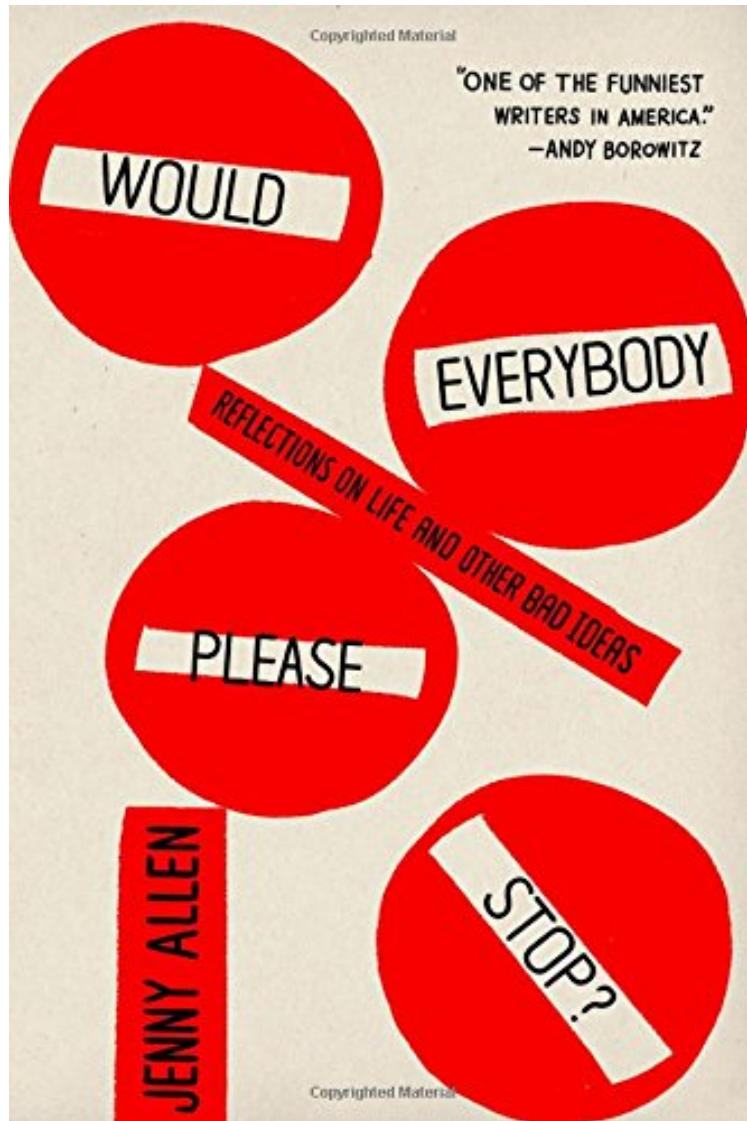


(Ebook free) Would Everybody Please Stop?: Reflections on Life and Other Bad Ideas

Would Everybody Please Stop?: Reflections on Life and Other Bad Ideas

Jenny Allen

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Jenny Allen : Would Everybody Please Stop?: Reflections on Life and Other Bad Ideas before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Would Everybody Please Stop?: Reflections on Life and Other Bad Ideas:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Starts with a bang and ends with a whimper By A. Becker After the first couple of chapters I thought I'd recommend this to my friends. Luckily I kept reading it before I got around to

that. While I can cuss like a sailor myself I don't like writing like that. The stories went downhill (Elmer Fudd, really?) and I was glad when it was over. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Full of insights By Judy T She is insightful and funny and has a lot to say . I listened on CD. I don't know if one would get it all if read. But the CD was much more expensive. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Need a good laugh? By Customer I read in bed at night and with this book I was laughing out loud. I loved it. A nice diversion from my usual choices.

"One of the funniest writers in America." That's what The New Yorker's Andy Borowitz calls Jenny Allen—and with good reason. In her debut essay collection, the longtime humorist and performer declares no subject too sacred, no boundary impassable. With her eagle eye for the absurd and hilarious, Allen reports from the potholes midway through life's journey. One moment she's flirting shamelessly—and unsuccessfully—with a younger man at a wedding; the next she's stumbling upon X-rated images on her daughter's computer. She ponders the connection between her ex-husband's questions about the location of their silverware, and the divorce that came a year later. While undergoing chemotherapy, she experiments with being a "wig person." And she considers those perplexing questions that we never pause to ask: Why do people say "It is what it is"? What's the point of fat-free half-and-half? And haven't we heard enough about memes? Jenny Allen's musings range fluidly from the personal to the philosophical. She writes with the familiarity of someone telling a dinner party anecdote, forgoing decorum for candor and comedy. To read *Would Everybody Please Stop?* is to experience life with imaginative and incisive humor.

