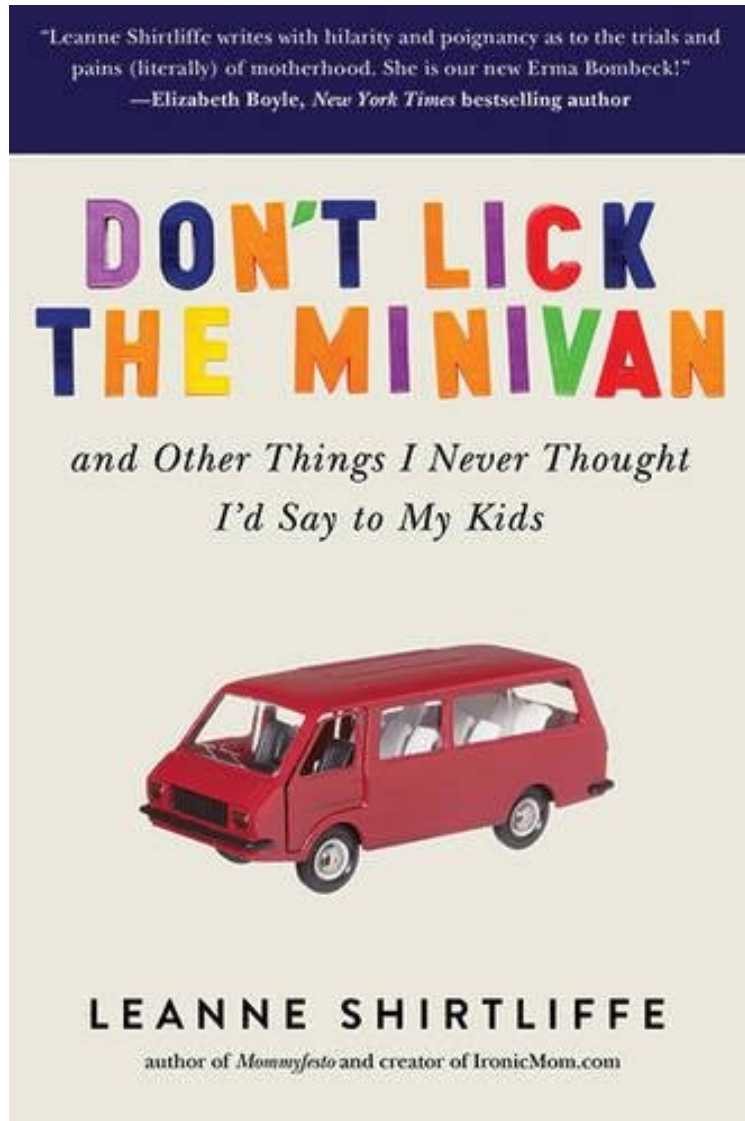


# Don't Lick the Minivan: And Other Things I Never Thought I'd Say to My Kids

Leanne Shirliffe

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**Leanne Shirliffe : Don't Lick the Minivan: And Other Things I Never Thought I'd Say to My Kids** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Don't Lick the Minivan: And Other Things I Never Thought I'd Say to My Kids:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hilarious! A Perfect Gift for Moms DadsBy Clay MorganDon't Lick the Minivan features adventures in Bangkok, missing newborns, and a breast milk spray halftime show. And that's in

