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Roberta Kaplan, Lisa Dickey
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Roberta Kaplan, Lisa Dickey : Then Comes Marriage: United States V. Windsor and the Defeat of DOMA
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Then Comes Marriage: United States V. Windsor and the Defeat of DOMA:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Thoroughly Engrossing and Informative Book!By Victoria Taylor

Allen This was a fascinating book, not only for the autobiographical details of the author's life, but for the legal and Constitutional rights of the woman bringing the suit (Edie Windsor), as well. I was greatly impressed by the tremendous amount of legal work and writing that were involved in this case. My late husband was a lawyer, so I knew a little bit about the way lawyers work, but this was most impressive. After I finished the book, I felt as if I'd worked on the case myself. Ms. Windsor sounded like a wonderful woman: her love for her spouse and her years of devoted care were very moving indeed, as was the fact that she was not well herself, suffering as she did from severe heart trouble. She and Ms. Kaplan were heroic in their efforts and triumphed in the end. I think that Ms. Kaplan is brilliant, and compassionate, too: an important combination for a great lawyer! Thank goodness they made sure that all people have their civil rights! I couldn't put it down. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Gripping, accessible, must-read story about a key moment in LGBT and U.S. history! By TellMeARiddle This is a brilliant, full-hearted, first-hand story from one of the key players in the successful fight for marriage equality in the United States by Roberta "Robbie" Kaplan. Ms Kaplan is the attorney who successfully argued the historic Windsor vs. U.S. case before the Supreme Court, overturning the misnamed Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which was subsequently cited in the swift repeal of most of the state anti-LGBT laws prohibiting same-sex couples from marrying. Despite knowing the eventual outcome, the book is still a gripping and fast-paced read, and gives a fascinating look at the insider debates and strategies that resulted in this key victory for LGBT right on a federal level. Despite the significance of the case, the legal complexities and historic impact of Windsor are translated into a compelling and easy to understand narrative that is accessible to a layperson. In the book Ms. Kaplan also testifies, in eloquent and touching detail, about her own painful coming out story, and her mysterious almost mystical connection with her client Edith "Edie" Windsor's own life history. Ms. Kaplan also writes thoughtfully about the sustaining role of her own religious faith and the impact of Judaism upon her own sense of personal dignity, and understanding of the transformative power of the law. Finally, this book is a love story - both the romantic love story of two lesbian couples and the legal love story between two determined women, Roberta Kaplan and Edith Windsor and the LGBT community, and the determination to win legal and social recognition of, and respect for, ALL marriages. Despite knowing the eventual outcome, the book is still a gripping and fast-paced read. Cannot recommend this enough - a key book for those interested in LGBT, legal or American history, and for all social justice activists. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The book intertwines Edie and Thea's 44 year love affair and marriage along with Robbie's coming out story ... By Jeanne Barlow Just finished this book and I have laughed, cried, been angry, proud and just about every emotion you can name while reading it. It's a story of the legal strategy used to bring down DOMA but it's oh so much more. It's the personal story of her client Edie Windsor, who is a hero of the gay rights movement and also the story of Robbie, the attorney who litigated the case for Edie all the way to the Supreme Court. The book intertwines Edie and Thea's 44 year love affair and marriage along with Robbie's coming out story through her own marriage to her wife and the birth of their beautiful son Jacob. Buy the book, read the story and get to know the love and struggle that has united our community and paved the way for state after state to fall to marriage equality up to the ruling this past summer to win equality across America. Whenever I am feeling upset about the discrimination against our community I have always used Edie and Thea's documentary " Edie and Thea A very long engagement " to bring me hope that one day we will be fully accepted as the beautiful community of diverse folks we are and now I have a beautiful written history to reread time and again to remind me how far we have come and how children like Robbie's son Jacob can grow up in a very different world than my son did who is now 40 and an attorney himself. Do yourself a favor and if you are gay, know someone that is gay or are just a person that believes in fighting for the right thing no matter what it takes buy Robbie's book and enjoy the ride she takes you on in this well written story of an attorney, her client and how together they set out to fight a wrong and changed the entire world. Robbie and Edie we are forever thankful for all you have done and you both are personal heroes of mine.

