

Didn't I Feed You Yesterday?: A Mother's Guide to Sanity in Stilettos

Laura Bennett

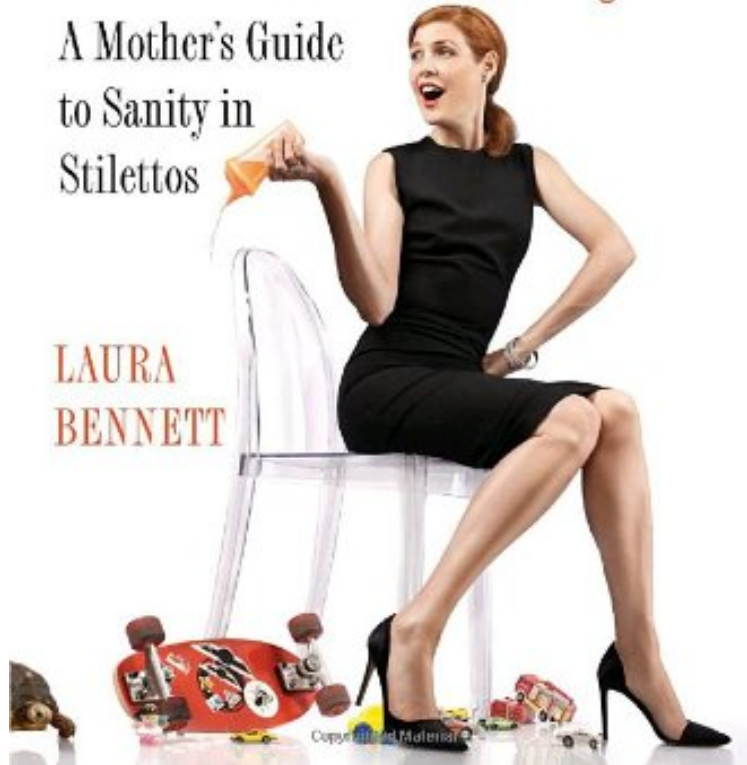
ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF

Copyrighted Material
"As an author, Laura Bennett exudes the qualities that she demonstrates as a designer: high style and sophistication married to wit and whimsy."
—TIM GUNN, host of Project Runway

Didn't I Feed You Yesterday?

A Mother's Guide to Sanity in Stilettos

LAURA BENNETT



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#1047658 in Books Random House 2010-04-06 2010-04-06Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.60 x .95 x 5.70l, .78 #File Name: 0345516370224 pages | File size: 34.Mb

Laura Bennett : Didn't I Feed You Yesterday?: A Mother's Guide to Sanity in Stilettos before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Didn't I Feed You Yesterday?: A Mother's Guide to Sanity in Stilettos:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Life Lived In The Witty And Clever LaneBy Lew TroopLaura Bennett is no standard bearer for feminism, at least not the sort we hear too much about. Not since Jean Kerr gave us