like the first two chapters. And it's nonfiction. Leanne Shirliffe is a funny woman. The way she tells these tales of having and raising kids is entertaining whether you've walked that path or not, but let me tell you: Moms, dads, and parents to be need to read this book! And what a great gift it will make for someone in your life. You can't read this book without wanting to immediately share it with whoever is around you. Leanne's hilarious style chronicles the early years of having and raising twins, starting with the chaos of adapting parenting books to first Thailand, then reality. I've lost sleep this week reading about the travails of Leanne and her husband's international child-rearing from Asia to Canada. "How do you pack for a 120-degree drop in temperature?" she asks. Another favorite moment in the book is the quest of a rather tall, former basketball player to find proper-fitting nursing bras in the land of Thai women who "wear bras that come in battery sizes: AAA to C." Leanne recounts how she had been down this road before, when she first needed to find size ten shoes for women. She says: "So, when I was in a beach town, I saw a posse of transvestites. I chased them down, stopped one who was taller (and had shapelier legs) than me, and asked him where he bought her shoes." This book features tender moments as well, truly a useful and encouraging resource. It should be the new supplemental resource to *What To Expect When You're Expecting*. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Relatable, a Great Gift, a Wonderfully Funny Read By Gloria R Leanne's humor pops on every page of this book. Her wit shines, yet never seems contrived or forced. She weaves her tale of pregnancy and parenting in such a way that she brings the reader with her on her coffee-spew ride. Having never experienced pregnancy, childbirth, or raising children, I wondered if I'd relate. It didn't matter. Leanne writes the type of humor that is universally funny and relatable. I've ordered the print version for my small, porcelain-appointed, guest "library." I love to share the glee. Bonus! I get to reread it as often as I'd like -- with or without my Kindle at hand. It's going in all future baby shower gift baskets and will be a go-to gift for friends and family with children, grandchildren, precocious nieces and nephews of all ages. This is a humor writer to follow. KUDOS, Leanne. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Laugh Out Loud Funny! By Denise Jaden There should be a warning on this book not to read it in quiet-but-populated places, because it will make you laugh out loud again and again. A great book for anyone who has kids or has ever thought of having kids!

As a woman used to traveling and living the high life in Bangkok, Leanne Shirliffe recognized the constant fodder for humor while pregnant with twins in Asia's sin city. But in spite of deep-fried bug cuisine and nurses who cover newborn bassinets with plastic wrap, Shirliffe manages to keep her babies alive for a year with help from a Coca-Cola deliveryman, several waitresses, and a bra factory. Then she and her husband return home to the isolation of North American suburbia. In *Don't Lick the Minivan*, Shirliffe captures the bizarre aspects of parenting in her edgy, honest voice. She explores the hazards of everyday life with children such as: The birthday party where neighborhood kids took home skin rashes from the second-hand face paint she applied. The time she discovered her twins carving their names into her minivan's paint with rocks. The funeral she officiated for "Stripper Barbie." The horror of glitter. And much more! Shirliffe eventually realizes that even if she can't teach her kids how to tie their shoelaces, she's a good enough mom. At least good enough to start saving for her twins' therapy fund. And possibly her own. Shirliffe's memoir might not replace a therapist, but it is a lot cheaper.

"Leanne Shirliffe is awesome and so is this book. I'm bad at writing blurbs." -Jenny Lawson (*The Bloggess*), #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Let's Pretend This Never Happened* "Toddler diarrhea and newborn vomit isn't all that entertaining, but somehow when Leanne Shirliffe writes about it, it's laugh-out-loud funny. I swear, she's living in my house and taking notes. Actually, I wish she were--we'd have a freaking blast together." -Jill Smokler, New York Times bestselling author of *Confessions of a Scary Mommy* "Leanne Shirliffe has a sharp eye for the little moments of insanity that make up the modern parenting experience. Also, she's super funny and the chapters are short enough to read in the four minutes you're allowed in the bathroom each day." -Stefanie Wilder-Taylor, bestselling author of *Sippy Cups Are Not for Chardonnay* and *Naptime Is the New Happy Hour* "When you become a parent, conversations start to sound more like a game of Mad Libs than anything actually sane. In the laugh-out-loud book *Don't Lick the Minivan*, Leanne Shirliffe shares the funniest phrases she never thought she'd say. Hands down, the best book with the phrase 'He looks like a human Pez dispenser' I've read all year!" -Kristen Pomranz, Editor, Nickelodeon's *NickMom.com* "Leanne Shirliffe has written a side-splitting and thoughtful take on life with twins. As a humor writer, a parent, and a twin myself, this book had me laughing and thinking, then laughing again, long after I finished it. If you're into public fits of hysterics, try reading this book on a subway or bus, and prepare for strange looks from fellow passengers." -Terry Fallis, author of *The Best Laid Plans* and winner of both The Stephen Leacock Award for Humour and Canada Reads 2011 About the Author Leanne Shirliffe is an award-winning humor blogger. She writes funny stuff for the Huffington Post, Nickelodeon's *NickMom.com*, and the Calgary Herald. When she's not stopping her twins from licking frozen flagpoles, she teaches English to teenagers who are slightly less hormonal than she is. She lives with her husband, their kids, and dust bunnies in Calgary, Alberta.