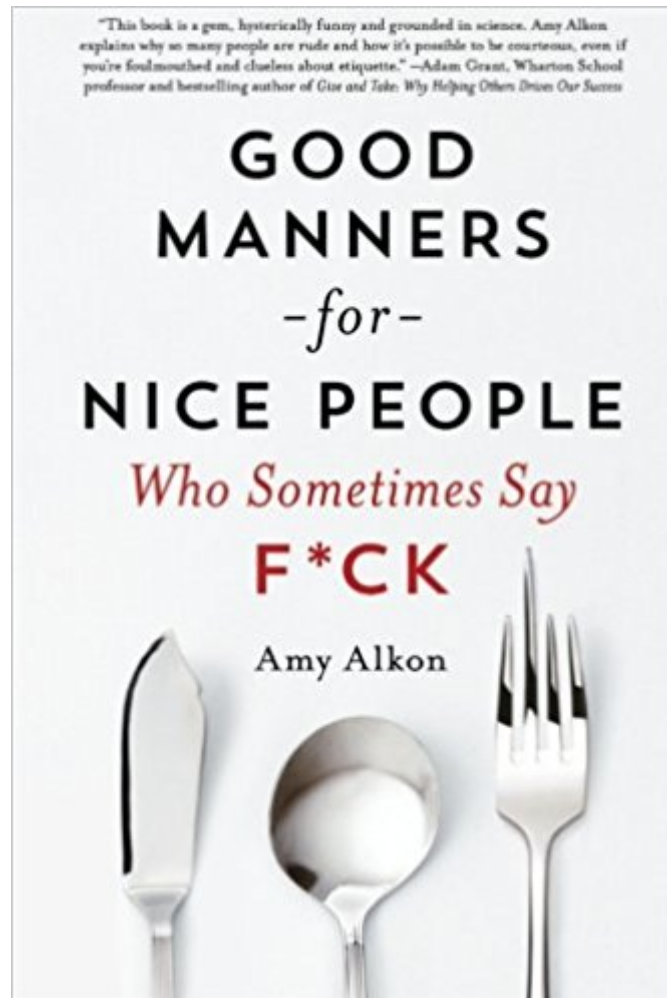




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Good Manners For Nice People Who Sometimes Say F*ck



Synopsis

"Miss Manners with Fangs." *LA Weekly* We live in a world that's very different from the one in which Emily Post came of age. Many of us who are nice (but who also sometimes say "f*ck") are frequently at a loss for guidelines about how to be a good person who deals effectively with the increasing onslaught of rudeness we all encounter. To lead us out of the miasma of modern mannerlessness, science-based and bitingly funny syndicated advice columnist Amy Alkon rips the doily off the manners genre and gives us a new set of rules for our twenty-first century lives. With wit, style, and a dash of snark, Alkon explains that we now live in societies too big for our brains, lacking the constraints on bad behavior that we had in the small bands we evolved in. Alkon shows us how we can reimpose those constraints, how we can avoid being one of the rude, and how to stand up to those who are. Foregoing prissy advice on which utensil to use, Alkon answers the twenty-first century's most burning questions about manners, including: * Why do many people, especially those under forty, now find spontaneous phone calls rude? * What can you tape to your mailbox to stop dog walkers from letting their pooch violate your lawn? * How do you shut up the guy in the pharmacy line with his cellphone on speaker? * What small gift to your new neighbors might make them think twice about playing Metallica at 3 a.m.? Combining science with more than a touch of humor, *Good Manners for Nice People Who Sometimes Say F*ck* is destined to give good old Emily a shove off the etiquette shelf (if that's not too rude to say).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Alkon not only tells readers what good manners are but also provides useful suggestions for politely calling offenders' attention to their rudeness. And she does this in a ferociously funny style--it's worth a read for the laughs alone. There is nothing here of the proper arrangement of table setting, nor of how to address a letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury; rather Alkon deals with modern problems in interpersonal relationships, such as how civilized people should act when standing in lines, on airplanes, online, and elsewhere. In addition, she offers very dependable, sensible, caring advice to those whose friends or family are coping with terminal illness. VERDICT: Solid psychology and a wealth of helpful knowledge and rapier wit fill these pages. Highly recommended.

Library Journal (starred review) "This book is a gem. Hysterically funny and grounded in science, Amy Alkon explains why so many people are rude and how it's possible to be courteous, even if you're foul-mouthed and clueless about etiquette."

