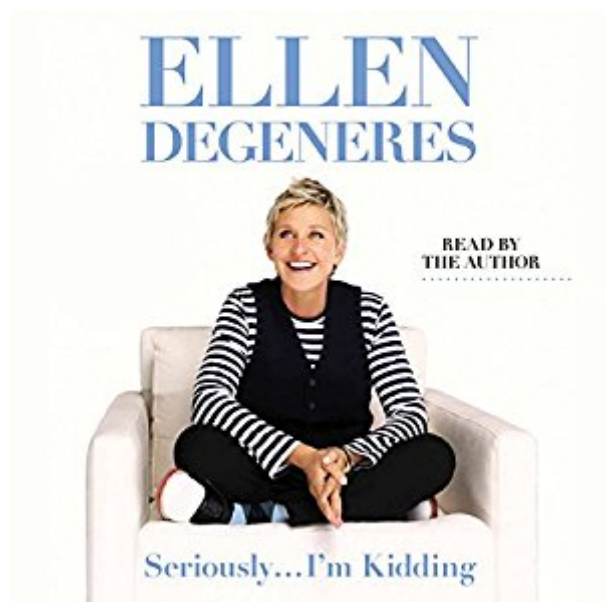


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Seriously...I'm Kidding



Synopsis

"I've experienced a whole lot the last few years, and I have a lot to share. So I hope that you'll take a moment to sit back, relax, and enjoy the words I've put together for you in this book. I think you'll find I've left no stone unturned, no door unopened, no window unbroken, no rug unvacuumed, no ivories untickled. What I'm saying is, let us begin, shall we?" ---Ellen DeGeneres

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 3 hours and 7 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Hachette Audio

Audible.com Release Date: October 4, 2011

Language: English

ASIN: B005SA64BQ

Best Sellers Rank: #14 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Comedy #19 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Humor > Essays #19 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Arts & Entertainment > Performing Arts

Customer Reviews

Reading this book is like traveling to some beautiful alternative universe where people are kind, love is everywhere, and life is good. It's more than just a "funny" book. It's a complete experience of another, nicer and more intelligent way to view the world. I felt different after I read this book.

Smarter. Nicer. Stronger. Happier. The world looked a little bit different. And I felt better about everything. (And I was happy already). But the book is not only uplifting and empowering. It is hilariously funny! Much funnier than her previous two books. They were light time passers. Good for a chuckle. But Ellen has matured since then. And this book is at a higher level in all departments. I found myself laughing constantly at how clever something was. And I rarely find a book laugh out loud funny. But this one certainly is. Full of Ellens winning life philosophy...told in the form of funny stories. Some true, some not. There is love. Freedom of thought. Creativity. Inspiration. This book felt like more than a book. It feels like an experience. An experience not to be missed.

Recommended.

This is the third book for comedian/talk show host Ellen Degeneres and, if ever there was a book

that should be "read by the author", it's one by Ellen. She honed her craft of comedy by doing "stand-up" and she actually "performs" the audio version, more than just reading it. Ellen talks fast and so the 3 hours on the three CDs literally fly by! And the words aren't all the same as the print edition (which I also read through). She re-wrote parts of it to "talk to - you - the listener" and even adds a chapter (Chapter 29) just for the audiobook. Speaking of chapters, the print edition does not have numbered chapters for these short essays. But Ellen announces a number before each one. Since I started with the audio version first, I wondered - when I got to the chapter titled "Meditation", which contains 20 seconds or so of silence - how she'd deal with this in the print edition. So I looked and there were three blank pages. The reverse holds true for the chapter titled "For the Children" where there are full-page illustrations to color. For the audiobook, Ellen tells the listener that there is a .pdf file on the CD with the illustrations - though I haven't checked that out yet. The print edition is 240 pages with short chapters and plenty of space between the lines so you can easily pick it up and put it down as time permits. These are short essays of observations on everything from being judge on American Idol to being married to her wife Portia. Either format will entertain you - it did me - if you are an Ellen fan (I am). The Print version allows you to go back and read - or share - a special chapter., while the audio version allows you to hear her voice and timing. Steve Ramm "Anything Phonographic"

I don't normally write reviews but I had to review this book because I love Ellen and love this book and want it to be successful for her! Funniest most witty book I have read in a long time. You really have to know and appreciate Ellen's humor to read and understand this book. It very much reminds me of her stand up comedy dvd "here and now". It is a lot of the same humor and I can literally hear her voice and how she says things while I am reading this book. This book is not only hysterical but it also has really wonderful words of wisdom in it. She brings you back to a much simpler time and makes you realize how ridiculous life has gotten with laziness, busy-ness, and technology to name a few. I read this book in a day and it was amazing from the first word to the last.

I love Ellen - so much so that I never miss her show. I record it when I have to go out. I say this to explain how I know and am so disappointed by the fact I am only partway through her new book and am recognising tracts of it from her show. The stand-up routine she does at the beginning of each show has been included in chunks. Sometimes I don't think she's changed a word - such as Portia and her lotion addiction resulting in her being trapped in the bathroom unable to turn the doorknob to escape. I laughed and laughed when I first saw Ellen say that. Not so much reading it almost

word for word. I also laughed the first time I saw her displaying Mama Betty's odd collection of hoarded junk including a VHS tape of Abs of Steel. Funny then. I could go on, but I am guessing this answers the question Ellen asks at the start of the book: how she found the time to write it. Maybe I'll just call her a good recycler. I still love her - that's why I gave this a fairly generous three stars. But I am sad the book isn't fresher and more biographical and a little less, ahem, retreaded. For people who don't religiously watch her show, they will find this funny, especially if they liked My Point Is And I Do Have One, as it is written in that style.

Like many who have reviewed Seriously...I'm Kidding, we are fans of Ellen. She is funny and endearing on her show...but this book is poorly written and not funny. Writing humor is not easy...but she is a comedian...and she falls short over and over again. Beyond the humor, she writes in circles--and nothing is particularly interesting. Contrast that with "My Point...and I do Have One" that came out in 1996...now THAT was funny. Hilarious, laugh out loud...if you want to read a book written by Ellen, pick that.

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