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Seriously...What Am I Doing Here? The Adventures Of A Wondering And Wandering Gay Jew



Synopsis

Escapism to Adventure (For Non-Adventurers). Does the geographic cure actually work? Through a fast-paced journey of saying yes to the unfamiliar, pack your bags and set out into the world with a gay Jew determined to answer that universal question of Seriously...What Am I Doing Here? Never having been on an adventure, Ken Schneck finds himself stumbling twice into rural Uganda; signing up for a 425-mile bike ride; stirring up drama at a Californian hippie, healing retreat; and somehow standing up straight with a colossal backpack strapped to his shoulders deep in the backwoods of the Colorado Rocky Mountains. This occasionally heartbreaking, often insightful, and reliably witty travelogue has at its core our never-ending search for meaning, our desperate need to grasp that elusive sense of place and community, and how we often fail to succeed (sometimes hilariously so!) but keep right on trying.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Just in time: a witty travelogue for a serious world. And I even earned double frequent flier miles!"

--Kate Clinton, Comedian & Author of *I Told You So* and *What the L?* "I was entertained,

enlightened, moved to tears many times, and laughed out very loud (...it is so f*cking funny)! The

courage, humanness, honesty, willingness, compassion, kindness, and understanding of

Seriously...What Am I Doing Here? inspired me." --Jim J. Bullock, Comedian & Center Square "Ken

Schneck unpacks his wanderlust in a way that creates an emotional-and very funny-journey for him

and the reader. Bon voyage!" --Matthew Rettenmund, Author of *Boy Culture* "Sometimes

funny, sometimes sad, but always insightful, Ken Schneck takes readers along his journey across

the globe in search of meaning. — Dan Allen / NBC News "Filled with refreshing, often hilarious and routinely snarky observations, 'Seriously What Am I Doing Here?' introduces readers to colorful characters and off-beat, yet universal, reflections. — Nikki Delamotte, The Cleveland Plain Dealer "Ken has a gift for witty insight and a compassionate heart. Seriously is sidesplittingly funny from cover to cover. — Clint Travis / Midwest Book Reviews

Ken Schneck, PhD, is the producer/host of This Show Is So Gay, the long-running, award-winning radio show/podcast. In his spare time, he is an Associate Professor and the Director of the Leadership in Higher Education Program at Baldwin Wallace University where he teaches courses on anti-racism, ethical leadership, and how individuals can work with communities to create a more engaged and just world. You can find him telling stories in and around Cleveland, Ohio.

I couldn't wait for my pre-ordered copy to arrive so I downloaded it onto my kindle so I could inhale IMMEDIATELY. And I did--in two sittings. I laughed, I cried. Mostly I laughed. I also cringed in several places where I most clearly saw myself--Ken doesn't shy away from raw, not-easily-digestible truths about himself and humanity in general. The genius and beauty of this book (and all Ken's writing; I've been following him on the Huff Post for years) is the compassion and generosity of spirit that underlies his laser-focus capacity to see and speak truth. I LOVED THIS BOOK. I was transported to places that fascinate me but that I can safely say I will never see in this lifetime (Uganda, mainly). I relived my own challenges, triumphs, pivotal moments (from a painful divorce to the finish line of the NYC Marathon), but with so much more openness and insight than when I went through them myself. Can't wait to read the next adventures. If you're reading this, Ken Schneck, get back to work!! I want more.

Absolute winner - Mr. Schneck takes you along on his "wonderings and wanderings" across the world and throughout his heart, mind, and soul in what is one of the most winning and enjoyable travelogue/memoir books I've ever read. He writes with an honest, unpretentious, genuine, curious, and inviting voice that includes you in his journey. It's funny, touching, interesting, and thought-provoking. The book is so inclusive: I'm female, straight, and in a completely different field, but none of that matters. The essential human experience and yearning to figure out why - and go searching for it - is universal. I loved the book and although I've heard of, but never listened to, his podcast "This Show is so Gay", I'm going to start. Looking forward to hearing a lot more from a great new, authentic voice.

Where do I start? This book, well my personal copy, has now traveled to the sandy beaches of southern France.. through Paris, took the train to London and was passed around by friends. I was the person laughing so loud I had to read my trip mates passages from the book so I was not alone in my giggle fits. I love reading what people really think, and Ken's writing is just that. The hilarious brutal honesty hit such a chord with me I felt like Ken was one of my inner circle, or a very close friend. This is a book for the person who is broken, been broken, healing or healed.. this is a book that reminds us all we are not alone in this thing called life. It takes risks not just for new experiences but actually saying the things we all think inside when we find ourselves in situations others have only poetically described. It had me screaming ME TOO Ken, ME TOO. I feel better for having read this. :)

I loved this book! I am an over-60 straight grandma, and I could completely relate to Ken's struggles to understand himself and the people and world around him. I loved the writing style... always honest, sometimes painfully so...but with great humor... at times I laughed out loud. It was a thoroughly enjoyable read, and while I don't wish him any more struggles, I will happily read another book by Ken Schneck.

Thoroughly enjoyed every part of this book! Each chapter is a witty vignette unique to the location and adventure. Ken's humorous writing style had me laughing out loud. I was amazed at how eloquently he captured the many nuances of the human spirit; i.e. his, along with those he encountered on each emotional journey. I was completely drawn into each experience ~ deeply touched by his insights and the personal growth he so honestly shares. I can't wait to read about his next adventures! ;)

Regardless of whether you're gay or straight, Jewish or Protestant, this book is a courageous self-reflection about intimacy and vulnerability. At different points, I laughed, winced, grimaced, and even shed a tear or two because I so clearly recognized what Mr. Schneck was talking about. If you have ever felt misplaced or displaced by life and the circumstances you find yourself in, then you will relate to these crazy and entertaining adventures.

What a great read! The author is entertainingly honest, and I thoroughly enjoyed following his adventures. I found it a unique and personal narrative style, and definitely recommend to anyone

who has experienced loss, heartbreak, or signed up for something and asked themselves the same question as the title!

I couldn't put this book down! Ken's writing style is so engaging I felt as though I was on each adventure with him and couldn't wait to find out what was going to happen to us next. I appreciate how open and honest Ken is with his life story so that others, like me, can reflect on and learn from his struggles and successes along the way. Through his writing I met new people, learned new words (in different languages) and traveled to places I had never been. I can't wait to read his next book of adventures!

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