



Live Alone and Like It: The Classic Guide for the Single Woman

By Marjorie Hillis

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"Whether you view your one-woman ménage as Doom or Adventure, you need a plan, if you are going to make the best of it."

Thus begins Marjorie Hillis' archly funny, gently prescriptive manifesto for single women. Though it was 1936 when the Vogue editor first shared her wisdom with her fellow singletons, the tome has been passed lovingly through the generations, and is even more apt today than when it was first published. Hillis, a true bon vivant, was sick and tired of hearing single women carping about their living arrangements and lonely lives; this book is her invaluable wake-up call for single women to take control and enjoy their circumstances.

Hillis takes readers through the fundamentals of living alone, including the importance of creating a hospitable environment at home, cultivating hobbies that keep her there ("for no woman can accept an invitation every night without coming to grief"), the question of whether single ladies may entertain men at home (the answer may surprise you!), and many more.

With engaging chapter titles like "A Lady and Her Liquor" and "The Pleasures of a Single Bed," along with a new preface by author Laurie Graff (*You Have to Kiss A Lot of Frogs*), LIVE ALONE AND LIKE IT is sure to appeal to live-aloners and many other readers alike.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

First published in 1936, with the chilling subtitle *A Guide for the Extra Woman*, this bestseller became a manifesto for single women (and those between husbands) keen on embarking on stylish solitary living. Although many of Hillis's prescriptions are naturally outmoded, it's impossible not to be charmed by her arch humor and old Hollywood glamour as she demands that her genteel readers simply *must* have four bed jackets, seven kinds of liquor and the right cold cream. A *Vogue* editor and proponent of solitary refinement, Hillis exhorts women to indulge themselves unblushingly—albeit thriftily—within their homes. Despite her fascination with frou-frou and beaux, Hillis bucks convention—arguing that women should be free to entertain men at home, drink in bars and generally do as they please; you will soon find that independence, more truthfully than virtue, is its own reward, she advises. If slight on prescriptions suitable to modern-day living, this slim guide is replete with entertaining illustrations by Cipé Pineles and case studies about live-aloners (Miss P. is a young woman of limited income, but unlimited ingenuity...) providing ample nostalgic pleasure. (*June*)

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Review

Candace Bushnell, your time's up. Drain your cosmo and step aside. You've been usurped by yet another single-woman arbiter: Marjorie Hillis, the author of *Live Alone and Like It* *Saturday Post* (Canada) Richly deserves to be this year's Christmas best-seller ... a perfect bedside companion for the post-Bridget Jones generation, who see no reason to put their lives on hold until Mr Right appears *The Daily Telegraph* (Canada)

From the Author

"This book is no brief for living alone. Five out of ten of the people who do so can't help themselves, and at least three of the others are irritatingly selfish. But the chances are that at some time in your life, possibly only now and then between husbands, you will find yourself settling down to a solitary existence... The point is, there is a technique to living alone successfully, as there is to doing anything really well. Whether you view your one-woman ménage as Doom or Adventure, you need a plan if you're going to make the best of it."

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Susan Crowell:

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Heather Wade:

Live Alone and Like It: The Classic Guide for the Single Woman can be one of your basic books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort to get every word into pleasure arrangement in writing Live Alone and Like It: The Classic Guide for the Single Woman yet doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource info that maybe you can be one among it. This great information could drawn you into fresh stage of crucial contemplating.

Mathew Jones:

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Michael Brown:

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