



Baby Not on Board: A Celebration of Life Without Kids

Jennifer L. Shawne , Anoushka Matus (Illustrations)

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For anyone who's wondered, "Why have kids when I could have fun instead?" here's a warm and hilarious welcome to the wonderful world of unparenting! The childfree life is growing in popularity, and finally here is a book that celebrates the wisdom and wonder of that choice. For those who cherish their white shag carpet and glass coffee table, this highly interactive book with quizzes, sidebars, and handy checklists offers a range of helpful, unparenting information including ways to throw oneself an unbaby shower and strategies for coping with dreaded OPCs (other people's children). *Baby Not on Board* reminds us all that having a baby is great, but NOT having a baby is really, really great.

Baby Not on Board: A Celebration of Life Without Kids Details

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From Reader Review Baby Not on Board: A Celebration of Life Without Kids for online ebook

Alison says

This book is hilarious. Anyone choosing not to have kids will laugh hysterically. It's the book I wanted to write, only 100 times more entertaining than I could have written it. Every page had me saying to my husband: "TOTALLY! Oh my god, this is what we talk about all the time!" I would read him the text, show him the illustration, and we would roll around with tears in our eyes. If you are on the fence about kids, it will put you on the side that says "Thank GOD I don't have them. My life is PERFECT. YAY." Anyone WITH kids who reads it might be sorry they did, it will make you jealous of those of us who have chosen the child-free lifestyle.

Page 113 is my favorite, although it is the least funny; it reminds you of the environmental consideration you have made in your decision. (ie: oil and water usage, garbage, emissions, etc. that one extra life adds to the planet).

Can you tell I kinda liked it?

Malinda says

It's a must read. I love children, but I'm not sure I'll ever have any of my own. However, I enjoyed this book tremendously, and even if you plan on having children, it'll give you a chuckle. Unless you're just THAT serious.

Kim says

FREAKIN' HILARIOUS! I couldn't have read all the other "parenthood" books without this one.

Janet Gardner says

A bit of silliness, but a fun one, full of cartoons and charts and quizzes emphasizing the amazing life of wild romance, expensive sushi dinners, hot cars, late sleeps, and world travel just waiting out there for those of us who choose a childfree life. While it's not a reasoned argument (nor is it meant to be), it's nice to have even a tiny, frivolous counterweight to the intense social pressure to breed. I admit the subject gets me a little hot under the collar, having lived through years of "Are you going to have kids? *When* will you have kids? Why don't you have kids? You don't know what you're missing. It's different when they're your own. Is there something wrong with you? I feel so sorry for you. Do you regret not having them? Yaddah-yaddah." I do wish that, when I was still young enough that I was routinely being told by parents how I'd change my mind, I'd had thought of this book's snappy comeback: "At least I still *can* change my mind." I also rather like the suggestion that the best answer to "Why don't you have any kids?" is "Why don't you have any manners?" Anyway, like I said, a fun, frivolous, quick-and-easy read, though if it had cost more than two bucks or gone

on much longer, it could have become tedious.

Suzanne says

This book asks the big questions like, When is the right time to make "the big announcement" that you are NOT having children? I love the idea of having an unbaby shower. I have 2 new words to add to my childfree vocab-- unparent and nonbreeder. Why are none of those available to be a status on FB?

Tracey says

Don't expect a deep and emotional read, but it's a cute, silly, and light book about the choice not to raise children.

Melissa says

This book is a quick and easy read intended to reassure those who are or who are thinking of being 'childfree' (not having kids by choice). I picked it up on a whim at the library, and it's a very funny book. It's obviously not meant to be a serious rebuke on those who have kids, but rather a funny book for those who are childfree.

Baby Not on Board is a humorous collection of musings on the childfree life, told through a series of funny comics. Some of the things childfree experience, such as 'coming out' to your family, and dealing with inappropriate questions from co-workers or acquaintances, are covered in this book. Some parts of the book are serious, such as answering really nosy and inappropriate questions from strangers, but most of the book is just dealing with people's questions with humor.

