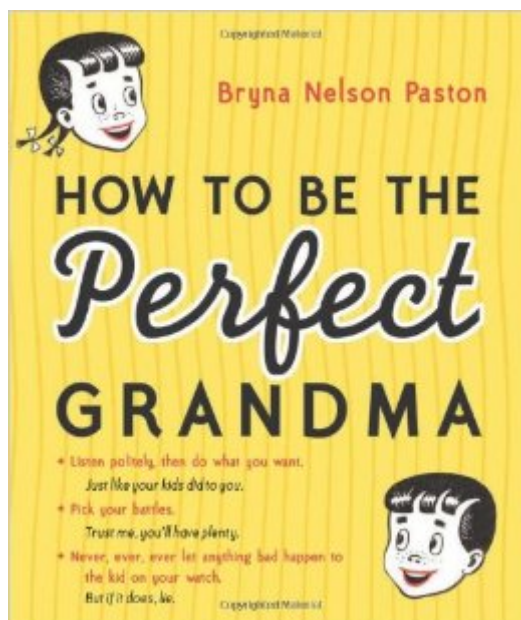


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# How To Be The Perfect Grandma



## Synopsis

The Ultimate Rules for Grandma Success Becoming a grandmother is not one of life's free choices. You can pick your pet, your alma mater, and your spouse, but when and where you become a grandma is entirely up to your kids. You don't expect it, and you don't quite know how to respond. Being a grandma, though, is as close as you may ever get to perfection. So learn the rules and secure your spot as one of the most important parts of your grandchildren's lives.

## Book Information

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Sourcebooks; 2nd ed. edition (April 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1402237642

ISBN-13: 978-1402237645

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.5 x 6.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.1 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (75 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #63,126 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 inÂ Books > Parenting & Relationships > Family Relationships > Grandparenting #137 inÂ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Parenting & Families #604 inÂ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Satire

## Customer Reviews

I bought this book, planning to give it to my mother-in-law, who is a grandmother-to-be (I'm 3 months pregnant). It had gotten positive reviews from others, and sounded cute and humorous. After reading it, however, I did not find it cute or humorous. It is basically a collection of one grandmother's anecdotes about two of her grandkids, along with quasi-generalized advice about being a grandmother. I understand that some of the book was meant to be written with a satirical tone, but advice such as, "never let anything bad happen to the kids on your watch...but as we all know bad things happen to good grandmothers...if it's just you and the child, lie," and "check with your grandchildren to make sure you are winning the grandma race [against the child's other grandma]...if...they say they like the other one better, buy them something they've been wanting..." just doesn't strike me as being very funny--more like irresponsible and mean-spirited. I suppose some readers will find this humorous, but this definitely is not my brand of humor.

I only needed to see a few pages of this book to know that I didn't like the "rules" the author was

prescribing to grandmothers out there. Anyone who tries to get a child to lie to his/her parents about anything is not worthy of the opportunity to care for the child unattended. This is the number one rule we all try to teach our kids, isn't it? Don't lie to Mommy or Daddy and don't trust anyone who tells you to lie. Right? As for grandparents lying about something bad happening, what if the child needs medical care that the grandparent is not aware of? Grandmothers don't know everything because they raised kids who didn't die or lose a limb on their watch. A lot of moms are aware that things have changed since our parents raised us, sometimes it's for a good reason: seat belts, medical warnings, recalls, lead paint, SIDS, etc. A mom & dad have the right to know if anything, ANYTHING has happened to their child. And any grandparent who ignores the parent rules and implies their own once the "coast is clear" is setting a path for confusion for the grandchild they so want to indulge. My mother-in-law is a love, really, but she insists on giving my 17month-old pill bottles to shake and play with like a rattle which I think sends the wrong message. We aren't trying to ruin our kids lives or make them miserable. We are trying to be good parents. Help us out, grandparents! We want a helpful hand, loving arms for our kids, not someone who challenges or criticizes our decisions. This book isn't funny or charming. In the wrong hands it could be taken as advice and do real damage to a relationship.

Having to deal with a mother-in-law who has the same mentality as this author, I can say how much pain this kind of "grandmothering" has caused our family. The kind of self-centered, boundless, and mean-spirited behavior this book suggests has caused a rift between my husband and his mother and we have decided to remove her from our family dynamic. Very very sad as it could have been so different. Every child deserves to learn healthy relationship patterns and this author clearly has no regard for her grandchildren's development - only her own, selfish, devious, and lonely needs. If anything, this is a great example of what not to do for a grandma.

I am a mother-in-law and grandmother of two adorable children. I would not define a "perfect grandma" as one who lies and manipulates. This book was a lesson on both along with the author bragging about how perfect she is as a grandmother. I did not find this book funny, but rather sad and disturbing.

I really wouldn't recommend this little book to anyone. I'm all for free speech, and I know there are many grandparents out there who share the author's feelings and beliefs, but they need to be helped to respect the parents of their grandchildren, not encouraged to do the opposite. These 'rules'

do not bring families together, quite the opposite, in fact! Following the advice in this book can tear families apart - attempting to circumvent parents will often result in far less contact with beloved grandchildren, rather than more.

While I have not purchased or actually read this book myself, I did spend some time flipping through the pages when I found this book at my MIL's house. Flipping through it was enough to make me realize how bad this book truly was. This book teaches you to separate your children from their children. To make sure you are the most important person in your grandchild's life. To make sure that your children, never trust you again. To teach your grandchild how to lie. To do what you want to do, because well, aren't you the most important person in the world? Blech! In reality this book is a surefire way to make sure your grandchildren do not know their grandmother. Because if you become this grandmother, I don't know what mother in their right mind would ever allow you to see her children again. For a normal sane person, this book could be considered hilarious. But unfortunately, for some (not unlike my MIL) it is dangerous. If your mother or MIL already have pushy tendencies (i.e. "I've done this before, never mind that it was 30 years ago, so I must know what I'm doing better than you, move out of my way.") This will only push her further over the edge. Buyer Beware.

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