

the rules of civility by amor towles

The Rules of Civility by Amor Towles: A Captivating Journey Through 1930s New York

the rules of civility by amor towles is a novel that effortlessly transports readers into the glamorous yet complex world of 1930s New York City. This debut work by Amor Towles is more than just a historical fiction; it's a rich exploration of social mores, ambition, and the intricate dance of manners and class during a transformative era in American history. If you've ever wondered how civility and social etiquette shape relationships and fate, this book offers a compelling narrative wrapped in elegance and wit.

Setting the Stage: The World of The Rules of Civility by Amor Towles

The novel is set on the cusp of the Great Depression's end, a time when New York City was pulsating with energy, jazz, and the promise of new beginnings. Towles paints a vivid portrait of Manhattan's elite circles alongside the everyday hustle of its streets. This setting is crucial because it reflects the tension between appearance and reality—a theme that resonates throughout the story.

Towles' depiction of 1930s New York is meticulous. From the smoky jazz clubs to the lavish parties, each scene is immersive, offering readers a glimpse into a world defined by strict social codes and the subtle art of civility. The city itself almost becomes a character, influencing the lives and decisions of those who inhabit it.

Plot Overview: Navigating Ambition and Friendship

At the heart of the novel is Katey Kontent, a sharp and ambitious young woman working as a secretary. Her chance encounter with the charismatic Tinker Grey on New Year's Eve sets off a chain of events that introduces her to a dazzling circle of wealthy socialites. As Katey maneuvers through this world of privilege, she grapples with the boundaries of friendship, love, and social mobility.

What makes *The Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles stand out is how it blends a coming-of-age story with a social commentary. Katey's journey is not just about climbing the social ladder; it's about understanding the delicate balance between maintaining one's integrity and adapting to societal expectations.

Character Dynamics and Development

The characters in the novel are richly drawn, each embodying different facets of the era's social landscape. Tinker Grey represents old money charm and the complexities that come with it, while Katey's friend Eve Ross symbolizes the allure and pitfalls of ambition. Their interactions offer insights into the unspoken rules that govern behavior, hinting at the consequences of breaking or adhering to these conventions.

Towles excels in crafting dialogue that feels authentic to the time yet accessible to modern readers. Through conversations and internal reflections, the novel explores themes of identity, loyalty, and the pursuit of happiness in a world obsessed with status.

The Significance of Civility: More Than Just Manners

While the title suggests a focus on etiquette, *The Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles delves deeper into the concept of civility as a social contract. In the bustling, often ruthless environment of 1930s New York, civility serves as both a shield and a weapon. It dictates how characters present themselves and interact, influencing their opportunities and relationships.

Understanding Social Etiquette in the Novel

The "rules" in the novel are not explicitly listed but are woven into the fabric of the narrative. They include unspoken expectations about behavior, dress, speech, and even ambition. These rules govern everything from how one speaks in public to the types of associations one maintains.

For example, Katey learns that to navigate high society, one must master the art of discretion and subtlety. Speaking too openly or appearing too eager can be detrimental, while a composed demeanor often opens doors. This nuanced portrayal of etiquette makes the novel a fascinating study of social dynamics.

The Role of Manners in Personal and Professional Success

Towles shows that civility is not merely about politeness but about strategic self-presentation. In a competitive environment, understanding and adhering to social norms can lead to professional advancement and personal alliances. Conversely, breaches of etiquette can result in social exile or scandal.

This theme resonates today, reminding readers that while societal norms evolve, the underlying human need for respect and recognition remains constant. The novel subtly encourages reflection on how modern social “rules” shape interactions and opportunities.

Amor Towles’ Writing Style: Elegance Meets Accessibility

One of the most praised aspects of *The Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles is its elegant prose. Towles writes with a sophistication that mirrors the era he depicts, yet his language remains clear and engaging. This balance makes the novel both a literary pleasure and an accessible read.

Use of Dialogue and Description

Towles’ dialogue crackles with wit and authenticity, providing insight into characters’ personalities and social positions. His descriptive passages evoke the sights, sounds, and moods of 1930s New York without overwhelming the narrative. This careful calibration keeps readers immersed without losing momentum.

Balancing Historical Detail with Narrative Flow

Historical novels often risk bogging down the story with excessive detail, but Towles avoids this pitfall. He integrates historical context seamlessly, using it to enhance character development and plot rather than distract. Readers gain a sense of the period’s challenges and charms while staying invested in Katey’s personal journey.