Dr. Adam Grant, Wharton School professor and New York Times bestselling author of *Give and Take* "I can say without reservation that *Good Manners For Nice People Who Sometimes Say F*ck* is hilarious, consistently entertaining, and, above all, wise. It's Emily Post as a beach read."

Charlotte Allen, *The Weekly Standard* "She is chatty, at times outrageous, but full of ideas about living politely in a society that she says has become too big for our brains to handle. As for Oscar Wilde, at the end of his life is said to have commented: 'The world was my oyster, but I used the wrong fork.'"

Moira Hodgson, *The Wall Street Journal* "If you're frequently left gasping by the jaw-dropping social ineptitude of your fellow human beings, or you're guilty of being a rude jackass yourself from time to time, this is the book for you. Alkon doesn't suffer fools lightly, but she also has the gentle wisdom to know that each of us plays the role of the fool sometimes. Armed with fascinating science, great humor, and a preternatural bullshit detector for a mind, she shoots from the hip and you'll be damn glad she does, too."

Dr. Jesse Bering, Associate Professor of Science Communication and author of *Perv* "Contradiction is part of what makes Ms. Alkon so captivating. Perhaps the biggest contradiction: The hisser can also be utterly lovely."

Brooks Barnes, *The New York Times* "Although the subject matter should be enough to hold your attention, it is primarily Amy's ability to turn a phrase that makes the book such a good ride. Her section headings (e.g., 'Dating is War,' 'Murder-Suicide and Other Forms of Diplomacy,' 'The Tragedy of the Asshole in the Commons') make it impossible to put the book down and get back to work without reading just one more section. I highly recommend this book."

Dr. Frank McAndrew, *Evolutionary Psychology* journal "In this comprehensive, science-based, easy-to-read, and hilarious book, Alkon looks at where our

rudeness comes from and provides tangible ways for all of us to deal with it.~ç~ –• ~ç~ –â çDr. Jennifer Verdolin, Psychology Today~ç~ –•~ç~ –•~ç~ –â ç“One of ’11 Smart Books You Should Read This Summer”~ç~ –• ~ç~ –â çSam McNerney, 250Words.com~ç~ –•~ç~ –â ç“This crazy redhead is on to something. Her pink Rambler story alone is worth the price of the book.~ç~ –• ~ç~ –â çElmore Leonard on I See Rude People~ç~ –•~ç~ –â ç“Amy Alkon is intellectually promiscuous~ç~ –â çand funny as hell.~ç~ –• ~ç~ –â çHoward Bloom, paleopsychologist and author of The Lucifer Principle on I See Rude People~ç~ –•~ç~ –â ç“Seriously great book. Alkon is smart and savvy and funny as hell. Where Hannibal the Cannibal only ate the rude, Alkon stands up to them with the sort of glorious panache that sometimes makes you want to stand and cheer.~ç~ –• ~ç~ –â çDavid Middleton, January Magazine on I See Rude People~ç~ –•~ç~ –â ç“Alkon turns reporting on findings in evolutionary psychology into an art form. She scans the research horizon for fascinating new results. Though relentless in her skepticism, she is keenly attuned to findings that are both solid and suggestive. (The world lost a great analyst when Alkon turned away from academic research.) In her hands, all this research turns into practical advice for how ordinary people can live better lives. Alkon may be, as the LA Weekly put it, ‘Miss Manners With Fangs,’ but she is perhaps better characterized as the offspring of Charles Darwin and Dorothy Parker. We academics can all take a lesson from her ability to redefine academic turf in terms ‘the ordinary person’ can both understand and enjoy.~ç~ –• ~ç~ –â çDr. Barbara Oakley, Oakland University on Amy Alkon

Amy Alkon does ~ç~ –•~ç~ –â ç“applied behavioral science,~ç~ –•~ç~ –â çtranslating scientific research into highly practical advice. Alkon writes The Science Advice Goddess, an award-winning, syndicated column that runs in newspapers across the United States and Canada. She is also the author of I See Rude People. She has been on Good Morning America, The Today Show, NPR, CNN, MTV, and does a weekly science podcast. She has written for Psychology Today, Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles Times Magazine, the New York Daily News, among others, and has given a TED talk. She is the President of the Applied Evolutionary Psychology Society. She lives in Venice, California. Follow Amy on Twitter: @amyalkon

Amy Alkon aka the Advice Goddess runs a syndicated advice column across the country. Unlike any of her competition she combines a great wit along with modern studies to back her up. Do you feel that Technology has turned the whole population into a bunch of rude creatures who think nothing of yelling in the speaker cell phone while you are trying to enjoy a movie? Amy agrees with you but reminds us that technology is important (we all rely on it), and is therefore here to stay and

proposes new rules (or sort) of etiquette for this modern age. "Hint" there still is and we can all learn to get along with we show some etiquette. Amy realizes some email and text rather and pick up the phone an call, she recognizes some people are starting and ending relationships this way and is telling them to be realistic. As far as I know, she is the first popular advice columnist to tackle these subjects. A must read for those who worship this technology as well as those who curse it for being the source of all evil.

