



Find Me

Rosie O'Donnell

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Part memoir, part mystery, a compelling tale that will break readers' hearts even as it heals them.

Find Me Details

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Author : Rosie O'Donnell

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From Reader Review Find Me for online ebook

Ozma says

I have always found Rosie O'Donnell entertaining, but I had no idea how much I would like her book! She is a terrific writer, and I believe she wrote this book and not a ghostwriter because the voice and the thought process is so authentic that I have to believe it is really her. The story is interesting -- the mother of a young woman contacts Rosie about her daughter being pregnant and giving up the child for adoption through Rosie's adoption agency, which specializes in placing children no one wants (babies who are sick, babies who are mixed race or any race other than white). And the story deepens from there. Rosie tells us about her childhood and her mother's death. I totally identified with the aspect of Rosie's personality that wants to help others, and partially just to run away from one's own problems. There are so many classic lines in this book. I usually give books away, but I am going to keep this one. I think Rosie and I are a lot alike! She is so bold and strong but also sensitive. For me, this was like reading that book that just blows you away because it's like the author is writing about you!

Diane says

Great read! A very unique and fascinating story...recommended to everyone (paperback!)

Bridget Bailey says

I get a lot of slack for liking Rosie but she reminds me of my favorite aunt so I continue to love her unconditionally. This is yet another book by Rosie that I have read. I like how genuine she is and the fact that she doesn't hold back even if it makes her look bad or crazy. I like that she keeps it raw which makes her so relatable. This book was a little different than the others and by the end of her story about this pregnant girl, I wasn't sure where it was going to go. I was flying through this book just to see what the final outcome was as you knew something fishy was going on. This is a short and quick read and definitely enjoyable.

Winter Sophia Rose says

Completely Unexpected Story! Pleasantly Surprised!

Autumn says

This book should come with a warning label. Mental illness, depression, MPD, abuse, OCD, and other childhood horrors inside. If I would have known this, most likely I would not have read it. This book had too much about death and her relationship with her mom. The writing is definitely five star. It's that type of content that is keeping me from rating this a five-star book.

Rebecca McNutt says

My opinion of Rosie O'Donnell: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPJHu...>

I find Rosie O'Donnell to be a very annoying and weird person. She wasn't funny when I was a little kid and she was making vulgar jokes on my VHS tapes, and she certainly isn't any funnier now. This book tries to be something inspiring and powerful about her but it just makes her seem even weirder than before. The GLBT themes give her a little more depth and give readers more insight into her life, but otherwise, I just found the book to be really odd.

Nisa Rahmah says

Bukunya cukup tipis, awalnya sempat mengira bisa selesai sehari tapi ternyata molor beberapa hari.

Rosie O'Donnell, seorang pembawa acara talkshow terkenal menceritakan kisah lewat sudut pandangnya. Ro, memiliki sifat yang pemurah dan senang membantu kesulitan orang lain. Di sela kesibukannya yang padat sebagai public figure, Ro senang menghubungkan orang-orang dan membantu mereka seperti misalnya dalam hal adopsi anak--karena dalam kehidupannya pun dia sempat mengalami hal yang serupa.

Jadi suatu hari, dia menerima telepon dari seorang gadis berusia 14 tahun yang menceritakan bahwa dirinya hamil di luar nikah, diperkosa oleh seorang pendeta, dan meminta bantuan supaya anaknya diadopsi. Rosie yang begitu terenyuh dengan keadaan sang gadis menawarkan banyak sekali bantuan untuk meringankan bebannya.

Menolong gadis ini, membuat Rosie kemudian mengingat sendiri bagaimana kehidupan masa remajanya; ditinggal ibunya saat masih kecil karena kanker, bagaimana dia bisa menjalani hari-hari jelang kedewasaannya itu tanpa ibunya yang mencintainya dan mengasihinya. Akhirnya, dia membandingkan kehidupannya itu sendiri dan gadis yang malang itu yang selalu diteleponnya.

Rosie menjadi terobsesi dengan gadis itu, sehingga dia mengirimkan banyak hadiah untuk menghiburnya. Orang-orang di sekitar Rosie mulai khawatir dengan hal ini, dan menyampaikan kecurigaan mereka kepada gadis yang belum pernah ditemuinya itu. Apakah gadis itu nyata? Ataukah hanya seseorang yang mau menipunya atas dasar kemurahhatian Rosie yang disalahgunakan. Akhirnya Rosie mengikuti pula nasihat orang-orang di sekitarnya untuk mulai menyelidiki gadis itu, dan ternyata mendapati bahwa keberadaan gadis itu hanyalah ilusi belaka. Stacie, ibunya, dan ayahnya itu tidak nyata, hanya karangan seorang yang mengidap kelainan jiwa.