"Please Don't Eat The Daisies" has a lady so candidly discussed her confusions and puzzlements while trying to run a family, a career and her life. She cheerfully admits she doesn't know why she married her husband, how she ended up with all those boys and how she cannot bother to rationalize the whole thing. She's puzzled in that charming way that reminds one of something Sir James M. Barry once wrote, "Charm is like the bloom on a woman, if she has it, nothing else matter if she doesn't have it, nothing else will do. " Laura Bennett has considerable charm although she'd be the last to know it. her vignettes from a confusing life will at once make you sympathize and, for many, nod in agreement with her deft conclusions. She has the writers gift of telling what in other hands could be trivial but in her space cadet in pearls and heels makes perfect sense in the milieu in which she iives. One hopes that in twenty years, if she has time, she'll write the companion volume telling us all how it worked out. Of one thing we can be certain, it won't have worked out the way she or anyone had in mind.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Such a funny ladyBy RushmoreDuring the 3rd and most entertaining season of Project Runway I became very intrigued with the redhead whose makeup was always perfect, who always dressed elegantly and tastefully, and who executed one wacky, exhausting challenge after another while pregnant with her sixth child. When Tim Gunn visited her home and one of her young boys attempted to hand him turtle poop, I immediately decided Laura Bennett was a terrible mother. Her husband made a brief appearance during the home visit, and I thought to myself, "That poor guy. He never saw the truck that ran over him."If I hadn't watched Laura on PR, I honestly don't know what I would think of this book. (I'm one of those people who study the author photo in depth before reading, so I have a picture of the author in my head.) Her role model is Auntie Mame, and that says a lot. I don't doubt that she loves her children, but her main preoccupation is being fabulous. She has taken her mantra from the airline instruction, "If you are traveling with small children, secure your own oxygen mask first before helping them with theirs." She has a knack for seeing the humor in any situation, and her writing is quite funny.Bennett readily admits that she needs a lot of help to maintain her lifestyle, including two nannies, a manny, and an assistant who has worked for her husband for years. Her life is usually not very glamorous but she copes via a wicked sense of humor and always being fabulous.This is definitely not a parenting manual. It is a more detailed introduction to someone we got to know on TV who seemed pretty cool, and she turns out to be REALLY cool. It is definitely not for everyone, particularly those who take their parenting uber-seriously, but I for one totally enjoyed spending time with Ms. Bennett and hope to have the opportunity again in the not-so-distant future.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. LOL Laura Bennett hit it out of the park with ...By Tiffani K. MakarewiczLOL Laura Bennett hit it out of the park with this one! Exactly what every mom needs to let her that she's not alone and to remind her to put her mask on first!

Laura Bennett is not a soccer mom or a PTA mom or a helicopter mom—and she's certainly not mother of the year. Another breed of mother entirely, Laura is surely more Auntie Mame than June Cleaver. As a busy mother of six, Laura is on an impossible mission: raising a brood of fast-moving, messy, wild sons in the jungles of Manhattan. So what other choice does she have than to sit back, grab a martini, and let the boys be, er, boys?In *Didn't I Feed You Yesterday?*, Laura gives her irreverent take on modern motherhood and proves that a strong sense of humor and an even stronger sense of self are the mother's milk of sanity. In a series of refreshingly candid and hilarious anecdotes, she unapologetically breaks every rule in the Brady Bunch playbook: She gives her kids junk food, plays favorites, and openly admits to having "a genetic predisposition to laissez-faire parenting." Children, she observes, don't need constant supervision from neurotic, perfectionist parents. Allow kids to make mistakes and entertain themselves and they'll turn out just fine—even if you do sometimes forget to pick them up from school.Beyond the mayhem of a life among males, Laura celebrates the glories of womanhood with a generous helping of wit and style. She gives thanks to the fashion gods for the essentials—red lipstick, Manolo Blahniks, and Lycra shapewear—but reminds us that true style comes from an inner compass that points directly at oneself. In every aspect of life, Laura gives one simple, powerful piece of advice: "Dress like you want it or stay home." Brutally honest, outrageous, and sure to raise a few eyebrows, *Didn't I Feed You Yesterday?* is a riotously funny read—and it'll go fabulously well with your new handbag.

.com Lee Woodruff s *Didn't I Feed You Yesterday?* Lee Woodruff is the life and family contributor for ABC's Good Morning America and a freelance writer. She is on the board of trustees of the Bob Woodruff Family Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides critical resources and support to our nation's injured service members, veterans, and their families--especially those affected by the signature hidden injuries of war: traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, and combat stress. Lee Woodruff lives in Westchester County, New York, with her husband, ABC News anchor Bob Woodruff, and their four children. Read her guest review of *Didn't I Feed You Yesterday?*: As the mother of four, I am sick to death of watching "helicopter moms" all around me over-parent and over-worry about every aspect of their kids' lives. It was refreshing to open Laura Bennett's book *Didn't I Feed You Yesterday?* and laugh out loud at some of the witty observations she has about parenting and her tongue-in-cheek look at all of us who give in to today's competitive parenting trends. With six children of her own, her un-PC philosophy is that if she loses a kid, she has extras. Or, she looks at root canal as a chance to escape from the kids for a while. Go ahead--stifle the

laugh, tsk tsk if you will, but Bennett writes what so many of us think in our lowest and most exasperated moments but are afraid to say out loud. I am a huge fan of essay books like this in today's completely fractured world. Bennett's book allowed me to read a little slice of something fun in between taking care of everyone else. And what a bonus to discover a book that is both witty, sarcastic and laugh-out-loud funny. (Lee Woodruff photo © Stefan Radtke)

