Synopsis


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Customer Reviews

In 1913, women were expected to wear smotheringly hot full length dresses in order to be considered decent. Most women did not work outside of the home, being expected to be happy in their role as wife and mother. In most of the world, women didn't even have the right to vote. Surely any marital advice given at this time would seem incredibly outdated or, at the very least, charmingly quaint, in the year 2011? It was with this attitude that I first opened the pages of 'Don'ts For Wives' by Blanche Ebbutt. It did not take me long to realise just how wrong I was. While some of the tips are no longer relevant to the average reader - those having to do with how to deal with servants, for example - much of the wisdom within this volume is as relevant today as it was then. I found myself taking note of many pieces of advice, with the intention of attempting to remedy my behaviour within
my own marriage. Much chastened, I moved onto Don'ts For Husbands with a more open mind. Once again, I was surprised at how relevant much of Ms Ebbutt's advice is to today's relationships and the progressiveness of some of the points, considering the era in which the book was written. It is a shame that these books have been so unknown for so long, as I feel that the advice in them is more relevant to a newly married couple than a dozen books of the Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus: The Classic Guide to Understanding the Opposite Sex persuasion.

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