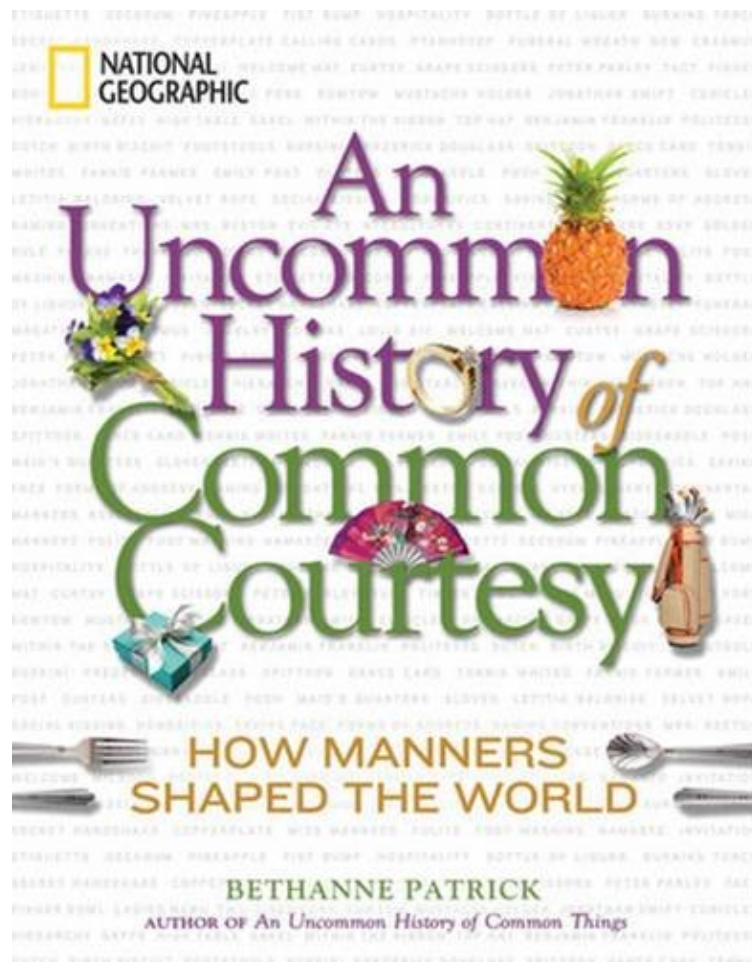


[Read now] An Uncommon History of Common Courtesy: How Manners Shaped the World

An Uncommon History of Common Courtesy: How Manners Shaped the World

Bethanne Patrick

audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



#813927 in Books National Geographic 2011-10-18 2011-10-18 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.56 x 1.05 x 7.651, 2.37 #File Name: 1426208138304 pages | File size: 16.Mb

Bethanne Patrick : An Uncommon History of Common Courtesy: How Manners Shaped the World before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An Uncommon History of Common Courtesy: How Manners Shaped the World:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. So DisappointingBy Viet VetThe book arrived quickly and in good shape. The contents however are actually worthless as far as I'm concerned. The topics are each one page and extremely shallow. Don't waste your money on this book.19 of 20 people found the following review helpful. An Uncommon History of Common Courtesy: How Manners Shaped the WorldBy Cynthia ConciatuCommon courtesy is at an all time low just when common courtesy is so important to a fragile, downgraded society. There are reasons for table manners, conducting oneself in public, at business meetings, in the midst of sticky situations and being aware of

the needs and traditions of others here and abroad. This is not a stuffy Miss Manners instructional, but rather a fascinating and entertaining fact and trivia filled book that gives the history of handshakes, eye contact, elbows off the dinner table, dressing properly for an important occasion, and saying "I'm sorry". It's a fun read, a must read and a please share! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A read for all ages....By reva m trevino I discovered this book in the sale section of the National Geographic catalogue and it was a super buy. I bought one copy as a Christmas gift but enjoyed it so much that I bought several more books from . Manners still matter regardless of our obsession with digital technology that I also use and enjoy.

With engaging and artfully presented text, including sidebars on media mavens throughout history, social gaffes, and archaic manners, this book is as entertaining as it is informative. Readers delve into cultural similarities and differences through lively passages, colorful photography, and sidebars on unique history. Topics include Courtesies and Greetings, Communication and Correspondence, Dining and Entertaining, Hierarchies and Protocol, Hospitality and Occasions, Amusements and Institutions, Boundaries and Cultural Differences, New Technology and Old Manners. Whether you are planning a trip abroad or just want a fascinating, browsable read, find out what is universal and what is merely a product of one's culture.

The sharply designed and strikingly illustrated book offers page-length discussions of everything from Ring Kissing to Close Talkers. Concise biographies of significant figures in the history of good behavior are interspersed tactfully throughout: Erasmus, Mrs. Beeton, Lady Bird Johnson. Washington Post "Refinement in table manners signals that a person has taken time to consider what best suits other people, whether they're seated at left or right, or across the table," declares the brand-new "An Uncommon History of Common Courtesy: How Manners Shaped the World" (National Geographic, \$40) by Bethanne Patrick. "No wonder that elaborate dinners are often a precursor to being hired in large, formal companies he or she who demonstrates deft precision with cutlery will usually practice the same when faced with a crucial deal." Chicago Tribune About the Author Bethanne Patrick is a writer and book critic who blogs as The Book Maven. A graduate of Smith College with a master's from the University of Virginia, she hosts an online author interview show for PBS affiliate WETA. Her features, profiles, and reviews have appeared in The Washington Post, Publishers Weekly, The Writer, and People. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. 20

Kinds of Kisses Some cultures including England and America, until relatively recently do not have a tradition of social kissing. In these societies, handshakes and sometimes hugs are the most common greetings. But many other cultures have been kissing in greeting for hundreds of years, and have evolved particular habits. Most fall under the ancient Roman category of osculum, or a kiss on the cheek. (Those classification- happy Romans also delineated basium as a kiss on the lips and savolium as a deep kiss.) Unlike the other types of kisses (some historians specify 20 kinds of kisses, but they refer to purpose, not physicality), the kiss on the cheek is usually given in friendship, greeting, comfort, or respect. In France, the tradition is known as faire la bise and generally refers to a kiss on each cheek. However, the number of kisses given varies widely according to region in France and it also varies in other countries. In Brazil two kisses are standard, but a third might be offered for luck if the recipient is unmarried. One of the most entrenched traditions is in the Netherlands, where kisses of greeting between friends and relatives always number three. Women kiss both males and females three times in succession, but men generally reciprocate only with women. With other men, they confine physical greetings to a handshake. Although the three kisses can look like an awkward head-bobbing dance, it is terribly impolite to refuse. Why? It's a Dutch thing, is the answer. But wait! Kissing three times on alternating cheeks is also traditional in Egypt, Russia, Slovenia, Serbia, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Macedonia, and Montenegro. Hmmm. Maybe not such a Dutch thing after all.