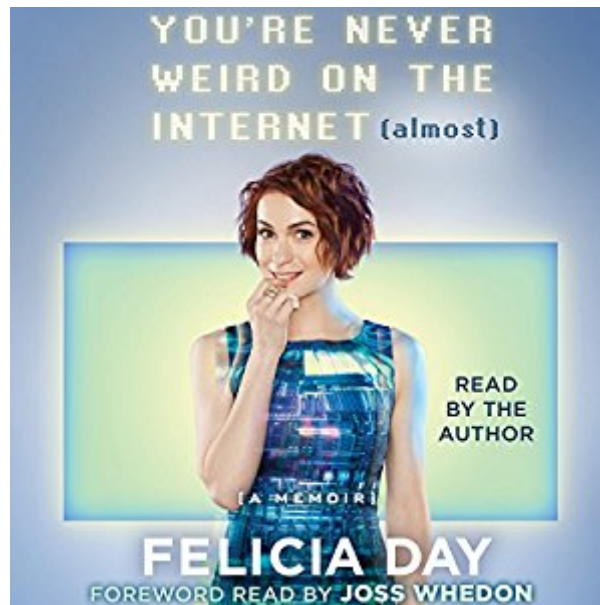


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You're Never Weird On The Internet (Almost): A Memoir



Synopsis

In the tradition of #Girlboss and Mindy Kaling's *Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me?*, a funny, quirky, and inspiring memoir from online entertainment mogul, actress, and "queen of the geeks" Felicia Day about her unusual upbringing, her rise to Internet stardom, and embracing her individuality to find success in Hollywood. The Internet isn't all cat videos - almost. There's also Felicia Day - violinist, filmmaker, Internet entrepreneur, compulsive gamer, hoagie specialist, and former lonely homeschooled girl who overcame her isolated childhood to become the ruler of a new world - or at least the world of Internet-geek fame and Goodreads book clubs. Growing up in the South, where she was homeschooled for hippie reasons, Felicia moved to Hollywood to pursue her dream of becoming an actress and was immediately typecast as a crazy cat-lady secretary. But Felicia's misadventures in Hollywood led her to produce her own web series, own her own production company, and become an instant Internet star. Felicia's shortish life and her rags-to-riches rise to Internet fame launched her career as one of the most influential creators in new media. Now Felicia's strange life is filled with thoughts on creativity, video games, and a dash of mild feminist activism - just like her memoir. Hilarious and inspirational, *You're Never Weird on the Internet (Almost)* is proof that everyone should embrace what makes them different and be brave enough to share it with the world, because anything is possible now - even for a digital misfit.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I actually got this book unfamiliar with who Felicia Day is; I prefer first person comedy/biographies,

so that is why I purchased it. I mention this point because if you're not familiar with Felicia Day it's still a very enjoyable book and also frames her life, or her fame in an easy to digest situational way. If unfamiliar with her, read the introduction, as it frames her background excellently and gives a good snapshot into how and/or who might be familiar with her work. Day's writing style is easy to follow and makes the book a fairly quick read. If you're in your 30s, like me, this book is certainly a MUST read, as it takes individuals through familiar transitions of the internet, seeing a screen shot of Prodigy's original login screen made me get all tingly inside. Even if you're not in that age range, the way in which Day describes her emotion and experiences with her initial exploration of the internet is sweet and relatable as she finds her peer group and begins engaging in the online experience. Day also engages in a discussion of some of the initial friendships that emerged as a result of her time on the internet Discussion Boards, something very different and much simpler in an earlier time. If I had to think of two adjectives to describe the writing, I would say sincere and sweet; it's in this voice that the humor is to be found, as Day reflects on her own experiences. Although Day's narrative talks about her own moments of lacking self-confidence, and who she is in perception to the internet community, it is sincere and not overly pushy or re-affirming in that she needs to just justify her qualifications to the reader, the initial introduction does a good job to serve this purpose.

So first, a confession. I'm actually a Dad of 2 (Mom of 2 is the Prime account holder) and always been a geek. Both kids are girls. I mention this so you have some idea where I might be coming from with this review. For those that don't want to read more: buy the book. It's excellent. The book is, at times, laugh-out-loud funny, sad, poignant, emotional, cringe-inducing (in a good way) and shocking (more on that last one in a bit). It is a quick and engaging read that I thoroughly enjoyed. When my kids are old enough, I will absolutely share it with them. If you don't know who Felicia Day is, it doesn't matter per se. This is the life story (so far) of someone who is trying to be themselves and has been successful doing so. Ms. Day is a hard core geek who grew up playing video games, had a World of Warcraft addiction, loves maths and plays the violin. In other words, she's what many mainstream people might consider "odd". Funny thing is that there are a lot of odd people in the world, and most of us have at many times felt the need to hide our oddness in order to blend in. Ms. Day sets a pretty great example of saying "to hell with that". She's also brutally honest about when she did cave in to mainstream pressures and the problems that caused for her. Brutal honesty is also a theme of the book. She doesn't spare herself at all. There's no glossing over the negatives, nor does she look for pity from the reader. Towards the end of the book, she does address her

involvement with Gamergate. I am sure there will be a slew of highly negative book reviews along the lines of "I used to love Felicia, but she's a sell out, not a real gamer".

There is so much good stuff in this book. I never read biographies. Never. I normally find RL too mundane to hold my interest during my leisure time, but there's something magical about Felicia's creative voice. She mixes just the right amount of quirky humor, cultural references, genuine transparency, and profound insight into her work. I couldn't put it down. I was as cracked out on this book as I would be on some crazy urban fantasy thriller. I stayed up far too late last night reading it, and can now thank Felicia for super amazing, bags-under-my-eyes, undead zombie look I'm rocking today. Thanks Felicia! No really, thank you. Your book was a delight, and worth every hour I spent reading it. Reading this novel took me back to my own childhood in so many ways. I think anyone that grew up in the 80s will find themselves nodding, laughing, and thinking "I remember that!" There's a shared cultural experience we had growing up in the era before computers existed in every home. Discovering all that wondrous technology for the first time was pure magic. And traipsing through Felicia's early life made me down right nostalgic. Discovering email: "You mean I can hit this little send button, and a LETTER will go halfway across the world, and arrive instantly where it's going? With no postal fees?!" That blew my mind. Prodigy BBS "how I miss you. The novelty of establishing friendships with like-minded people from all over the country felt like something miraculous. Like the DAWN OF A NEW ERA *queue dramatic music*. I kept my carefully drawn Mad Maze maps for years.

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