Melissa mengidap gangguan memiliki kepribadian ganda akibat trauma masa kecilnya yang menyeramkan. Dia menghidupkan banyak karakter yang ada di dalam dirinya, berganti-ganti setiap saat. Mengetahui hal ini, Rosie lantas terhubung dengan psikiater Melissa yang menjelaskan semua keadaannya. Rosie tetap berniat untuk membantu menolong wanita itu--ini juga dikarenakan dirinya memiliki semacam kesamaan perasaan dengan wanita itu. Rosie yang seorang public figure, merasa menggunakan topeng dan tidak menjadi dirinya sendiri di luar panggung.

Akhirnya mereka bertiga, Rosie, Melissa, serta psikiaternya bertemu. Dan akhirnya mereka berdua, sedang berusaha saling membantu dan mendukung untuk menyembuhkan luka masa lalu diri mereka sendiri.

Anthony Messina says

an unexpected, heartfelt peek into her life

Anneke Simonsen says

The life of Rosie O'Donnell who is also the author of the book i read a couple weeks ago, called find me had a very hard life. This book is memoir about Rosie's life, so much happens in her life, this story takes place around new york. I read this book because i saw it on my desk the first day of english class and it looked interesting.

The book starts off with a woman named rosie, she owns an adoption center and she just got a call about someone who needed her help. After hearing this girls story rosie is hooked, she's obsessed about this girl and what she went through but in reality it turns out that some stuff was a part of a big lie. Rosie was a target because she owns a lot of money, she had her own tv show which made her easier to get stuff out of her. The ending was kinda confusing think her mom used to call her bessie, and then her son did christmas morning which made her tear up. Other than that tho it was a very good book and i loved it. It had so much details.

I think this would be a good book for anyone who likes a good memoir. It also would be good for people that like novels because her true story is like a made up story. This was a very good book with many twist and turns so if you like that witch i know i do you should definitely read it.

Karen says

In Rosie O'Donnell's memoir she shares the traumatic parts of her childhood and links them to the reasons for her becoming involved with a person she "met" via her nonprofit adoption agency. She is frank and open and always analyzing her actions.

Valerie says

Archived at <http://web.archive.org/web/2003012613...>

Find Me by Rosie O'Donnell

Let me tell you everything that this newest book by Rosie O'Donnell is not. It is not an autobiography, although the openly gay stand-up comedian/film actress/talk show host and mother of three adopted children (with a child on the way from her somehow pregnant partner) does share a few snapshot moments. When she was a kid, Rosie let a mean trick be played on her brother, and she still feels guilty about it. After her mother died, when she was 11, a clueless teacher, upset at Rosie for not having her homework, yelled that he would be calling and telling her mother about her behavior, which spurred Rosie to run screaming out of the school and hide in a neighbor's home nearby. In middle school Rosie stood up for a female classmate who was the victim of cruel taunts after it came out that she'd been sexually attacked by a group of boys at a drunken brawl. Rosie remembers going to the flea market with her mother and how it was never the same once her

mother passed on, and she remembers the time her father returned the \$60 a bank teller had given him in error.

Get the idea? All we get are emotionally unrevealing vignettes stuck here and there throughout the book. No attempts are made to draw these moments into a meaningful whole. There are dozens of things even I, a casual fan, wouldn't mind reading about Rosie. What's it like to be a female stand-up comedian in this very male profession? When she started, did she feel isolated and discouraged? If so, how did she manage to overcome these things? How did her family handle her choosing to go out on the road and do comedy? Were they supportive? What was it like to be a VJ in the early days of cable channel VH1 (especially since she had previously been turned down for the job on sister channel MTV)? How did her relationship with VH1 grow to the point where the channel gave her a program on which to give aspiring stand-up comedians valuable television exposure, including helping New York favorite Mario Cantone and Caroline Rhea, who years ago landed a role on the sitcom "Sabrina" and now will be "replacing" Rosie on her talk show this fall? Was she thrilled at first to make the jump to movies, but then happy to return to doing TV? What was it like to do Broadway? More personally, what made her, a single woman, want to adopt not just one, not just two, but three children to raise on her own? Does she feel she had an unfair advantage in adopting them because of her wealth and fame (as radio shock jock Howard Stern has often accused)? Did she feel comfortable finally coming out of the closet, walking in the path laid out by Ellen DeGeneres and Lily Tomlin, or does she still feel some trepidation? How committed is she to reversing current Florida law that refuses to let gays adopt children?

This book addresses not one of these questions.

Don't believe the hype you may have heard--that Rosie speaks in this book about her sexuality and her current partner, Kelli. She does not. Kelli is barely mentioned, much less revealed to be Rosie's girlfriend, and there's certainly no treatment of the fact that she's expecting a child (and HOW she's doing that). To make matters all the more confusing, the only romantic relationship Rosie does mention is with a man!

So what is this book? Basically it's a narrative of events that occurred in Rosie's life, beginning LAST SPRING and developing over the next year or so, leading to her decision to end her talk show. It's not exactly clear how these events helped her make the decision, but Rosie seems to feel that she explains it all. Throughout the book she assures the reader, "There are no accidents. Everything happens for a reason."

