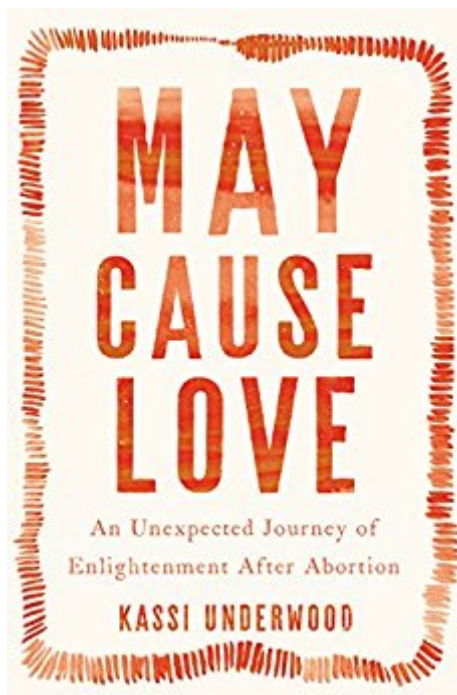




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May Cause Love: An Unexpected Journey Of Enlightenment After Abortion



Synopsis

In this powerful memoir, a fiercely honest and surprisingly funny testament to healing after abortion, a young woman travels across the United States to meet a motley crew of spiritual teachers and a caravan of new friends. At age nineteen, Kassi Underwood discovered she was pregnant. Broke, unwed, struggling with alcohol, and living a thousand miles away from home, she checked into an abortion clinic. While her abortion sparked her "feminist awakening," she also felt lost and lawless, drinking to oblivion and talking about her pregnancy with her parents, her friends, strangers-anyone. Three years later, just when she had settled into a sober life at her dream job, the ex-boyfriend with whom she had become pregnant had a baby with someone else. She shattered. In the depths of a blinding depression, Kassi refused to believe that she would "never get over" her abortion. Inspired by rebellious women in history who used spiritual practices to attain emotional freedom, Kassi embarked on a journey of recovery after abortion-a road trip with pit stops at a Buddhist "water baby" ritual, where she learns a new way to think about lost pregnancies; a Roman Catholic retreat for abortion that turns out to be staffed with clinic picketers; a crash course in grief from a Planned Parenthood counselor; a night in a motel with a "Midwife for the Soul" who teaches her how to take up space; and a Jewish "wild woman" celebration led by a wise and zany rabbi. Dazzling with warmth and leavened by humor, *May Cause Love* captures one woman's journey of self-discovery that enraged her, changed her, and ultimately enlightened her.

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Customer Reviews

This is my first-ever online review because this book is worth it. Like another reviewer below, as a hard-core pro-choice feminist the concept of this book at first made me wary, but as I read it I began to understand why Kassi wrote it, and furthermore why it needed to be written. Part of the concept of choice is acknowledging and supporting women's diverse experiences of abortion, a nuance which often gets lost in our polarized political discourse. By telling her story in such a raw and honest way, Kassi advances the radical notion that every person who has experienced abortion deserves empathy and compassion. Oh, and did I mention that it's also clever, poignant, relatable, extremely well-written and often funny? Why are you still reading? Go buy it!

This book rocked me to the core. I am struck by the importance of how much we need to elevate the voices of an amazing woman like Kassi who, through her book and dialogue with women across the country, is starting a revolution to change the way we talk about abortion experiences. The book steps outside of political discourse, and seeks to share authentic experiences, revolutionizing the way we share our stories, strength and hope with one another. I am so glad this book exists!

We could all learn a lot from Kassi Underwood, whether or not we share an experience of abortion. She daringly tells us a story of courage - courage to face her fears, courage to listen to her gut, and listen again, courage to go to the deepest emotional and spiritual places (and bring us along for the ride). Her style combines lightness and humor along with candid vulnerability - a friend emerging effortlessly in the pages. Underneath her narrative, she highlights how a personal experience can get lost in the creation of "issues", be those political, religious, philosophical, scientific, etc. Often, the nuance, the tension, the complexity, the experience of a person is lost in the binary nature of the question "which side are you on?". Perhaps we can squelch the urge to categorize and inquire more deeply of ourselves and others. "What is it that we have lost?" "How can we heal?" "How can we support one another through life's challenges?" This is exactly what Underwood has done in her personal journey.

Amen!

A rare perspective of abortion that is real and heartfelt. I resonated with so much of her writing. It's rarely a black and white issue, and this book really unpacks so much of the grey in a beautiful way.

This is an amazing book that can help anyone grow! Thank you, Kassi for sharing your experience! :)

This author is a spiritual supernova. She's going to blow minds and explode hearts. May Cause Love is an important book -- a book with the power to change the ways we think and talk about abortion and its aftermath. Stepping outside of political discourse into storytelling, spirituality, and an incredible journey of study and self-discovery over many years and traditions, May Cause Love is an absolutely essential read to break out of our limited ideologies about this topic, change the conversation, and evolve.

This book meant so much to me. I loved the author's voice. It made for a quick and smooth read. The message was so meaningful and I think it will stick with me for a long time. I'd definitely tell all of my female friends to read this.

As a man, I often struggle with how to talk with my female friends about abortion. This book made me smarter, and challenged a lot of my preconceived notions. Also, a surprisingly funny read - I felt like I could relate to many of the characters in this story. Very very glad I read this - I absolutely loved it.

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