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My Miserable Lonely Lesbian Pregnancy

"Andrea Askowitz's brilliant debut memoir is the exact kind of thing I'm always looking for at the bookstore—something that reads like an intimate yet super funny, painfully true letter from my very best friend. Andrea is like a girl version of David Sedaris or Augusten Burroughs, mining perfect comedic moments from the very worst of life's offerings. You don't have to be miserable, lonely or a lesbian to completely relate to the hilarious journey that is Andrea's life."
—Jill Soloway, writer on *Six Feet Under*



my miserable, lonely,
lesbian pregnancy

ANDREA ASKOWITZ



Synopsis

In this memoir of her 40 weeks and five days in hell, Andrea Askowitz takes an unflinching look at her pregnant life from struggling with hormones to poor body image to a self imposed exile from family to take us on a ride through the turbulence of single lesbian motherhood. Along the way we meet her liberal parents as they struggle with their daughter's choices, the lover she longs to reconnect with who goes M.I.A. before the pregnancy, the friends who turn out to be no help at all and strangers who offer up some unlikely kindness. Andrea presents herself real, raw, impossibly cranky yet deeply touching with her self-deprecating dark sense of humor that will make you wince or better yet send you into uncontrollable fits of laughter

Book Information

Paperback: 241 pages

Publisher: Cleis Press; 1st edition (April 28, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1573443158

ISBN-13: 978-1573443159

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,669,664 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Specific Groups > LGBT > Lesbian](#) #1086 in [Books > Gay & Lesbian > Parenting & Families](#) #2357 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Parenting & Families](#)

Customer Reviews

"Andrea Askowitz brilliant debut memoir is the exact kind of thing I'm always looking for at the bookstore--something that reads like an intimate yet super funny, painfully true letter from my very best friend. Andrea is like a girl version of David Sedaris or Augusten Burroughs, mining perfect comedic moments from the very worst of life's offerings. You don't have to be miserable, lonely or a lesbian to completely relate to the hilarious journey that is Andrea's life." -- Jill Soloway author of *Tiny Women In Shiny Pants* and writer on *Six Feet Under*. "Funny, sad, unblinkingly honest--I would give this one to any pregnant friend and a few who aren't."-Joyce Maynard author of *At Home in the World*, *The Usual Rules* and *To Die For* "Andrea is the lesbian Annie Lamott. Her book makes me want not to donate sperm."-Taylor Negrón, actor -- More Praise for Andrea Askowitz "Hilarious and all too true. After my own miserable lesbian pregnancy, Andrea Askowitz's confessions cheered me

up immeasurably."-Ariel Gore author of *The Hip Mama Survival Guide* "Andrea Askowitz, is warm, funny and filthy"--Slate.com -- Praise for Andrea Askowitz "This is one whiny, bitchy pregnant lady--and you can't help but love her. Askowitz is funny and fearless." -- Louise Sloan author of *Knock Yourself Up: A Tell-All Guide to Becoming a Single Mom* "You don't have to be a miserable, lonely, pregnant lesbian to adore Andrea Askowitz's awfully funny story. Anyone who enjoys schadenfreude, laugh-out-loud asides, and frank depictions of biological horrors will love this wonderful book. You will read it dog-eared and quote the most outrageous parts at length to all your friends. An awfully funny story." -- Jennifer Traig author of *Devil In the Details: Scenes from an Obsessive Girlhood*

Andrea Askowitz has the best life in the world. She's pregnant and healthy. She has friends and family who love her. She has money and meaningful work. And all she can do is obsess about the one thing she doesn't have: Kate, her ex-girlfriend. *My Miserable, Lonely, Lesbian Pregnancy* is a funny, whiny, all-too-real account of one girl's true adventure in maternity. From finding a great donor who turns out to be shooting blanks ("I was a lesbian with male fertility problems.") through all-day morning sickness and graduation into "fat-girl underwear," Andrea's life reads like an antidote to sugar-sweet pregnancy guides and memoirs. In week 8, her sense of smell becomes so strong that she can tell what deodorant people are wearing. In week 28, she plans a pity party, complete with black-only dress code and a violin player: "It isn't an attempt to make fun of myself, because that would be too joyous." Irreverent and whip-smart, *My Miserable, Lonely, Lesbian Pregnancy* is potent therapy for ill-timed break-ups, leg cramps, constipation, and every other downside to a dream come true.