Why *The Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles Continues to Captivate Readers

More than a decade after its publication, this novel remains a favorite among fans of historical fiction and literary fiction alike. Its appeal lies in the combination of timeless themes and a richly drawn historical backdrop.

Timeless Themes of Ambition and Identity

At its core, the book explores universal questions about who we are and who we want to be. Katey’s struggle to reconcile her ambitions with her values is

something readers from all backgrounds can relate to. The novel invites reflection on how much of ourselves we are willing to compromise to achieve our dreams.

An Engaging Window into a Bygone Era

For those fascinated by the glamour and grit of early 20th-century America, *The Rules of Civility* offers an immersive experience. The attention to detail in fashion, music, and social rituals enriches the story, making it a vivid historical tapestry.

Recommendations for Readers

If you enjoy stories that combine character-driven narratives with historical settings, this book is a must-read. Fans of authors like F. Scott Fitzgerald, Edith Wharton, or even contemporary writers like Gillian Flynn who appreciate nuanced social dynamics will find much to admire here. It's also perfect for book clubs, as it sparks discussions about class, gender, and morality.

Exploring Further: Amor Towles' Other Works

Readers enchanted by *The Rules of Civility* often turn to Towles' subsequent novels, such as *A Gentleman in Moscow* and *The Lincoln Highway*. Each of these continues his signature style of blending rich historical detail with engaging storytelling.

Towles' ability to create vivid characters and settings, while probing deeper themes of identity and societal expectations, makes his bibliography a rewarding journey. Exploring his other works can deepen appreciation for his craftsmanship and thematic concerns.

The Rules of Civility by Amor Towles is more than a nostalgic look at a bygone era; it is a nuanced exploration of how manners, ambition, and social codes shape human interactions. Through Katey Kontent's eyes, readers gain insight into the intricate dance of civility and the timeless quest for self-definition amid societal pressures. Whether you're a fan of historical fiction or simply looking for a captivating story with depth, this novel offers an unforgettable experience.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main setting of 'Rules of Civility' by Amor Towles?

'Rules of Civility' is primarily set in New York City during the late 1930s, capturing the glamour and social dynamics of the era.

Who is the protagonist of 'Rules of Civility'?

The protagonist is Katey Kontent, a young, ambitious woman navigating the social scene of 1930s New York.

What themes are explored in 'Rules of Civility'?

The novel explores themes such as social class, ambition, friendship, love, and the pursuit of the American Dream.

How does Amor Towles depict 1930s New York in the novel?

Towles vividly portrays 1930s New York with rich descriptions of its nightlife, jazz culture, fashion, and the contrasts between wealth and hardship.

Is 'Rules of Civility' based on a true story?

'Rules of Civility' is a work of fiction, but it is inspired by the author's research into the social life and culture of 1930s New York.

What role does friendship play in the story?

Friendship is central to the narrative, particularly the complex relationship between Katey and her best friend Eve, which drives much of the plot.

How does 'Rules of Civility' compare to Amor Towles' other works?

Like Towles' other novels, 'Rules of Civility' features elegant prose, well-drawn characters, and a strong sense of time and place, though it focuses more on social ambition and urban life.

What is the significance of the title 'Rules of Civility'?

The title refers to the social etiquette and unspoken codes of behavior that

govern the characters' interactions and ambitions within high society.

Additional Resources

The Enduring Charm and Complexity of "The Rules of Civility" by Amor Towles

the rules of civility by amor towles is a compelling novel that has captivated readers since its publication in 2011. Set against the backdrop of 1930s New York City, this literary work combines historical fiction with a rich exploration of social dynamics, class, and the pursuit of identity. Towles, an American author known for his elegant prose and layered storytelling, crafts a narrative that not only entertains but also invites critical reflection on the mores and manners that govern human interaction. This article delves into the thematic essence, narrative structure, and cultural significance of "The Rules of Civility," while also examining its place within contemporary literature and its appeal in the digital age.

In-Depth Analysis of "The Rules of Civility" by Amor Towles

At its core, "The Rules of Civility" by Amor Towles is a portrait of a young woman, Katey Kontent, whose life intersects with a diverse cast of characters amid the glamour and grit of pre-war Manhattan. The novel's title itself is a nod to the 18th-century book "Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior In Company and Conversation," attributed to George Washington, which underscores the novel's preoccupation with decorum, societal expectations, and the performance of identity.