Funny. Not character driven, not meant to be. Contains helpful hints for navigating the many difficult situations one faces today. Situations that did not exist two, perhaps one, decade ago. Great book, a must. *Did I just write that?* yes, I did. And, gosh darn it, I mean it. Shelf this book between your favorite dictionary and favorite thesaurus.

Alkon clearly communicates social rules that we could all live by...without needing to be preachy or sip tea with your pinky thrust outward. If you are looking for the proper way to set a table and the precise utensils to serve bronzino, this isn't the book for you. If, however, you want to navigate an increasingly rude society without being taken advantage of or facing rude behavior with even more rude behavior, this book will provide simple suggestions. Alkon's writing is both humorous and spot on.

This is the kind of brilliantly witty guidebook that I wish I had decades back, so I could have been savoring the opportunity to reread again and again. This book is a classic not only of great wit, but of solid, scientifically-based information about how people how people can, with a little intelligent (and fun!) prompting, interact beautifully with one another in the modern world. Through everything, Amy's basic human decency shines through albeit a decency that's shot through with brilliantly sardonic humor. I learned a LOT from this book, about everyday challenges (what is the new phone etiquette in the midst of today's data overflow?), and about life's eternal challenges involving what Alkon terms "trickle down humanity." This book is not to be missed nobody synthesizes science or people smarts-- like Amy Alkon.

The Advice Goddess aka Amy Alkon has written a laugh out loud, thoughtful, provocative and inspiring book. Ms. Alkon is the Manners Ninja! I have been reading her advice column for years

because it never fails to brighten my week. So I am delighted to have this great book that I know will be reread many times. I do not exaggerate when I say that every page contained at least one thought-provoking statement, and she backs up the laughter with good science. I am extremely envious that I did not come up with the term "rudenfreude." If there was a means to give this book 10 stars, that would be my rating.

Amy Alkon has written another great book on common courtesy, which is sadly becoming less and less common. You won't find tips on how to set a table or which fork to use, but you will find lots of advice on how to interact with people that will make your day and theirs more pleasant and will foster community in an environment where we often go a full day without seeing someone we know. Better yet, her observations are backed by science and common sense, all presented with her trademark humor.

I've bought Amy Alkon's latest book, *Good Manners for Nice People Who Sometimes Say F*ck*, four times. A hard copy, audiobooks for myself and a friend, and most recently in e-book format so I can take it everywhere. It's that good a read. Ms. Alkon is funny, witty, and her advice, which I first started reading in her syndicated column "The Advice Goddess," is firmly grounded in science. As a student of evolutionary psychology, Ms. Alkon doesn't bother with political correctness - just truths, entertainingly written in her matter-of-fact yet endearing style. On why it's not shallow, just biology, when a man sees external, not internal beauty, Ms. Alkon's delivers the stingingly funny line, "The penis is not a philanthropic organization and will not get hard because a woman bought a homeless guy a sandwich." While Ms. Alkon's column is largely geared toward relationship advice, ultimately manners are all about relationships. The book covers dating (or meeting) dos and don'ts, but also the finer points of all things manners including communication in the digital age, how to be a good neighbor (and what makes a bad one), travel, being a good friend... the book is a roadmap to Not Being A Jerk, but it also tells us how to apologize and fix it when we are. If you want to know what to do when you realize you've just used your fish fork to eat salad (quelle horror!), this isn't the book you're looking for. If you want to know how to behave in a way that makes you welcome anywhere, pick up a copy of this book post haste!

The book is really interesting and helped make me more aware of why I feel constantly offended everyday by numerous individuals. I might have misread the book summary, but I thought it would give more insight on how to deal with these individuals in a manner that leaves my integrity intact.

There are multiple suggestions to tell a white lie to avoid an uncomfortable conversation and bring resolution to the situation. To me, that's just as offensive as the rude act by a stranger. Other than that, I think the book was well researched and was very insightful in providing me information about why rude people are rude.

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