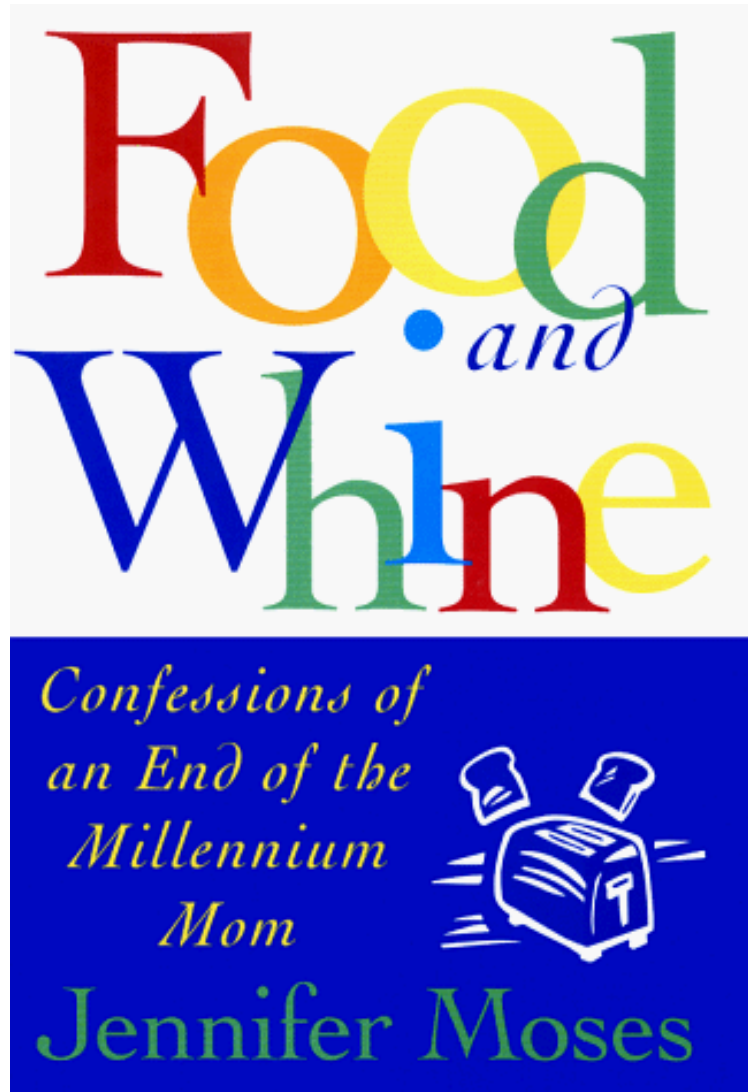


[Mobile book] FOOD AND WHINE: Confessions of a New Millennium Mom

FOOD AND WHINE: Confessions of a New Millennium Mom

Jennifer Moses

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Jennifer Moses : FOOD AND WHINE: Confessions of a New Millennium Mom before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised FOOD AND WHINE: Confessions of a New Millennium Mom:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Refreshingly honest, touching and funny By A Customer This was a wonderful book -- a warm, touching and funny account of a very difficult year in a family's life. Moses tells her story with unrelenting honesty, from her competitive feelings toward her Harvard-law-school grad siblings, to her guilty self-centered thoughts during her mother's struggle with cancer. I look forward to her next book! 1 of 3 people found the

following review helpful. This book really won me over! By A Customer I went into this book prepared to be somewhat annoyed by it. I think that was because the background of the author was so very different from myself (I'm not rich, I'm not Jewish, I don't have parents and in-laws flooding my children with lavish gifts). However, I was TOTALLY won over by the wonderful writing and extremely honesty of the author. She managed to find the common ground that I think all mothers (and especially mother who enjoy cooking, or who are going through dealing with illnesses of parents or in-laws) share. I laughed out loud over and over, and shed more than a few tears. It's so rare to find real honesty in writing, especially about motherhood--so many parents who write do so in such a poetic and glowing and ultimately fake way. If you are a parent, I think this is one worth reading. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Annoying By A Customer I was all set for some fun, light reading, having read all of the reviews above... instead, I found the author highly annoying. She strains for humor, and the result is tedious. The recipes seem to be included largely to fill up enough space to make this qualify as "book length." Erma Bombeck she is NOT. I'm a stay at home mother of three myself, so I know a thing or two about living with children, and there are a lot more witty and wry things to write about than endlessly discussing projectile vomiting, things kids can spill on the couch and clueless husbands. Shirley Jackson's *Raising Demons* and *Life Among the Savages* are funnier and more "timely" than this (are they still in print?) Peg Bracken's old recipes are better than these.

