



The Fascinating Girl

Helen B. Andelin

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Fascinating Womanhood is a guide to a happy marriage and a two million best seller. Its success, however, is not measured so much by the number of copies sold as by the lives it has changed. The impact it has had on marriages has been phenomenal, as evidenced by the thousands of testimonials, many which have been included in her book. Through Fascinating Womanhood there is hope of a new generation of women happy, feminine, adored and cherished. This would invoke a new generation of men - masculine and chivalrous. This claim is expressed in the authors own words: I am more convinced than ever that these teachings are true, and that this knowledge is the most urgently needed knowledge in the world today. This claim is not unreasonable. A loving marriage is the foundation of a happy family, and a happy family is the foundation of a stable society. Most of the problems in this world stem from troubled homes. If we are to have peace in the world we must begin at home. Fascinating Womanhood is not a book of rules to be memorized and applied, then put aside when they become tiresome. Rather, it forever changes the way a woman thinks, the way she views her husband and herself, a way that is new to most women. The experiences of Fascinating Womanhood indicate that women are the same everywhere, regardless of race, religion or culture. Women the world over want to be loved and cherished, cared for and treasured. When they apply these teachings, results are earth shaking. Helen Andelin has been interviewed by all the major newspapers, TV, and radio programs in the US to a total of over 300 programs. She has been a featured guest on numerous national shows, among them Phil Donahue, Barbara Walters, Hugh Downs and Larry King. She has also made personal appearances in Brazil, Japan, Australia and The Philippines. Fascinating Womanhood has been translated into Spanish, French, Portuguese, Japanese and Indonesian. She is currently writing a monthly advice column

The Fascinating Girl Details

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From Reader Review The Fascinating Girl for online ebook

Jill says

It's on the self shelf, as it's meant to be a self-help book. Mostly it provided fantastically nauseating information and made me want to count occurrences of the usage of "manly". There were some good points, but you have to get through many lessons on pretending to be a helpless and intellectual midget to get there. I will try to strip away the good points from the rest of it and mostly am just glad I'm done. I can't give one star for two reasons: 1) I agree with her on most of what she puts forward as moral ground that should not be compromised; 2) Much of it is so outrageous, I just laughed and laughed.

Darci says

Thanks for the book, sis! Ha, ha! Maybe I should rate this book a bit higher for its comedic benefits. When you read something that you know the author intended to be serious, but it is just a complete farce, how can you not laugh!? I cannot believe how many people have given this a good review! What is up with you people?

Lindsay Wolsey says

There are so many things I can say about this book, but I will stick with this. If you follow the advice in this book, you will be helping to set back women's lib about 200 years. This book is the complete opposite of what I tell my daughter, and is the reason we needed Gloria Steinhem.

It's fabulous for a good laugh, but this is not a book to be taken seriously. Pretending to be stupid and fragile and needing a man to take care of you because you are incapable of thinking for yourself is the worst advice I've ever heard. As is to not study things like science and math because they are man fields.

Plus, all of the examples of fascinating girls are fictional characters!

Tara says

Such a good read for young women, maturing into woman hood.

Olga says

I like this book, because it's full of positive thoughts. I think, every girl or woman will find something own in it. And, maybe, somebody will find nothing. It's written enough conservatively and also speaks about another mentality, than we have. But, most important, extract necessary information which you really need. And this book has a lot of useful information! I usually read this book, when I just want get some inspiration. I

recommend it for all! Only women of course! ;)

Joslyn says

This book, though old-fashioned in the way it presents relationships, is very insightful. I refer to it often though my first time reading it I was skeptical. It explains the steps of winning a man's heart well, I've used it's tactics. I still have my personality, and can stand up for myself, but around my man I now know how to comfort, get him to confide, and be his angelic beauty.

Sure, some may say it is fun to laugh at, but more often than not, it's because they don't trust it enough to apply what it teaches. You'll be amazed with the results if you put your whole heart into practicing these simple things and will be surprised at how charming you can be.

No one is forcing you to be submissive to all men. You can still be strong and independent, as long as your man still feels like he is needed. Other men don't matter.

My mother referred to this as her "Bible" in her teenage years, my parents are happily married, passionately in love, and have six children. Then she passed it on to me.

