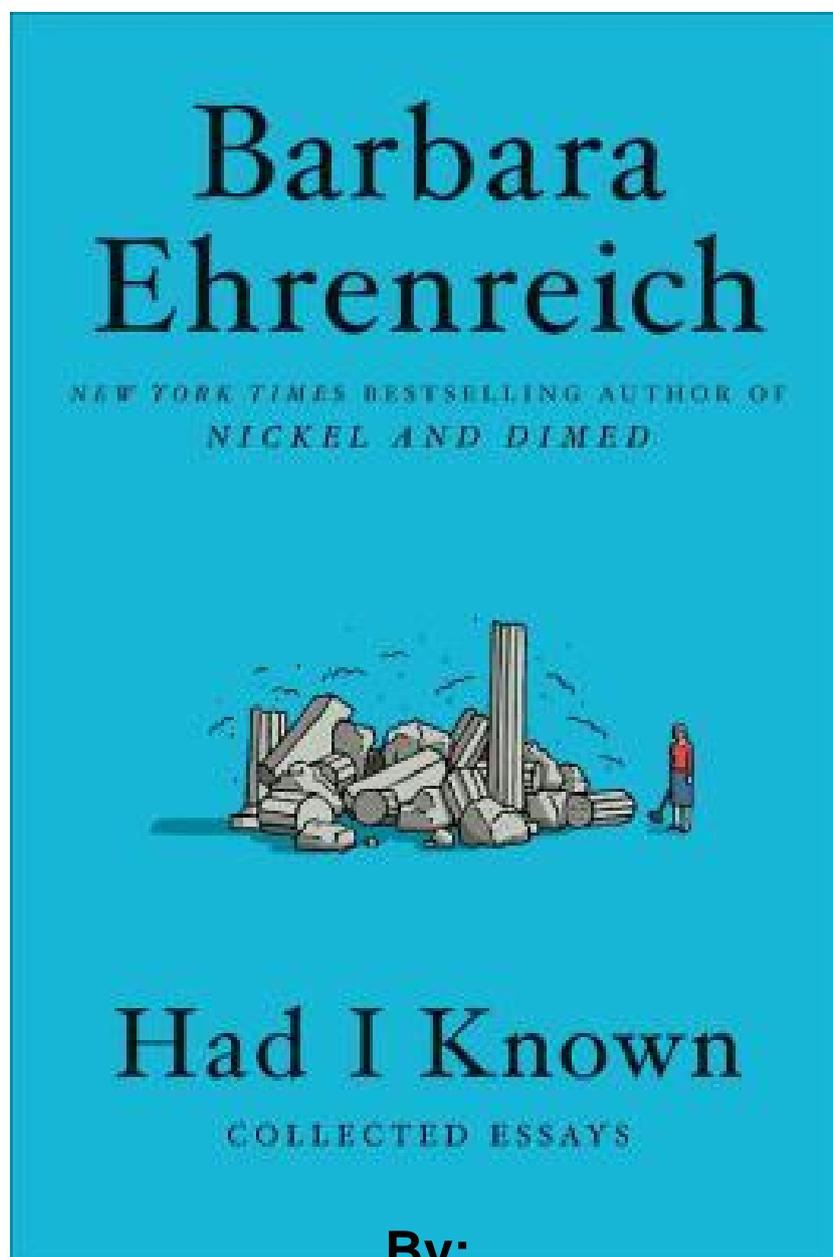


Had I Known Book PDF Download



By:
Barbara Ehrenreich

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What people Say:

Katie

A great encapsulation of the incisive, skeptical, wry, wide-ranging writings of Barbara Ehrenreich. Essays in here range from the mid-1980s to 2018, and cover a lot of ground: poverty and wealth inequality in America, gender and social dynamics, religion and culture, and the insidious qualities of pop psychology. Written with a lot of wit and insight.

