



How to Be a Victorian: A Dawn-to-Dusk Guide to Victorian Life

By Ruth Goodman

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How to Be a Victorian: A Dawn-to-Dusk Guide to Victorian Life By Ruth Goodman

A “revelatory” (*Wall Street Journal*) romp through the intimate details of Victorian life, by an historian who has cheerfully endured them all.

Lauded by critics, *How to Be a Victorian* is an enchanting manual for the insatiably curious, the “the cheapest time-travel machine you’ll find” (NPR). Readers have fallen in love with Ruth Goodman, an historian who believes in getting her hands dirty. Drawing on her own firsthand adventures living in re-created Victorian conditions, Goodman serves as our bustling guide to nineteenth-century life. Proceeding from daybreak to bedtime, this charming, illustrative work “imagines the Victorians as intrepid survivors” (*New Republic*) of the most perennially fascinating era of British history. From lacing into a corset after a round of calisthenics to slipping opium to the little ones, Goodman’s account of Victorian life “makes you feel as if you could pass as a native” (*The New Yorker*). 131 illustrations, 8 pages of color

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Editorial Review

Review

“Delightful.” (Seattle Times)

“Exuberant, absorbing.” (A. N. Wilson)

“Goodman’s impeccably researched account will raise readers’ eyebrows with her adventures “living history”... [Her] charming guide richly illustrates what daily life was like for common people undergoing the massive social changes of the time and succeeds in presenting “a more intimate, personal and physical sort of history.”” (Publishers Weekly, Starred review)

“A triumph.” (Judith Flanders)

“Goodman skillfully creates a portrait of daily Victorian life with accessible, compelling, and deeply sensory prose... Compulsively readable.” (Erin Entrada Kelly - Library Journal, Starred review)

“If the past is a foreign country because they do things differently there, we’re lucky to have such a knowledgeable cicerone as Ruth Goodman.... Goodman’s fascination with the objects of the past doesn’t lead her to fetishize or romanticize them. She is admirably matter-of-fact.... Revelatory.” (Alexandra Kimball - Wall Street Journal)

“[E]ntertaining... Goodman mixes historical context with technical know-how; in addition to explaining why women wore corsets she tries wearing?and even making?one herself... [T]he book’s accumulation of detail on matters as diverse as purchasing a ticket for the new underground railway, administering an opium-based tonic to a baby, and signaling interest in a homosexual affair makes you feel as if you could pass as a native.” (The New Yorker)

“Goodman’s research is impeccable, and she attacks the topic with gusto, taking the reader through an average day and presenting the oddities of life without condescension... Although the book lends itself to being read in segments, I read it straight through like a novel, panting to know what would happen next.” (Patricia Hagen - Minneapolis Star Tribune)

“[A] witty account of life during the monarch’s reign... [Goodman’s] interest in historical accuracy leads her to experiment with corsets and home cures. Research for the book led her ‘down harrowing avenues of hunger, disease, overwork, and abuse.’ Among the most upsetting are accounts of small children working harder than most adults do now, sometimes in dangerous and frightening environments, and on empty stomachs. Often a very funny read, the book takes seriously the suffering of these kids and their families.” (Kate Tuttle - Boston Globe)

About the Author

Ruth Goodman is the author of *How to Be a Victorian*. An historian of British social and domestic life, she has presented a number of BBC television series, including *Tudor Monastery Farm*. She served as a historical advisor on the BBC’s miniseries *Wolf Hall*. She lives in England.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Thomas Hayden:

Reading a guide tends to be new life style in this era globalization. With examining you can get a lot of information that will give you benefit in your life. Using book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. A great deal of author can inspire all their reader with their story or perhaps their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the textbooks. But also they write about advantage about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your kids, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors on this planet always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write on their book. One of them is this How to Be a Victorian: A Dawn-to-Dusk Guide to Victorian Life.

Brianna Bell:

Reading can called imagination hangout, why? Because while you are reading a book specially book entitled How to Be a Victorian: A Dawn-to-Dusk Guide to Victorian Life your brain will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a reserve then become one web form conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get ahead of. The How to Be a Victorian: A Dawn-to-Dusk Guide to Victorian Life giving you another experience more than blown away the mind but also giving you useful details for your better life on this era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a casino game. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

Annie Rose:

How to Be a Victorian: A Dawn-to-Dusk Guide to Victorian Life can be one of your nice books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in language, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort to get every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing How to Be a Victorian: A Dawn-to-Dusk Guide to Victorian Life although doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource data that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information could drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial considering.

Stephen Morgan:

The book untitled How to Be a Victorian: A Dawn-to-Dusk Guide to Victorian Life contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains the girl idea with easy technique. The language is very straightforward all the people, so do definitely not worry, you can easy to read the idea. The book was written by famous author. The author provides you in the new era of literary works. You can easily read this book because you can keep reading your smart phone, or product, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can available their official web-site and also order it. Have a nice read.

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