I understand that memoirs anymore are striving for the 'shock and awe', but this book takes it a little far. I suppose if you are interested in reading this novel and are A.) NOT pregnant or wishing to become pregnant or B.) NOT a lesbian, I get that it might be charming or funny, in a satirical way. I didn't find Ms. Askowitz endearing in any way. She came across as whiny and petulant, and I spent the whole time wishing she'd just shut up and quit complaining. As a lesbian, it's not like she became pregnant on accident. I know that pregnancy isn't always blue skies and perfection, but do I really need to hear someone b*tch about it for an entire novel? I'm actually upset with myself for finishing the book, since it didn't end any better than it began. The one thing I'll give her is that she does admit that she's a pain and her attitude was poor at times. Even with those admittances, I still found her memoir disheartening and ugly. When I bought this book, I read all the reviews saying it's

a cheeky, cute, funny memoir and thought to myself that it would be a good read for me, a lesbian hoping to conceive a child soon. I was completely and totally wrong. My partner and I were both horrified by this novel. If you're looking for a nice, funny memoir about a lesbian pregnancy, THIS IS NOT IT. The title is less tongue-in-cheek than you might think. I considered re-selling it through , but I'm not even willing to put this book back into circulation!

I love this book. So funny. A really great read! It shipped so fast and was in great condition. Will buy from seller again.

Memorable read. Recommend!

My Miserable, Lonely, Lesbian Pregnancy is author, Andrea Askowitz's brutally honest memoir recounting the months she spent trying to get pregnant, actually pregnant, and as a new mother. As can be easily discerned from the title, Andrea did not enjoy being pregnant and she makes no effort to sugarcoat her experience. Askowitz is frank and extremely open in describing the messy and oftentimes unpleasant experiences involved with pregnancy and child birth. What makes My Miserable, Lonely, Lesbian Pregnancy work as a memoir is the balance that Askowitz manages to maintain between candid description of her opinions and admission that those opinions might have been skewed by her own gloom. Askowitz pulls no punches in describing her bitter disappointment with her friends, her ex-girlfriend, and her family; however, her harsh judgments are tempered by her acknowledgment that her estimations were not always fair and that she was a big pain in the neck. Askowitz's ability to call herself out on her own issues makes her endearing and likeable. Askowitz's ability to be so unguarded in her writing oftentimes results in uproarious hilarity. Her recounting of her arguments and passive-aggressive altercations with her therapist will leave readers in stitches. She is candid, annoying, funny, loving, infuriating, and a whole host of other contradicting descriptions that make a person complicated and interesting. Overall, this is a thoroughly enjoyable memoir that lifts the curtain on the rosy, glowing pregnancy façade that is usually presented to reveal the difficult, hard, and ugly side of pregnancy. I do, however, feel a responsibility to future readers to mention that this might not be the book for those who consider themselves exceptionally squeamish, prudish, or easily offended.

I met Andrea when she hosted a panel where I was one of the writers. We traded books and with this honest gushing review I think she is beating me in reviews! Having seen Andrea in action - on

the book panel that is I can attest to her vibrant funny personality. She is not afraid to call things as they are and reveal her emotional honesty about herself and those around her who love her, despite everything. Andrea writes like she talks - she's a storyteller and this flow of words and self deprecating wit makes the book a fast read. Having fathered two kids a long time ago, then being a solo father I was definitely involved in her journey to get pregnant and then suffer the consequences and her comic take on all the drama she endured was touching and hilarious. Definitely worth a read and I look forward to her next book.

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