"Observant . . . charming and companionable . . . To read the entire collection is to feel that one has gained an eccentric, generous new friend" ?Brook Allen, *The Wall Street Journal* "A tartly funny and often piercingly emotional ramble through life at a certain age." ?Penelope Green, *The New York Times* "Most of the 35 very short essays in *Would Everybody Please Stop?* are either hilarious, heartfelt, or both . . . Wonderful . . . Allen can be playful, sarcastic, and astute . . . There's sharp wit and social commentary aplenty . . . As delightful as her humor is, her serious essays hit deeper . . . It's all good." ?Heller McAlpin, *NPR.org* "The secret to a good monologue—and to being a good monologist, of course—lies in being able to speak alone in a way that a group of other people wants to hear. The author-performer Jenny Allen has made her name over the years both on the page and on the stage as just such a storyteller . . . Fans of Nora Ephron, Erma Bombeck and even the peevish Andy Rooney will find a lot to enjoy in these essays, which are lively and not afraid to be quarrelsome." ?Kathleen Rooney, *Chicago Tribune* "If you can get your hands on Jenny Allen's new book, *Would Everybody Please Stop?* you may be tempted to gobble it all up at one sitting, telling yourself, "Just one more, and then I'll save the rest for later." But don't do it. Portion out these deliciously funny essays so that you can have some serious laughs a few days running. . . Some humor writers work very hard to be funny; others, like Ms. Allen, just can't help themselves." ?Martha's Vineyard Times "A fantastic compilation of her greatest hits . . . Both heartfelt and hilarious" ?Tory Daily "A hysterical essay collection filled with so-called 'reflections on life' and 'other bad ideas' that will keep the tears (of laughter) coming." ?Elite Daily "Like humorist Erma Bombeck, yet for the 21st century, Allen has a conversational but dramatic performer's voice that comes through in her essays and is a joy to spend time with as she deals with some of the harsher aspects of life . . . These pieces balance out into well-rounded set of writings that should please most humor fans; the lives of middle-aged women deserve more focus, and so Allen's rich vein of pathos is a welcome addition. Verdict: Lovers of darkly humorous domestic comedy will enjoy this one . . . everyone should be able to find something to appreciate." ?Margaret Heller, *Library Journal* "This level of humor is one of the hardest to pull off. Most writers on the Humor shelf don't even try. In *Would Everybody Please Stop? Reflections on Life and Other Bad Ideas*, Jenny Allen rarely misses." ?Jesse Kornbluth, *Head Butler* "Am I permitted to say 'I laughed my ass off'? I was already a Jenny Allen fan, always hoping that every 'Shouts Murmurs' piece would be hers, so imagine my delight in a collection of these gems. *Would Everybody Please Stop?* is deeply, wisely funny, with delicious, lovable neuroses on display. I adored it." ?Elinor Lipman, author of *On Turpentine Lane* and *The Inn at Lake Devine* "Jenny Allen gets to the heart of things in the most inventive, unexpected ways. And she's funny. Really, really funny. Wildly funny. And sometimes she breaks my heart." ?Delia Ephron, author of *Siracusa* "I love this book more than Romeo loved Juliet. Also, it is so much funnier and more fun than that pill Juliet." ?Patricia Marx, author of *Him Her Him Again The End of Him* "Really it's too bad that Jenny Allen refuses to drink in any bar with a giant fish tank, never called that raw food restaurant to ask for their insanely good German chocolate cake recipe, and caused the annoying family upstairs to vanish into thin air. Because otherwise Jenny Allen is just plain perfect." ?Stacy Schiff, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Witches* About the Author Jenny Allen is a writer and performer. Her articles and essays have appeared in *The New Yorker* and *The New York Times*, among other publications. Her award-winning solo show, *I Got Sick Then I Got Better*, has been seen in venues across the country and in Canada. She lives on Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. *Would Everybody Please Stop?* is her first book.