But Rosie never provides any reasons. She goes on for page after page about how she got caught up in the troubles of a young teenager she hears about through an adoption agency that she funds. The teen has a devastating story as to how she became pregnant. Rosie is instantly touched, and she crosses the line, choosing to contact the teen herself, instead of leaving it to her agency professional. And this is the entire focus of the book. Rosie tells about how she starts to spend hour after hour on the phone with the teen, making herself endlessly available throughout the day and into the night for this young woman she's never met. She freely admits that she became obsessed, neglected her own family, and rejected the advice of friends to dig deeper into the teen's melodramatic story. This book is nothing if not proof of Rosie's stubborn yet naive determination--but that is all it is.

The progression of the relationship allegedly provides the context for the flashbacks, but any connections we're supposed to make from the teen's experience (which, as you might expect, is not quite as it seems) and Rosie's life are not on the page, and can't even be guessed. Thrown in are other various episodes and meanderings, from Rosie visiting her tattoo artist to her relaying yet another dream starring pouty movie actress Angelina Jolie. Meanwhile, her television show's producers assume her declining to renew her contract is merely the typical tough negotiating stance expected from such a star, and keep offering her increasing amounts of money to continue. Rosie keeps turning them down flat, citing as her main reason that she can't "be herself" on the show. Is she alluding to her much-criticized decision to not come out of the closet until the show's demise, or something else? If she wanted to show another side of herself, why does

she still not renew even when the producers offer her the option to change the show's direction to talk more about social and political issues? Is she just tired of the daily grind of television? Or does she want a more dramatic end to the "Queen of Nice" perception in order to return to doing comedy with more of an edge (as an appearance at the June 2002 Mohegan Sun Casino Grand Opening Celebration seems to suggest)? As far as this book is concerned, your guess is as good as mine.

I can find no good reason for this book to have been written. Even the fact that Rosie is donating the profits from this book to charity don't help. If you want to donate money to charity, just give your money to them directly--no need to go through Rosie. Besides, it's not like she takes the time to mention what charity she means.

Even the publisher knows this isn't really a book. The font is larger and the pages are slimmer than the average novel, and the whole publication is barely over 200 pages long. Yet there are 39 chapters! Laughably, there are four chapters, including both chapters one and two, that are only one page! With all the jumping between her memories and the present day, from musing about her sad childhood to insisting that she can't be herself on her television show and going on and on about what she calls her "superhero complex," this is obviously a book written by someone who doesn't usually write, for people who don't usually read. "Find Me" is the worst kind of celebrity memoir. Rosie may protest that she is revealing her soul, but there's no real intimacy here. The best metaphor for the book comes when Rosie talks about the visit to her tattoo artist. Rosie has a scar on her left wrist which resembles the kind of scar left by a suicidal slit. When the artist gingerly asks her about it, she assures him it isn't as it appears. She didn't try to kill herself. But then she doesn't reveal how she got it, either.

The title of the book sounds like a promise when you pick it up. By the time you finish--a few minutes later--it sounds like a cruel taunt. Zero stars.

Warner Books, 2002, \$23.95
Reviewed by Valerie Hawkins

Trayce says

I love Rosie O'donnal, be she really was not cut out to be an author. I don't recommend this at all.

Heidi says

Rosie talks about believing things happen for a reason, and how sometimes she just knows things. Other times, not as deep, but profound, she has spingles. Spine tingles. When she recognizes those significant times, she feels compelled to follow up. In Find Me she tells of an obsessive quest to help a young woman. She recognizes a certain narcissism in wanting to be a superhero, sometimes to the detriment of her own family.

All the while reading this, I found myself thinking, but of course you're a bodhisattva! I found myself composing the short emails to her blog, thinking if it was meant to be, she would find me among the thousands of other messages. How I would tell her a bodhisattva is an enlightened codependent. She says several times in the book that she is not easy to love, with this obsessive superhero complex. I have to

wonder though, if that has changed, or really, what her love Kelli would say to that.

Rosie transforms some deep scars regarding her mother's death through her obsessive superheroish love. On The View her best friend from the age of 3 said that what people might not know about Rosie is how generous Rosie is. When cohost Joy said, "The world does know," Jackie said, "No, you don't." Rosie shushed her. She doesn't want the world to know what a tremendous superhero giver she is. Another bodhisattva clue, I would say. She sees the selfishness in her love, but she keeps turning it over for the benefit of the world. She doesn't want the accolades for giving, she doesn't do it to feed her narcissist self.

Jacob Lasher says

I can not explain to you how many degrees of perfection this book entails. Truly captivating and I never wanted it to end. Absolutely wonderful.

Cathy says

This may be the strangest book I have ever read. It is autobiographical and the jacket implies it's about adoption, so I thought it would be about her experience adopting her three kids. But no, it started out weird and got really weird. It creeped me out so much I had to stay up to 2am to finish it to see if the people she was writing about were real or just screwing around with her, since she's a celebrity. Turns out a bit of both. Be warned - you may not like Rosie O'Donnell that much after reading this - she reveals a lot about her childhood but even more about her own lack of boundaries and in many cases, good judgment, in my opinion.