Exclusive: An Essay by Laura Bennett Don't Make Me Pull This Car Over Vehicular discipline used to be so easy. Once my boys start with the "he's touching me" which moves on to a screaming match and ultimately escalates to them getting out of their seat belts to duke it out, making the van look like a mobile version of Fight Club, I would simply pull over to the side of the road and put the worst offender out of the car. Suddenly the brothers who hated him seconds before tearfully beg me to spare his life. "No Mom, don't leave him!" One brother begs. "Please Mom, we'll be good. Let him back in." Another boy declares in defense of his brother standing roadside on Route 22. "You... can't... just... go..." says my tearful seven-year-old, only able to speak in sobbing spurts. The fleeting solidarity is quite touching. I pretend to be immune to their pleas, then after a few moments feign repent and allow their brother back in the car. We finish our journey in relative silence with just the sound of an occasional snivel coming from the back. Mission accomplished. The entire episode basically has the effect of an emotional stun gun. No one got hurt, but they are too drained to misbehave. For a couple of blocks anyway. Phrases like "Stop that fighting or I will leave you right here," "I hope you know your way home because you will be walking," or the perennial "Don't make me pull this car over" are the stuff of motherhood. Idle threats administered by us, our mothers, and their mothers before them. But thanks to Madlyn Primoff, the Scarsdale mother arrested for putting her two children out of her car and actually driving away, we can no longer use them. These threats lose all effectiveness now that our children are armed with the knowledge that we could be arrested for following through. It is imperative that kids believe they narrowly escaped hiking home only because they let go of a sibling's hair or agreed not to sing Banana Nana Bo Bana for the seven hundredth time. How is this going to work when my own children turn the entire thing around and threaten to call the cops on me? When they smugly announce, "you can't put us out, you know you'll be arrested like that woman from Scarsdale." We have already lost the threat to spank or otherwise inflict bodily harm. Children have figured out that actual physical abuse is an arraignment waiting to happen. My mother was allowed to brandish effective weapons such as, "I brought you into this world and I can take you out," or "I will slap that expression right off your face." Not only did these threats scare me straight, they instilled in me the wisdom not to jump off the Mississippi River Bridge with the rest of my friends. Child rearing is war, and children are worthy opponents. How are parents expected to succeed with such a depleted arsenal? What is next to go? You are going to bed without dinner? I'm going to tell your father when he gets home? I will wash your filthy mouth out with soap? When I lose the right to tell them that, yes, they should run away and I will help them pack, I surrender. --Laura Bennett "As an author, Laura Bennett exudes the qualities that she demonstrates as a designer: high style and sophistication married to wit and whimsy. Laura gives Schiaparelli a run for her money!"—Tim Gunn, host of Project Runway and author of A Guide to Quality, Taste and Style "What all mothers are thinking but much, much, much funnier. Laura Bennett is deft, witty and brilliant."—Molly Jong-Fast, author of The Sex Doctors in the Basement and Normal Girl "Charming, sophisticated and hilarious. The only thing wrong with this book is that I did not write it."—Patricia Heaton, star of Everybody Loves Raymond About the Author Laura Bennett wowed viewers of Project Runway's season 3 with her jaw-dropping outspokenness and sophisticated designs. She has a large and growing fan base thanks to Project Runway, MSN's "Glam Squad" StyleStudio, and QVC, which sells her designs. Bennett writes the Case Clothed comic strip for iVillage and a column for The Daily Beast. She lives in Manhattan.