



# What's It Like to Be Married to Me?: And Other Dangerous Questions

*Linda Dillow*

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## **What's It Like to Be Married to Me?: And Other Dangerous Questions** Linda Dillow

Linda Dillow asks readers to think deeply about "What is it like to be married to me?"

Dillow understands that most women want to be faithful wives-but don't know how to get there. In her biblical and entertaining style, she shares the best and worst things she ever did in her forty-seven-year marriage. She also shares responses from her survey of five hundred wives about choices they've made in their relationships.

A reflective Bible Study with life changing projects is included. This is not a book about marriage; it is a book about how to live out marriage, day by day and year by year. Readers will come away with hope that they can be the wives they want to be, in a marriage filled with passion, intimacy, and joy

## **What's It Like to Be Married to Me?: And Other Dangerous Questions Details**

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## From Reader Review What's It Like to Be Married to Me?: And Other Dangerous Questions for online ebook

### Joy says

Really good and practical book on marriage, and more specifically my part in my marriage. I have read a lot of marriage books over the years and this is one of my favorites.

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### Debbie says

I think growing in maturity as a Christian requires a willingness to let God change you. No one ever arrives as a Christian - that won't happen till we see Jesus. One area that women are reluctant to really let God change is our marriage. We want things our way and we expect our man to do what we say when we say it. I've never heard a group of women criticize themselves for chores left undone or needs not met but boy will they criticize their husbands for it. I decided to read this book because I know how easy it is to slip into habits in a marriage that are selfish and demanding. I wanted to let God have freedom to change me in order that my marriage wouldn't become stagnate. I kinda had a feeling by the title that my toes would get stepped on and they did. However, how can I argue with scripture which is the basis for all the author's counsel? The book contains a lot of wisdom for wives. My marriage is not about me and I think women tend to forget that quite often. I'm glad I read the book. It opened my eyes to areas in my marriage that I need to be more mindful of and it made me see anew just how blessed I am to have my husband just like he is. It also helped me see that when I focus on praying for my husband and asking God to change me instead of change him, things look vastly different. I have to confess, though, her chapter on sex kinda made me blush! I will definitely recommend this book. The author is bold and truthful which is exactly what women need to hear.

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### Zachariah Kenney says

My marriage is benefiting from my having read this book.

I discuss it more on my blog:

<https://seminary2016.wordpress.com/20...>

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### Jeff Bobin says

Not many women will buy this book.

Few will read it.

Almost none will put it into practice.

I know those are strong statements, but this is a counter-cultural book. It is written by a woman that has been married for more than 50 years. She has spent most of her life learning to live out what she teaches and helping others do the same. Almost all the stories in this book are from her ministry with women. They are

women she knows.

As a pastor I was intrigued by the title and have read other books by her that I have thought were excellent and recommended to both men and women. I think most men that would read this book would tell you that there is a lot of wisdom here worth considering.

The title is a hard question to answer for many women today. We don't like to do self-examination. The first step in improving any part of our life is to examine where we are right now. That is where she starts as she shares a story about how hard it was for her to start making different choices. The choices were not easy and she like all of us didn't always make the right ones. I think this comes from the heart.

Each chapter title is a Question that might be hard to ask yourself. How many of your look in the mirror to see what others will see before you leave the house? I thought this was a way of helping you see what your husband sees and experiences living with you. Few of us will tell you this today because so much of this is politically wrong. I usually find God and Jesus's teaching in conflict with what is politically correct but never the poor choice.

Linda does a great job of helping you see your relationship with your husband through his eyes. Everyone is different, but each question will help you examine your relationship with your husband and help you see what he might be feeling and experiencing living with you. That, for me, is always a great place to start. If you want to improve your relationship you can't change another. What you can control is you. This look in the mirror may challenge you to make changes but, they will always be your choice to make.

One of the difficult chapters is on forgiveness and includes a story about the difficult journey to forgiveness and restoration of a relationship between a father that molested his daughter and his daughter and wife. I have found other comments on this story interesting in that they often don't realize the difficult long journey that it took to get there. The truth is, it is an unusual story but does show what God can do even in the most challenging situation. Probably the most challenging part of the story is that during her self-examination she saw things that she could have done differently. I didn't read it that as an excuse for what happened but that something had been revealed to her. Also, this is an eleven-year story. Most of us would not be willing to travel that journey.

This is a book written for women or those of us that work with women in building healthy marriages. It is a challenging book for many but, will bless you that decide to read, reflect, look at the questions and answer them honestly. As always, the choice is yours!

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### **Linda Vanzee says**

AWESOME BOOK ! So easy to read & great things to pray about. God has been great to us in our marriage :)

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### **Angela says**

I really liked the beginning of the book and I think the "dangerous questions" she encourages women to think about are very thought-provoking and helpful in a nonabusive marriage, including my own. I had planned to

give this book a higher rating, but I, like others who have reviewed this book, had a lot of trouble with her radical examples of forgiveness in the forgiveness chapter.

While we serve a great God who is absolutely capable of redeeming any situation, I was very uncomfortable with the story about the woman who forgave her husband for molesting their daughter and they now have a "wonderful" marriage and are enjoying their new granddaughter (who I hope is never left alone with her grandfather). The husband did serve time in prison and counseling and I'm sure we are unaware of many specifics in the situation, but ultimately I think this chapter and specific story have the potential to encourage women to stay in dangerous situations. Forgiveness and redemption are possible without remaining married in an abusive, dangerous situation. I can only hope and pray true healing took place for all involved, most especially the daughter who was molested. The book "Love Must Be Tough" by James Dobson is a much better and practical resource for those suffering in an abusive marriage.