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Two cautions: 1) Barbara Ehrenreich is deeply perceptive about class, but doesn't focus on race. She has been criticized for this, and some readers will find it a deficiency. I accept it as a limitation but not something that negates the value of her work, just an invitation to layer other thinkers onto it. 2) This book is a little misleading in the way it was advertised--it's entirely collected writings with nothing new. So if you've already read most of her work you may not be encountering material you haven't read already. I would have liked an introductory and concluding essay to frame this collection, but still, a worthwhile read.

Linda

This is a collection of essays published over a number of decades. The topics range from the pitfalls of prosperity gospel, to a commentary on the co-opting of the word “family” by the religious right, to essays that were the starting point for several of her books. It's tough to name a favorite, but the one that had the highest ratio of OMG moments per 60 seconds of audio was the one written in the middle of Reagan's second term, when the effects of his reverse-Robin Hood ideology were becoming

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Barbara's uncanny ability to spot, identify, and call out the latest corporate “woo” fad is one of the best things about her, and bless her for pointing out that companies do not offer mindfulness training (or anything else that might be construed as a perquisite) out of the goodness of their hearts, but to squeeze that last little ounce of productivity out of an already overworked and underpaid staff.

Worth the read, even if you've already read her books. If you haven't read her books, this is a great sampler of the kinds of issues addressed there.

Roxanne

Ehrenreich’s writing is unlike some pedantic non-fiction books, meaning it’s chock full of wry humor. Sure, in her new collection of essays *Had I Known: Collected Essays*, she delivers some

very bleak encounters, yet she does so with such humorous panache that you're not left crying, but rather charged up and ready to do something to help.

Her essays are categorized into Have and Have-Nots, Health, Men, Women, God, Science & Joy and last, but not least, Bourgeois Blunders all offering buckets of r

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In her first essay from Harper's Magazine entitled "Nicked and Dimed: On Not Getting By in America", Ehrenreich details her experiment as a laborer in the Florida Keys. What frightened me about this article was people living on the edge working two jobs, with the obvious realization that it has only gotten worse. Yet Ehrenreich makes you buck up and pay attention and do something about people who live on the margins. For myself, I plan to donate the silly bag of goods I previously planned to sell at a garage sale, to someone in need. A small gesture, but every good deed has a ripple effect, given our current crisis.

Within the Men section "Patriarchy Deflated" is an unconventional look at the possible solution to misogyny. God, Science and Joy contains nuggets like "Up Close at Trinidad's Carnival", an essay I read with vicarious awe given our current predicament. And as a perfect book end to this essay collection; "Divisions of Labor" from the New York Times in 2017, she hammers home the need for, if not unions, then some caring force ensuring workers are paid for their hard work.

I think now of the fun Rochester Red Wings baseball games I used to attend where a tongue in cheek "Waste Man", a theoretical super hero advertising that refuse company ran through the stands, and realize now "he", the garbage man, is truly a superhero, along with the home health aides toiling in nursing homes afflicted with Covid 19. This book is a well written reminder that we need to recognize with fair pay the people whose backs we stand on, keeping us all afloat.

Julie Griffin

Essays collected from the 80s to the 2010s written by the "professional muckraker," with columns from various publications. I admit I skimmed a few of the denser ones such as the Reagan ones (and wished Dame Barbara had some more recent musings about current situations) but I binged on her musings on race, labor, feminism with a lot of head nodding in agreement. My favorite was her Acer ic take on her daughter's admission to an Ivy League School, which would grant her daughter access to young at

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Linda Bond

Barbara Ehrenreich is a champion of the truth. For over 40 years, she has broken through the hype,

the hidden and the horrendous to help us to understand complicated issues as well as the details of the daily lives of our fellow citizens. Now, she has gathered together a collection of some of her best essays â€“ both eye-opening and enlightening. If youâ€™re not familiar with her work (i.e. Nickle and Dimed), then youâ€™ve got a lot of catching up to do. This is a great way to get started!

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I met this book at Auntie's Bookstore in Spokane, WA.