



A Smart Girl's Guide to Manners: The Secrets to Grace, Confidence, and Being Your Best

Nancy Holyoke, Michelle Watkins (Editor), Cathi Mingus (Illustrator)

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Girls learn through fun quizzes, advice, and letters from other girls, that manners aren't about being stuffy, boring, or formal. Manners give girls the skills they need to handle tough and tricky times in their life. From the dinner table to the telephone, manners give girls what they need to WOW the world.

A Smart Girl's Guide to Manners: The Secrets to Grace, Confidence, and Being Your Best Details

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Author : Nancy Holyoke , Michelle Watkins (Editor) , Cathi Mingus (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review A Smart Girl's Guide to Manners: The Secrets to Grace, Confidence, and Being Your Best for online ebook

Colleen says

This American Girl series is my new favorite for working with my students in 3rd through 5th grades. These self-help style books answer the questions and create opportunities for discussion in ways that take the pressure off of the girls as individuals and allow us to talk as young women in general. I've used this with my students with behavior problems, explaining that if what they want is really to get their way, manners are the most likely way that's going to happen. It's incredible to see how quickly the girls respond and take note of what is most likely to work for their personalities. It is also a great way to teach my students on the autism spectrum. The graphics really enhance the content. I would recommend this book to anyone looking for an easy way to explain modern manners in a simple, effective, yet engaging and fun way.

Ashleigh Cartmill says

This was a nice little book I read just before middle school. It had some nice tips on certain things, like how to address certain adults and what to do when you don't want to eat something at a sleepover. It was kind of helpful when I was younger.

Lauren says

Another American Girl book I read! It had good examples for manners.

Lilly Fife says

This manner book was really fun to learn from surprisingly enough! I learned that there's a fun way to learn manners!!!

Jen says

I may not be 11 anymore, but this is a good brush-up even for adults as to how to act in certain situations. Where does the fork go when setting the table? How do you react if guests are pains in the ass? What happens when you drop a glass of something in someone else's house? Sure, it might seem like second nature now, but we had to have learned this somewhere, and I'm glad American Girl put this out when I was a kid. It's instructive without being overbearing or stuffy, which is really important when trying to teach kids rules of any sort. Definitely saving it for my niece, when she gets older.

Ashlynn White says

It is very interesting so far.

Erin says

This is one of those American Girls lifestyle books. What I liked about it was that it wasn't just "manners," although those are definitely covered. It also included how to deal with a variety of situations and circumstances, including funerals, weddings and traveling. This is one of those things I would have been interested in as a child, and while I don't think all girls will love this, it is directly marketed at girls, which is why I chose to put it in this category.

The title says it all - this book is for girls. However, I don't think anyone could be hurt by reading this book. The manners it talks about would apply to boys, or even adults. Especially some adults! This could also be a useful book for parents - it might provide some modeling behaviors for them so they can encourage their kids to do the same.

Audra says

My 8 year old 3rd grader loves this book!

Aurie says

I read this book often throughout the '90s, and I've kept my copy. Seriously, hands-down, the best etiquette guide available for kids. I was taught much of this stuff by my parents, but it included relevant scenarios like what to say when someone dyes her hair (and let's face it, that still has awkward potential as an adult) and how to react when I'm totally embarrassed.

Contrary to another reviewer's claim, it **didn't** teach me to be a robot or live with a queen. It taught me life skills, how to react to situations, the delicate balance between preserving others' feelings and not letting people treat me like a doormat. And it accomplished all this without feeling like a study guide - it felt more like a magazine full of fun ideas and a diary filled with secret stories and tips.

Highly recommend for children aged 7-13 (esp. girls) or for adults looking for a fun way to brush up on their etiquette or people skills.

Harle says

I've always like these books by American Girl.

Lisa says

Gives lots of practical advice to girls on how to conduct themselves and what to say in a whole range of social situations, such as sleepovers, family gatherings, funerals, and weddings.

Juliana says

Ughh. Virtually every American girl doll book tells girls how to live their lives. This is one of them. You don't have to be a perfect mannered robot like this book tells you to. Yeah, be polite but don't act like you live with the Queen of England...part of being a kid is to make mistakes, so what if you get in trouble every now and then. A famous quote says, "well-behaved women rarely make history".

\$hanel says

I read this when I need to practice my "manners."

Rants and Bants says

This book was really stupid...albeit hilarious. Some of the "manners" they taught sounded so sensitive and prudish and childish and condescending...oh, and why is this book for girls? Just curious...

I'm morbidly curious though to read through it again (not all of it, but just glance around) so I can come back here to talk about some ridiculous examples, and I'll admit, I at least liked the illustrations if anything.

Josiah says

This non-fiction guide to the everyday playing out of manners in the lives of normal kids is actually more fun than one might think. The quizzes stimulate thought, and I found the instructional suggestions to be sound and very usable. Above all, my sisters and I simply always have had a lot of fun reading through this book and seeing the way that things in it are put. This book actually taught me a lot of the basic manners that I employ, but it allows for manners ideas that don't work for the reader to be discarded without feeling as if a mistake has been made.