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### **Havebooks Willread says**

I liked many things about this book. I am impressed that Dillow is a true Titus 2 woman--an older woman, married almost 50 years, and sharing the wisdom she has learned in life's experiences. I think she is right on in many areas, and I liked the way she encouraged women to examine their part in a marriage rather than focusing on what they wish men would or would not do since we only have control over our own actions and responses.

I really appreciated many of her thought-provoking questions, such as "what will your husband say about you at your funeral" and "in what ways do you need to pray for the Lord to enlarge your heart toward your husband" and "list all the reasons you have respect for your husband" as these questions are personal and force the reader to examine self.

I am glad she was honest and pulled no punches, even at subjects that might be uncomfortable for some readers or in a small group discussion. She's not afraid to address topics that need to be addressed. My primary regret in how I read this book is that the group of (wonderful) friends I discussed this with needed to spread the study out over a three-month period and I think I lost the focus of it.

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### **Gena Koehler says**

Some thought provoking quotes, but I felt the content was lacking overall.

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### **Carissa says**

I enjoyed this book up to around the 60% mark. It had really great advice and made me stop and think about a lot of the things I do and say in my marriage. One story on forgiveness really stood out- and really bothered me. Perhaps, I am not capable of understanding the true meaning of forgiveness, but I would have a difficult time forgiving my husband for molesting our daughter, much less continuing our marriage and it being "wonderful". I know it took a lot of time and effort for this woman to reach this. However, I don't like how she explained "getting the log out of her own eye" in order to see that she had been denying her husband intimacy. I think this book has an explanation of a woman's sin for every "bad" thing a husband does. Up until this point, I could see this, but not for this particular story.

## **Kristina Wilson says**

### **Amazing book!**

Every wife needs to read this book and let biblical principles guide their marriage. My marriage is growing stronger after reflecting on all the "dangerous questions".

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## **Emily Bell says**

This wasn't my favorite of the marriage books I've read entering this brand new season of marriage. Stylistically, the text was a little illegible to me. A few pages were "journal entries" in a cursive font that was nearly impossible to read! Sometimes multiple paragraphs and lines and sometimes entire pages were italicized, which frustrates my easy-reading preference. Changing font styles just isn't easy in terms of reading a book. It was also full of acrostics, lists, and charts that distracted from the overall content - and seemed to fill the content usually, rather than add to it or highlight it.

I understand that Dillow's perspective was that we can't change our husbands, we can only change ourselves. However, the book is full of excuses and wife-blame for every sin a husband could ever commit - from lying to pornography to unfaithfulness to straight-up sexually abusing their daughter. Particularly that last one was something I could not stomach. If something like this ever occurred in my family, I would not ask the Lord to take the log out of my eye in the situation; I would be on the phone with the police.

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## **Ginny Yancey says**

### **On The Fence...**

I loved the appreciation factor with this book and learning to love what you have. Also thought some of the scripture references were enlightening. On the other hand book seemed to place absolutely no responsibility on the husband side of the marriage. So although I did enjoy the book and gained something from it I don't think it would be right for all situations.

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## **Melanie says**

I really like Dillow, she's optimistic and has a lot of consistent and applicable advice, but I had some problems with this book. There was one story where a woman forgave and reconciled with her husband who SEXUALLY ABUSED THEIR DAUGHTER when she was a child/teenager. There seemed to be insinuations that the woman was at fault (no details but I could guess "failing to fulfill his needs") and was hypocritical in her anger towards him. Unless she was also molesting children, I don't see much space for hypocrisy in this particular tale. Anyway, they all got over it and the father/predator is still in the (now adult, with her own child) daughter's life. Yes, we all can make a mistake and forgiveness is important and necessary, but even Jesus said in Matthew 18:6 that one who causes a young believer to stumble should be

thrown into the sea with a millstone about his neck.

Anyway, otherwise the usual stuff about submitting as the wife, and also the husband's role, and to pray for God to work on both you and the spouse.

Includes a bible study at the end, and I skimmed that part.

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### **Alicia Simpkins-hussey says**

I'm not sure when I last finished a book cover to cover. This amazing book, I didn't miss a single word. As I read the final words of the last chapter I held back tears, sad that it was over. I began reading this book when our third daughter was about a week old. I needed to change for my husband, for my kids. I had seen this book so many times in bookstores and just was NOT ready to ask these hard questions but with a newborn sleeping next to me, I was ready, I had to be ready. We needed change. I can say (and I firmly believe my husband would agree) that this book has been a GAME CHANGER for us. Linda challenges wives to stop looking at our husbands and start looking at ourselves. What does God need to change in us. I have been more transparent with my amazing husband in the last 4 months than in the 8 years of our marriage and I have seen a softening in his heart toward me. As my pudgy 4 month old lays sleeping beside me tonight, I think of how I have changed as a wife since she was born. As she has learned to smile, joy has resurfaced in our marriage, as she has begun to giggle, we have learned to giggle together as husband and wife again, as she has learned to hold her head up on her own, I can now hold my head up knowing that I am yielded to continually asking the hard questions of myself and allowing God to search me deeply. Our marriage will never be the same and for that I am forever grateful!

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### **Kristen Ball says**

I really enjoyed the different perspectives on marriage, great tips, and others' stories. She touches on everything from the design of marriage to complaining to intimacy to forgiveness to coming together in crisis. This book has made me stop and think about how to be a better wife in so many different ways. Would recommend to any woman at any stage in marriage!

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