Tammie says

I read this as a teen. It was okay. Definitely old fashioned, to the point of being laughable at times. There is some good insight into the way men think, but I also don't believe all men are exactly the same, and this tends to generalize and put them all neatly in the same box. For example, I do not think all men are put off by strong minded, independent women. I think that the fact that men in the past have viewed themselves as superior to women was wrong and that is something men have had to change. I don't think I should behave in a way that stokes a man's ego so he can feel superior to me. I should be viewed as his equal in every way. A man that is threatened by this has ego issues. And the notion that deep down men dislike women who are overtly sexy is silly. I do think that men like for women to be sexy at times. However I do agree that men tend to lose respect for women who give them everything without a commitment.

I do think men are attracted to women that have many of the qualities this book promotes, but there is too much emphasis in this book on behaving certain ways to get a man to fall in love with you. While I think some of the advice is good, I also think we should just be ourselves. If a man can't love me for who I am, why would I want him?

Alan says

This is what my wife's and my marriage is based on. I'm kidding. This is kind of a chauvinists approach to male and female relationships. Basically, this books says that women should be submissive and 100% obedient to their husbands and if anything bad ever happens the woman is to blame. This book was the guidebook for June Clever in the the "Leave it to Beaver" TV show from the 1950's. This is pretty

humiliating reading for any female.

Mindy Jones says

I read this when I was a young teen. The author goes on and on about how men want a woman who is morally upright and yet also childlike and playful. To prove her point, she quotes extensively from David Copperfield, using Agnes and Dora as examples of each half of the perfect woman. When I got a little older, I actually read DC and was stunned to find it was fiction. Also, (spoiler), David was happy with the mature Agnes, NOT with the idiotic -- excuse me, childlike -- Dora. Not that it matters, since the story is made up and not some authoritative case study for Andelin to use to make her ridiculous argument about what men want.

In short, this book is utter crap, but good for a laugh. Shocking that something this stupid was taken seriously as late as the 1970s.

Ron Christiansen says

Of course I did not like or agree with this book, but I've found it enormously useful in helping my students understand the level and detail of gender discrimination women faced--and not that long ago.

Annie Thompson says

This book is great for single women, whether you are single by choice, death or divorce. I have learned alot about how to respond to a man when I meet them. There are many lessons a woman can learn and still be herself. I find it quite refreshing especially as I have re-entered the dating scene. It is quite fun to be an angel and a domestic goddess, most men love to be able to take care of a woman over having a very strong independent woman. I would have to agree with this as I have tried the experiments out and the results are tell taling.

Helynnne says

The Fascinating Girl is Helen Andelin's lesser-known tome. (She became famous in the early 1970s for *Fascinating Womanhood*, which I have not read). In this book, her focus is not on how a wife can keep her husband's attention and affection, but rather, how a single girl can eventually win the man of her choice . The thread running all through the book is the two loves of Charles Dickens's David Copperfield, whom Andelin uses to illustrate her premise about how a woman should strive to become a balance of Dora and Agnes to attract the man of her choice. Andelin's ideas was that David was deeply in love with Dora, who, though too childlike and simple-minded to be a suitable wife, was beautiful and hyper-feminine enough to fascinate him. Agnes was also beautiful, but much more bright and competent, and therefore not as alluring, but ultimately the mate David truly needed. The rest of the book concentrates on how women should become a "fascinating" combination of the, well, sex goddess, and the efficient companion and friend. There might be a kernel of truth in what she says, but in this day and age, this philosophy of initially attracting a man by

acting like a helpless simpleton just isn't fascinating anymore. I do hope this book has been more or less shelved as a period relic.

Kristen says

If we were rating this book on sheer entertainment value, I'd give it 5 stars. We read passages aloud at family gatherings to have a good laugh. Since it was written to be taken seriously, I have to rate it accordingly.

This is terrible, terrible, terrible. From the "real-life" examples (characters from novels) to the advice given (capable women - men won't like you unless you pretend to be dumb, etc.), this is so damaging. Read it for fun, not for enlightenment.

Crystal Freeman says

I got this from my parents house from a junk pile. It was given to my mother in the 70's I believe when she converted to the LDS church. It is a hilarious self help book of how to be the perfect wife and mother. Obviously it is outdated and against the feminist movement. A wonderful piece for conversation. I remembered I had read this book when I recently read its contemporary "The Proper Care and Feeding of Husbands"

Rufaro Machingambi says

lovely book indeed