Baby Not on Board also highlights some of the 'perks' of being childfree, such as never going through pregnancy, and having endless amounts of disposable income to spend on... anything not related to raising kids. There are several quizzes in the book about whether or not you would be 'The Cool Aunt/Uncle' and whether or not you would survive a babysitting experience with OPCs (Other People's Children).

All in all, it's a quick and funny read on the childfree lifestyle. This isn't a definitive book on being childfree, but a humorous introduction for the childfree and those who love them.

Brandy says

Oh, god, yes. Because babies suck. I've always thought so...I've never wanted one, even though everyone seems to think I have the skills to raise it (eehhhh). But I've never WANTED to get up early EVERY damn day. Never WANTED to sacrifice a day at the spa for a Peg Perego car seat or Eddie Bauer stroller. Never WANTED to trade leaky, saggy tits, droopy ass, and a dew-lap gut for the "joy" of hearing Baby Einstein/Hannah Montana for the 600th time. Holy Christ Jesus. I can do anything I want with my time, my

money, my sanity. The cute little cartoons in this book prove it. Now let's go have a drink. Who gives a fuck it's not noon yet. I'm nobody's role model, so shut the fuck up, goddamn it.

Gina says

This was a very funny and empowering book. It was a quick read that inspires me to leave a legacy in new and creative ways rather than having kids. It also gave good advice for coping with the rest of society that frowns on the decision not to have kids.

michelle says

If you're someone like me who can either take or leave kids you will get a great kick out of this book! A great choice for those who are readers not breeders.

Christy says

This book read like a Cosmo article-- in my mind, that's *not* a compliment. It should have been subtitled "How To Be A Self-Involved Whiny Jerk While Being Childfree." I am avowedly childfree, but this left me with a bad taste in my mouth.

Alison says

As someone who may not want kids but who loves her nieces, nephews and her parent family/friends I have mixed feelings about this book. There were parts I liked (some how tos for helping take care of a child, and ideas for a life without children for example). If this book had the same idea but only information and entertainment for people who don't want their own kids but love the kids/parents in their life I would have given this a 5. I didn't like how parents and kids are perceived/made fun of/picked at in a good bit of this book though. Am I hating on this book? no. But I do want to give a heads up to someone who may feel the same way as I do. However if you hate kids, or people are giving you a really hard time for not wanting kids, you will most likely love this book. With all this being said, I do not regret reading it. It was definitely worth the read for me.

Carrie says

this book is hilarious! the writing is witty and easy to read, and the illustrations are a hoot (though my husband says they're grotesque and give him indigestion). includes tips on dealing with other people's kids (OPCs) and responses for when you are asked the all-annoying "so when are you having kids" question. also has amusing comparison charts of you, your body, your house, etc. without children and with children. if you're really serious about having children and just don't understand how anyone could NOT want them, then this book might not be for you. but if you don't like kids, don't want kids, or do want kids but have a

good sense of humor, then spend an hour flipping through this little tome.

Kristin says

This book is awesome! It was a quick read and very funny. It takes a humorous look at life with and without kids, including tips on what to say when people harass you about not having kids and what to do so you will never be asked to babysit again. It even has a great test to help you figure out what kind of child surrogate you should get (ie, cat, dog, lizard, fish, niece/nephew, etc.).

Bookstax says

I'm surprised this book made it past an editor's desk. It was pointless. It was as if the girls from Sex and the City wrote a book about not having kids; it was that shallow and vapid. I expected some valuable information, some enlightenment, some information that I could grasp to make it worth traveling to the library to get it (thank heavens I didn't BUY it). There isn't any here. My husband and I have come to terms with not having kids. This book is so flip and brainless that I wish I could caution people who are actually struggling with their feelings about not being able to have children not to read it. It will not help you on your journey to the realization that not having kids is not the end of the world...
