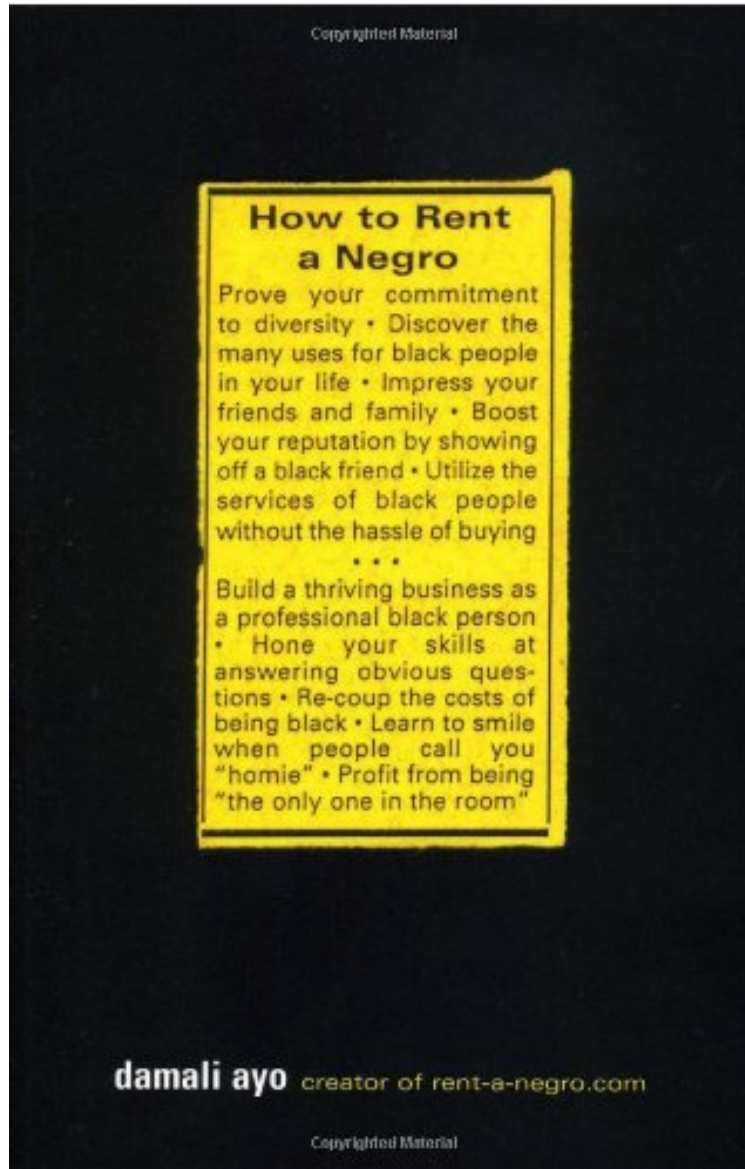


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How to Rent a Negro

damali ayo

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damali ayo : How to Rent a Negro before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How to Rent a Negro:

46 of 52 people found the following review helpful. On point By A. Harper I really enjoyed this book, simply because I have experienced 90% of what she is talking about. I do have to say that I have experienced much of this from more than just "white" people, but all peoples, including many Black people who practice internalized racism. I do NOT

think that Ayo is saying that Blacks and whites will never get along or be in a meaningful relationship. In my opinion (and it really is just my opinion), I feel that she is forcing people who consciously or subconsciously "rent a negro" to really step back and engage in critical consciousness and ask: "What are my true motivations behind what I am doing? If I am to understand racism in America, I need to understand the 'in your face' racism as well as the institutionalized racism that even liberal White people AND non-White but Liberal people can easily fall into." This book may be hurtful to white identified people who feel they are sincerely participating in ending racism in the world. These journeys are not EASY and a lot of people will hear perceptions from Black people that they won't like. Believe me, it's NOT easy but well worth it in the long run to consider approaches to ending RACISM from all points of view, not just the ones you are comfortable with. One needs the WHOLE picture from a plethora of perspectives to start engaging in an effective dialogue to talk about racism, whiteness, and white privilege within the context of USA history. As a Professional "black person" and career scholar in the fusion of race, class, sexual orientation and gender in identity development, I come across much literature I may not philosophically agree with but know it's pertinent to my understanding of social injustices in the world. ayo's piece was a bit uncomfortable for me to read as well, but at the same time, in the depths of my soul I know that it's time for race/ethnic dialogues in USA to stop being "easy" and "comfortable" "touchy feel good conversations" and start becoming more "Challenging", "Critical consciousness inducing," and "multi-facted". Instead of feeling attacked and thinking it's about "you", truly engage in why you're feeling attacked and consider the possibility that even you, "a liberal", could actually be engaging in hurtful practices without even knowing it because that's how DEEP institutionalized prejudices work. Throwing ayo's book away is only an effectively unfortunate way to continue to SILENCE marginalized voices in the Black community that don't fit the "liberals" view of mainstream race relations in America. Read Zora Neale Hurston's autobiography, the exact extreme opposite of ayo's views about race in America and you'll find that at the time of her career, she was not acceptable or fashionable with what was expected of the Black Writer by the "liberal" blacks and whites. 1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Dummyhead book! I only bought it the recommendation of ...By Linda M. LoveDummyhead book! I only bought it the recommendation of a former co-worker. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. WHOA! Reallly?!By MuhamSdamali ayo has crushed it. this book had me cracking up aloud on a public bus/train or with my mouth agape in other public social settings. i could not put it down and i continue to recommend it to my friends years after i read it. it is a fun, quick read and it made me remember some of the crazy ignorant stuff white people have asked of me or done to me. love this book! LOVE IT! it is not a condemnation of white people, rather a condemnation of ignorance and sheer stupidity. the sarcasm is rich and damali's sharp pen keeps you turning from page to page.

A hilarious and satirical look at race relations that is almost too close for comfort, this pseudo-guidebook gives both renters and rentals "much-needed" advice and tips on technique. Reframing actual stories, techniques, requests, and responses gathered from the author's more than 30 years of research and experience, tips are provided in step-by-step outlines for renters to get the most for their money, and how rentals can become successful and wealthy, what they should wear, and topics of conversation to avoid. The book also serves up photo-dramatizations of some of the popular approaches covered in the book, handy tip-boxes, frequently asked questions for renters and rentals, a "How do I know if I'm being rented" quiz, a glossary of important terms, and "quickie" insta-rentals for those who need to rent on the go. Punctuated by quotes from former renters, and featuring rental diaries based on real encounters, this satire shocks and amuses, presenting a strikingly stark mirror of human relationships.

From BooklistAyo, a conceptual artist who integrates social issues in her visual and performing art, offers a satirical look at race relations and the myriad ways that whites and blacks interact on a daily basis but fail to penetrate racial barriers. Ayo claims that all blacks have been "rented" at some time, placed in the role of token at work or in a social setting, or drafted to represent the entire race with an opinion on a current race-related topic. Whites tend to be the renters, employing blacks in particular social situations to demonstrate their awareness of race issues or to deflect charges of racism. Ayo's pseudo-guidebook for renters and rentals offers a range of social issues and contact, from touching a black person's skin or hair to racial profiling from police or coworkers. She offers quizzes for readers to determine if they have inadvertently been in the position of renter or rental. Like many running jokes, the book wears thin after a while, but overall, it's an amusing look at the sorry state of race relations. Vanessa BushCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "As disarming and unrelenting as the title suggests." —Time Out Chicago