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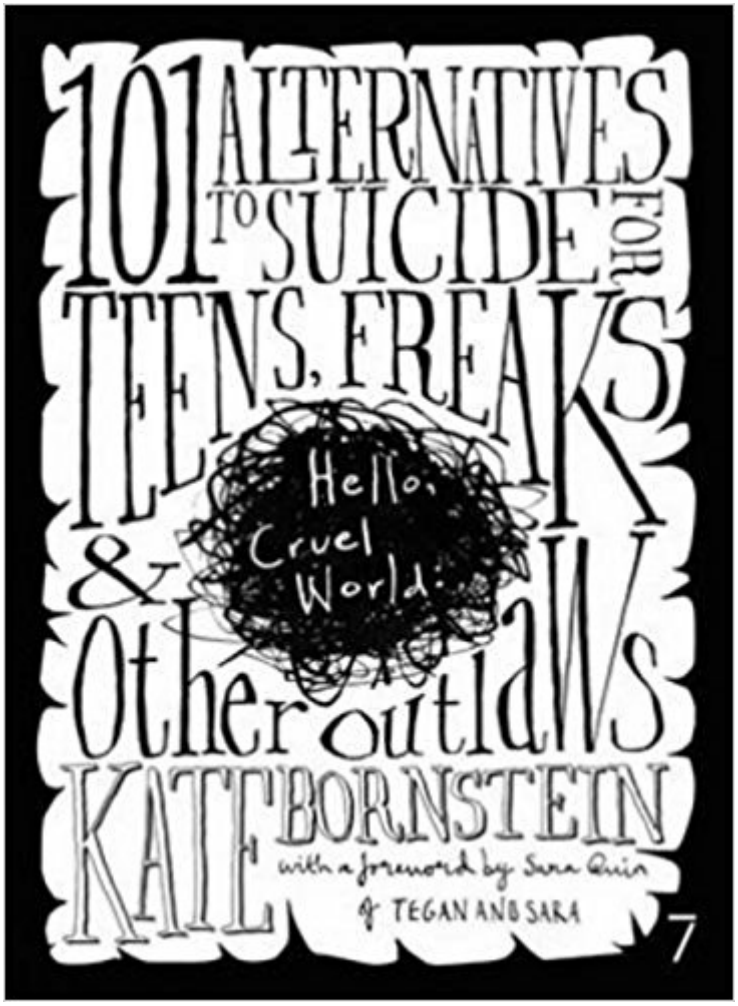
Hello Cruel World: 101 Alternatives To Suicide For Teens, Freaks And Other Outlaws



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Synopsis

Celebrated transsexual trailblazer Kate Bornstein has, with more humor and spunk than any other, ushered us into a world of limitless possibility through a daring re-envisionment of the gender system as we know it.Here, Bornstein bravely and wittily shares personal and unorthodox methods of survival in an often cruel world. A one-of-a-kind guide to staying alive outside the box, Hello, Cruel World is a much-needed unconventional approach to life for those who want to stay on the edge, but alive.Hello, Cruel World features a catalog of 101 alternatives to suicide that range from the playful (moisturize!), to the irreverent (shatter some family values), to the highly controversial. Designed to encourage readers to give themselves permission to unleash their hearts' harmless desires, the book has only one directive: "Don't be mean." It is this guiding principle that brings its reader on a self-validating journey, which forges wholly new paths toward a resounding decision to choose life.Tenderly intimate and unapologetically edgy, Kate Bornstein is the radical role model, the affectionate best friend, and the guiding mentor all in one.

Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Seven Stories Press (July 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1583227202

ISBN-13: 978-1583227206

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.5 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 52 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #108,330 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 inÃ Â Books > Self-Help > Death & Grief > Suicide #135 inÃ Â Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Mental Health > Depression #137 inÃ Â Books > Gay & Lesbian > Nonfiction > LGBT Studies

Customer Reviews

A celebrated pioneer for the LGBTIQ community, KATE BORNSTEIN is the author of My Gender Workbook: How to Become a Real Man, a Real Woman, the Real You, or Something Else Entirely and Gender Outlaw: On Men, Women and The Rest of Us, as well as the editor with S. Bear Bergman of Gender Outlaws: The Next Generation. Her plays and performance pieces include Hidden: A Gender, The Opposite Sex Is Neither, and Too Tall Blondes In Love. She lives in New York City with her partner, Barbara Carrellas.

