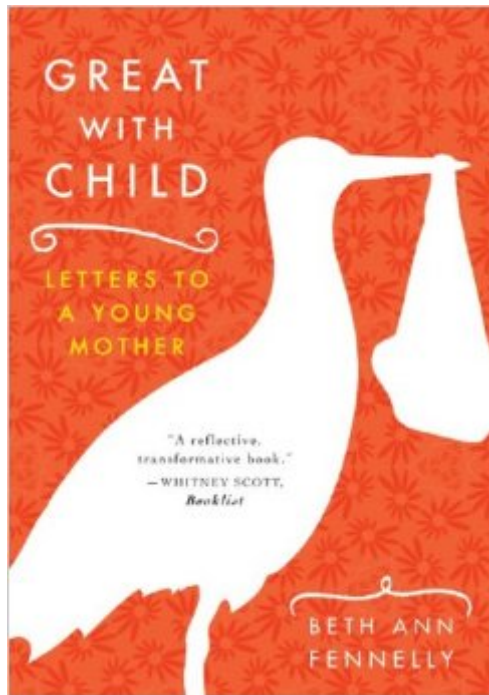


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Great With Child: Letters To A Young Mother



Synopsis

"May be the best book ever to give for a baby shower." —Tampa Tribune Beth Ann Fennelly, writing to a newly pregnant friend, goes beyond the nuts and bolts or sentimentality of other parenting literature, in letters that range in tone from serious to sisterly, from lighthearted to downright funny. Some answer specific questions; others muse about the identity shift a woman encounters when she enters Mommyland. This book invites all mothers to join the grand circle of giving and receiving advice about children.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (32 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

this book will help expectant mothers see their, um, "condition" in a different light I can't attest, for I am neither female nor a great lover of children. But I can say this: I found this book extremely interesting. It is very well-written, full of remarkable ruminations on the connections between the life of a writer and the life of a mother; it is funny, and it does give a beery guy like me an insight into how women could possibly enjoy what I view as the "torture of reproduction." Fennelly does not shy away from the sensuality between mother and child or the sexuality between mother and father, and that lends much import to the more sentimental passages. This is the kind of book that I didn't think could possibly interest me, but Fennelly's writing is always full of surprises. And good surprises at that. This book should not be designated as merely "pregnant chick lit," as it's far better than that. I think it's true benefit may be in helping men find footing in at least one corridor of the labyrinth of the female mind. I've lent it to several of my male friends (single male friends), and they've all

expressed the same surprise at finding this topic handled in such a way that they wanted to keep reading. Not bad for a book whose title would have caused a shiver to run up my spine not that long ago. Great With Child is a great read, and you'll find it entertaining regardless of your ability or desire to participate in the propagation of our species.

Wonderful! Not a book of advice, but a heartfelt exchange about what it means to become a mother, and to carry a child. I give it to all my friends when they are expecting. Note - trigger warning - the author discusses a miscarriage she experienced. It is very moving to hear her describe her experience, but just be aware if that is a sensitive topic for you.

These days, it seems like every book for expectant mothers is meant to terrify you. From what can go wrong with your baby, to what is wrong with our hospital system, sometimes it can make a woman crazy. This book is the antidote to all of the crazy out there. Ms. Fennelly's prose is wonderful (she is a poet, after all) and it's light, heartwarming reading. She talks with both love and frankness about the changes a baby brings to one's life, and at the end of the book you feel uplifted rather than scared to death.

This was the best book I read while pregnant. Of course I read a million guides to pregnancy, but her writing gets at the heart of what it means to be a new mom, and I found her inspired writing to be far more honest and valuable than a list of "how-to"s. I now buy this book for all my pregnant friends and they've all enjoyed reading it as much as I did.

I give this book to almost every new mom I know. Short and easy to read in those first sleepless nights home with baby. My mother in law and I read it together and it was a great way to bond over motherhood. Good laughs too! Genuine heart and soul in this epistolary work.

I am a first time expectant mom and found myself overwhelmed and a little freaked out by all of the medical books about pregnancy. Great with Child is a nice relief from all of that. It's a pleasant, easy read that provides a unique perspective on impending motherhood.

Sweetest book to read while preparing for motherhood. Put down all the "how to" and "what to expect" books and give yourself a little break to prepare for all the good parts of motherhood.

i read this early on in my pregnancy with my first child. it is an easy read (because it's a series of letters, it's nice to read before bed, lots of easy stopping points) and, in my opinion, is wonderful for women getting used to being pregnant and the idea that they're about to become mothers. really enjoyed it.

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