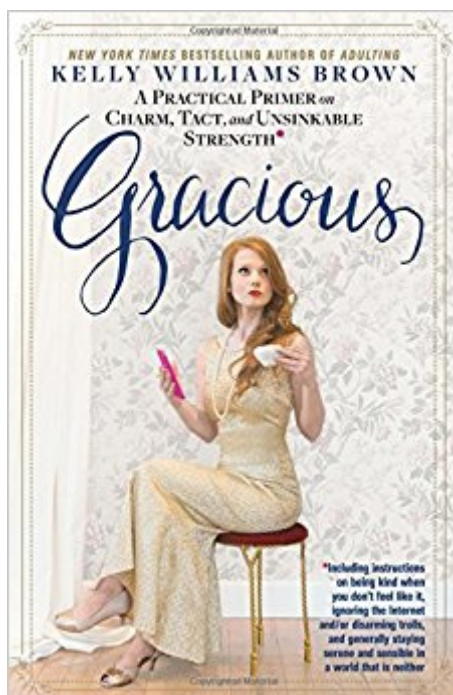


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# Gracious: A Practical Primer On Charm, Tact, And Unsinkable Strength: Including Instructions On Being Kind When You Don't Feel Like It, Ignoring The ... And Sensible In A World That Is Neither



## Synopsis

So you're adulting. Now what? New York Times bestselling author of *Adulting: How to Become a Grown-Up in 468 Easy(ish) Steps* Kelly Williams Brown is here to tell you what, with her funny, charming guide to modern civility in these?yes, we'll say it?rather uncivil times. Graciousness is practicing the arts of kindness, thoughtfulness, good manners, humanity, and, well, basic decency. It's not about memorizing every rule of traditional etiquette (though there is something to be said about a lovely hand-written invitation) or being the perfect hostess. It's about approaching the world with compassion, conviction, and self-confidence and it makes all the difference, whether you're at a Fancy Schmancy Intimidating Work Occasion or at the convenience store. She provides tips to help you deal with the people and circumstances that challenge all of us (pushy relatives, internet trolls), and thoughtful discussions on being the highest version of yourself. Graciousness, at its heart, is the ability to be truly present to the humans around you, to face the world with a generous heart and a core of strength that's never corroded. Even when you get rude comments from Internet strangers (hot tip: you don't give a lot of credibility to someone screaming obscenities at you on the street, so why do it online?) We can't control the world, or other humans, or even how we feel in a given moment. The only thing we can control is our words and actions, and when we act deliberately and with kindness, it makes everything better.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Kelly Williams Brown's *Gracious* reads the way a phone call with a best friend

feels. The notions she puts forth about living a gracious life are both aspirational and attainable. And let's face it, there is nothing better than talking about genuinely good ideals for humanity with a heavy dose of "the one time I did mushrooms" and "His momma didn't raise him right." Lizzie Post, The Emily Post Institute

KELLY WILLIAMS BROWN is the founder of the popular Tumblr, [AdultingBlog.com](http://AdultingBlog.com), and the New York Times bestselling author of *Adulting*. Previously, she was a features reporter and an award-winning humor columnist for the *Statesman Journal*, a daily newspaper in Salem, Oregon. She lives in Portland, Oregon.

There is a lot of etiquette and manners books that would tell you how to introduce somebody at a black-tie event or how to dress for a top managers' business meeting. But not so many to give you common sense about behaving in heavy road traffic or moderating online communities. Manners are not some upper-class privilege - everyone can be gracious - and this book is a good proof to that. I will give it to my daughter when she learns enough English to read it.

In a world that feels rushed, frenzied, and often cold and careless, this book poses a lovely idea: "What if we all tried to be a little more gracious?" From setting up your guest room (or couch) for an overnight guest, to hosting a dinner party, to dealing with email and social media, this book is full of sensible tips on how to be more thoughtful, compassionate, and respectful. Plus, Kelly (the author) is hysterically funny. A total joy to read!

Love this book! Its like having a conversation with a good friend! I highly recommend it!

Very good book . Very well written.

Like her first book, *Gracious* is full of practical tips and a lot of common sense, which isn't so common these days. It seems to be directed more toward those of her gender and generation, but even a 60+ male like me got some good reminders and new information. Unlike many of the prim and proper etiquette books of the past, Kelly provides needed guidance about the whole topic of social media. Her chapter on being gracious to yourself is also a good pick-me-up. What I like most of all is her writing style and her humor in nearly every paragraph. Be sure to read the

footnotes--some of them are priceless.

In our world right now, we all need to read this book and take it to heart!!! Simple graciousness would make so many of our problems go away! Kelly does a wonder job of making this ideal seem like an attainable reality.

I bought it in Kindle, hardcover, and audible, and sent emails to many friends to read it. It's that good. Don't miss it. Wow, this was actually useful in the real world situations we all face.

I'm enjoying this book and finding plenty of food for thought in it's pages. It is one of those books, however, I think would be much better as an audiobook or in print. It appears that the print version has many sections which are in different fonts or text boxes which then can't be re-sized in my Kindle version--some I can't read at all. I have also had difficulty finding the sections referenced in the footnotes (many of which are very amusing and really should be connected to the text!) I would have sprung for Whisper-sync for this book because I sensed it was a book that would be enhanced by being read by someone from the South. Sadly, it wasn't available.

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