No one knows family life like Jennifer Moses -- its hilarious chaos, its everyday dramas, the bone-weariness and the pure joy every mother feels. Speaking to the generation Erma Bombeck left behind, this mother of three and widely published journalist addresses today's parents with a down-home, perfectly targeted humor that strips aside pretense and reveals the poignant, comic truth about motherhood. And what is that truth? Something like breakfast, Power Rangers, snack, tantrum, lunch, remote-controlled robot attack, second snack, snotty nose, supper, multivehicle trike collision, more snack, bath-time, story-time, pure exhaustion, bed. Toss in new twins, a husband in the midst of a career change, a mother struggling with cancer, an extended family of quirky characters, and her own incessant -- and laugh-out-loud -- conflicts, and you have a year in the life of Jennifer Moses: mother, wife, daughter, and marvelous observer of women's lives. Illuminating motherhood with her wit and taking no prisoners in the process, Moses captures the comic underbelly of family life today, rife with Volvos, action figures, and microwave cuisine -- in a story as much about survival as it is, finally, about love. The trials, tribulations, and triumphs of one woman's experience of home -- a place where diapers smell, husbands are domestically impaired, and dinner is fine straight from the freezer -- are described with sidesplitting honesty. As one of Moses's devoted readers once told her, "You say out loud what I secretly think." But *Food and Whine* isn't just the humorous account of one mother and her kids. This is a story of families extending over generations, of how life in its simple and sometimes painful beauty goes on, and how, over the course of a year, a family can find its own peace. Behind her irrepressible wit, Moses, like all mothers, has watched her life fall into turmoil: her own direction uncertain, her marital relationship transformed into a child-care collective, the tables turned as her own parents age and fall ill. These powerful moments are handled with the blunt high humor of a clear-eyed witness who backs away from neither the terrors nor the wonders of motherhood. With marvelous insight, a sharp wit, and ready warmth, Jennifer Moses leads us through the valley of the shadow of family life and helps us find hilarious redemption on the back stoop.

.com Let's get this straight: yes, *Food and Whine* is organized around food, but no, it is not a cookbook. The recipes and meals described in each chapter of this funny and heartwarming memoir are merely a vehicle for author Jennifer Moses's quirky take on a single year in her life as a modern mother--the year her twins were born, her mother was diagnosed with cancer, and her husband decided to change careers. Moses, a journalist and fiction writer who wore black and dated performance artists before she morphed into the mother of three loud and grimy children, uses each incident in the life-affirming chaos (her mother's chemotherapy, an old boyfriend's visit, moving to the Deep South) to demonstrate to the reader that above all, she has the art of the rant down. Throughout the turmoil, Moses keeps her head (more or less), her sense of humor (at least in retrospect), and her cooking abilities. The recipes in *Food and Whine* look tasty, though the reader may be laughing too hard to actually follow them. --Ericka Lutz From Library Journal In times of stress we often turn to food for comfort. For mothers of young children, this can be a frequent occurrence. The year Moses gave birth to twins her mother was diagnosed with cancer and her husband decided to change careers. Needless to say, Moses did a lot of cooking that year. Gathering recipes, and advice, from family and friends helped her cope with her chaotic life. If you think this sounds boring or dreary, think again. Moses manages to find the humor in even the worst situation. Interspersed with her stories are the recipes she's gathered, but don't expect them to be traditional. Instead you'll find Place chicken in pan, breast side up. Push hair back behind ears. Discover that hair is coated with disgusting white liquid slime. Serve with rice and salad, if you happen to have rice and salad. When husband looks at you funny, burst into tears. As the year gets better, the recipes become more coherent. Reminiscent of *Debby Bulls Blue Jelly* (Hyperion, 1997), *Food and Whine* lovingly illustrates the comfort we find in familiar foods and their preparation. A great first book by essayist Moses, who has been touted as the Erma Bombeck of the boomer generation; recommended for all libraries. Kathy Ingels Helmond, Indianapolis Marion Cty.

P.L. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus sShe may be the one the new Erma Bombeck that publishers are searching for with this book that is sometimes laugh-out-loud funny, ironic, frank, fearful, neurotic, warm, and engaging. That's a lot of responsibility to heap onto a relatively small memoir of a year from hell in the life of a nice Jewish girl who wanted to be a "way-cool artistic type living in a garret in Paris." Instead, she found herself the wife of a lawyer and mother of three children, a son and a set of unmatched twins (a boy and a girl). She had followed him from New York to Los Angeles to Washington, D.C., and was facing yet another move to Baton Rouge, La., where Moses, a northern car alarm, would be tossed into a den of southern belles. Meanwhile, her mother was diagnosed with terminal cancer, and her literary career was measured in rejection slips. She could have a nervous breakdown or write a book. The book is about food, because, as Moses says, "I spend the greater part of my waking hours feeding people," but it is about food the way Warhol's Campbell's soup can is about soup. The recipes no haute cuisine here are delicious dishes that mothers with three knee-high children can put together with whatever in the refrigerator is "not speckled with mold." In between and even among the recipes are conversations with her mother, lectures to her children, stories of her family, of her love for her children, her guilty feelings about her children, dreams, fantasies (no longer about Woody Allen hiring her to write a script but about Barney's longed-for demise), and a hilarious description of a disastrous dinner party. Witty, moving stories from a Jewish mother of the '90s plus, the recipes work (if you're not too picky about measurements). -- Copyright 1999, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.