A Los Angeles Times Best Book of 2015 Roberta Kaplans gripping story of her defeat of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) before the Supreme Court. Renowned litigator Roberta Kaplan knew from the beginning that it was the perfect case to bring down the so-called Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). Edie Windsor and Thea Spyer had been together as a couple, in sickness and in health, for more than forty years enduring societys homophobia as well as Spyers near total paralysis from multiple sclerosis. Although the couple was finally able to marry, when Spyer died the federal government refused to recognize their marriage, forcing Windsor to pay a huge estate tax bill. In this gripping, definitive account of one of our nations most significant civil rights victories named a Ms. Magazine Top 10 Feminist Book of 2015 and a National Law Journal Top 10 Supreme Court Aficionado Book of 2015 Kaplan describes meeting Windsor and their journey together to defeat DOMA. She shares the behind-the-scenes highs and lows, the excitement and the worries, and provides intriguing insights into her historic argument before the Supreme Court. A critical and previously untold part of the narrative is Kaplans own personal story, including her struggle for self-acceptance in order to create a loving family of her own. Then Comes Marriage tells this quintessentially American story with honesty, humor, and heart. It is the momentous yet intimate account of a thrilling victory for equality under the law for all Americans, gay or straight. 8 pages of illustrations

United States v. Windsor was a landmark ruling, and the cases architect, Roberta Kaplan, emerged as a true American hero. Then Comes Marriage is a riveting account of a watershed moment in our history, and the strategy, ingenuity, and humanity that made it happen. - President Bill Clinton I thought I knew the Windsor case chapter-and-verse. As if! Then Comes Marriage will forever change the understanding of this landmark case its genesis, its outside-the-box strategy, and its tactical brilliance. This is the cant-put-down, emotional, funny, essential explanatory text that makes sense of Windsor, not just as law but as life. - Rachel Maddow, television host Roberta Kaplan makes questions of constitutionality and the intricacies of legal strategy read like a John Grisham thriller. Then Comes Marriage explains how we arrived at this surprising moment in history, but its also a testament to the persuasive, transformative power of a good story. - Alison Bechdel, author of Dykes to Watch Out For and Fun Home A fast-paced, engaging account. Kaplan breaks down the legal and procedural issues for nonlawyers and preserves suspense even where we know the outcome. - Jeffrey S. Trachtman, Huffington Post [A] scintillating read. [Kaplan and Dickey] weave a fascinating narrative that gives the reader an insight into one of the Supreme Courts most provocative cases. This book deserves a place on everyones shelf. - Joan M. Burda, New York Journal of Books Compelling. Kaplan deftly uses [Thea Spyer and Edie Windsors] story as a lens through which to consider a broader set of inequities, less about marriage than common human decency. [A] deeply moving book. - David Ulin, Los Angeles Times Along with detailing her legal strategy in the lower courts, Kaplan weaves her own coming-out story and her personal relationship into the story of her clients Edie Windsor and Thea Spyer provid[ing] a revealing juxtaposition of how two very different generations of lesbians wrestled with the social attitudes of their times. Its a timely, well-told story, brimming with observations about the importance of family. Kaplans rallying cry, Its all about Edie, stupid, keeps the stories of two remarkable women at the center of this historic legal and human drama. - Publishers Weekly, Starred review This book tells all. Two great love stories (Robbie and Rachel, Thea and Edie), the trial, and all the internal struggles. It was so interesting and well-written that I could not stop reading it. - Robin Tyler, The Advocate [A] page-turning, powerful new book. - Michelangelo Signorile About the Author Roberta Kaplan is a partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton Garrison LLP. Since winning United States v. Windsor, she litigated the case against the gay marriage ban in Mississippi and filed The Peoples Brief in the Supreme Court case of Obergefell v. Hodges. She lives in New York City with her wife and son.