A very unique book. Definitely not for everyone, but I found it helpful and funny and comforting. It made me feel less alone and the author is so genuine and caring and so filled with love for other people. It reminds you that there are kind, open minded, empathetic people in this world and that everyone is different and special and so long as your not hurting anyone, it's perfectly fine to be whoever you are. This book is perfect for anyone feeling lost, sad, lonely, angry, numb....ect. Definitely worth reading!

I read through the entire book in one sitting.I've been feeling really for the last few... Well, that's the problem. I can't remember when I started feeling like this.I watched a few videos of Bornstein in my Gender Studies classes and she kept promoting her book and I eventually was like "what the heck" I've got nothing else to lose. So, I bought the book.It arrived yesterday. I immediately began reading, and reading, and reading.I sympathise and relate to Bornstein's anecdotes. But, I really wanted to get to the list. I really wanted to know what I could do to feel less... Like this. I get there and she provides hilarious examples and scenarios (some also quite sombre).While I plan to utilise quite a few of them, I feel as though they were presented in a way that required a lot of flipping back-and-forth.I hope it works. I enjoyed reading it. I'll probably consult it every few days for weeks, if not years. I'll probably even buy a second copy to give out to friends.Buy this book if you're feeling low. Buy this book if you're in for a list of things that you could do to not only ease suicidal thoughts but remove some boredom (Why do only the suicidal people get the fun with this book?). Buy this book for someone you love if you're worried about them. Buy this book just in-case, for you or someone else.Buy this book.

I'm convinced that Kate Bornstein is a gift to this world. If you're someone who has struggled with suicidal thoughts or even had a few moments in your life where your thoughts about you living another couple minutes freaked you out, definitely read this book. It doesn't come off like a self-help book, in fact it's quite the opposite. The tone of the book can be a little dark at times, but if you're someone who is in that frame of mind while reading it, it resonates pretty strongly. This book in a manner of speaking has saved my life & given me perspective during times where I simply just didn't wanna fight anymore. The overall message of this book is do what you gotta do to survive & if you're literally suicidal this book will help you do just that.

Perhaps, one will mainly buy this cos of 2 things. One, you or a friend is going through a tough time

finding oneself and dealing with the crap the world's throwing at you. Two, you're a Tegan and Sara fan and you want a piece of everything that has "Quin" stamped on it. But besides those two reasons, this book is especially important because it's written from a queer perspective of seeing the world and being different. Kate Bornstein is one of the most important voices and figures in queer culture and history. This is her message, a message that perhaps, every other queer would echo to another queer, freak or geek struggling in a world of binaries and finite shapes and sizes. It makes a perfect gift to your 12-year old self, to another tween or teen or to anyone of any age who are always told that they can't be who they are.

Had found this book at random at my public library almost 6 years ago. I remembered flipping through and smiling, even crying at what I did see. The cover is what got me. It looked so different from what I was use to.Years later I'm on my own hitting my second rock bottom, barely making bills, not eating and going through a personality search when I remembered this book. I had copied down something Kate had said so for a year I searched. Found it and now I flip through it when I need a little reminder.

This book is absolutely perfect. I return at least once a week to the Cruel Scale of Feelings that Kate outlines, and I have found it very helpful in identifying how I feel and choosing a more positive feeling to work towards. Kate completely levels with you in this book, and it is always good for a pick-me-up on days when you're feeling particularly down. My favorite part, though, was not the list of alternatives but the first sections, where I underlined extensively whenever Kate wrote something I related to.Even if it just gets you through one more day at a time - you need this book.

I downloaded this book on the evening following my daughters best friends funeral. When a 16 year old girl (guy) takes her own life it makes you sit back and look at the world surrounding us in a different light. Being the mother of a gay teen I'm very in touch with the "freak" crowd and the struggles they withstand. I hope my daughter reads this soon and draws from it the healing that I did. While some of the "alternatives" might be corny and uncool the message is clear, do anything, f&$&@? Anything, just don't kill yourself. Kudos to this author....

A wonderful book, and a wonderful premise. Was so pleased that the author was so open about their difficulties with depression.

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