-street space to open. Her husband thinks nothing of circling the block, but can't understand why she would want to go one hour out of the way to purchase a special lipstick. She freaks that he uses gobs of her extremely expensive shampoo, not realizing its cost; but maybe he has a sweet reason for using it. There are fights over Scrabble, orange soda, name changes (change? Hyphen? Slash?) and "what's for dinner?", but the love remains. I wouldn't be surprised to see some scriptwriters lifting incidents from this book for their sitcoms. Essentially this is a very funny owners manual that should be read by all newlyweds and their parents.

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