Towles employs a first-person narrative that is both intimate and observant, allowing readers to immerse themselves in Katey's ambitions, vulnerabilities, and ethical dilemmas. The prose is meticulously crafted, blending lyrical descriptions with sharp dialogue that captures the zeitgeist of the Jazz Age. This balance between style and substance is a hallmark of Towles' writing and contributes to the novel's enduring popularity.

Thematic Exploration: Class, Ambition, and Identity

One of the most prominent themes in "The Rules of Civility" is the fluidity and rigidity of class structures. Towles explores how wealth and social status dictate behavior and opportunities, often creating invisible barriers that restrict personal freedom. Katey's journey is emblematic of the American

Dream's complexities—her ascent into high society is fraught with moral compromises and moments of self-discovery.

Moreover, the novel interrogates the concept of civility itself. Beyond mere politeness, civility in Towles' narrative functions as a social currency, a means of navigating complex interpersonal relationships. The characters' adherence to or rebellion against these unwritten rules serves as a commentary on authenticity and performativity in human interactions.

Historical Context and Setting

The vivid depiction of 1930s New York City is another strength of the novel. Towles' attention to detail transports readers to a time of jazz clubs, speakeasies, and burgeoning modernity. The backdrop is not just ornamental; it influences the characters' choices and the social dynamics at play. This historical realism adds depth to the narrative and situates the story within a broader cultural and economic context.

Character Development and Interpersonal Dynamics

Katey Kontent emerges as a complex protagonist. Her wit, resilience, and moral ambiguity make her relatable and compelling. Towles populates the story with memorable supporting characters, each embodying different facets of society—from the charming yet elusive Tinker Grey to the enigmatic Eve Ross. The intricate relationships among these characters highlight themes of loyalty, betrayal, and the quest for self-definition.

Comparative Insights and Literary Significance

When compared to other contemporary works of historical fiction, such as "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald or "Rules of Civility"'s own sequel "A Gentleman in Moscow" (also by Amor Towles), this novel stands out for its nuanced portrayal of female agency and social mobility. While Fitzgerald's work critiques the decadence and moral decay of the Jazz Age, Towles offers a more hopeful yet realistic exploration of personal transformation within societal constraints.

From an SEO perspective, keywords such as "1930s New York historical fiction," "Amor Towles novels," "Katey Kontent character analysis," and "social class in literature" are naturally woven throughout discussions of the novel's content and context, enhancing discoverability for readers interested in these topics.

Pros and Cons of Towles' Narrative Approach

- **Pros:** Elegant prose, rich historical detail, complex characters, insightful social commentary.
- **Cons:** Some readers may find the pacing slow, and the focus on upper-class society might limit appeal to those seeking broader social perspectives.

Impact on Readers and Popular Culture

"The Rules of Civility" has resonated with a wide audience, partly due to its cinematic quality and universal themes. It has been praised for its ability to evoke a sense of nostalgia while addressing timeless issues such as ambition, love, and the search for meaning. Book clubs and literary critics alike have lauded Towles' work for sparking conversations about etiquette, gender roles, and the American social fabric.

In the evolving literary marketplace, where digital platforms often favor fast-paced thrillers or genre fiction, Towles' novel maintains a steady readership, demonstrating the enduring appeal of well-crafted historical narratives infused with emotional depth.

As readers continue to revisit "The Rules of Civility" by Amor Towles, the novel's exploration of manners and morals in a bygone era remains both relevant and thought-provoking, inviting ongoing reflection on how civility shapes human connection in any age.

[The Rules Of Civility By Amor Towles](#)

the rules of civility by amor towles: Rules of Civility Amor Towles, 2012-06-26 From the #1 New York Times-bestselling author of *The Lincoln Highway* and *A Gentleman in Moscow*, a "sharply stylish" (Boston Globe) book about a young woman in post-Depression era New York who suddenly finds herself thrust into high society—now with over one million readers worldwide On the last night of 1937, twenty-five-year-old Katey Kontent is in a second-rate Greenwich Village jazz bar when Tinker Grey, a handsome banker, happens to sit down at the neighboring table. This chance encounter and its startling consequences propel Katey on a year-long journey into the upper echelons of New York society—where she will have little to rely upon other than a bracing wit and her own brand of cool nerve. With its sparkling depiction of New York's social strata, its intricate imagery and themes, and its immensely appealing characters, *Rules of Civility* won the hearts of readers and critics alike.

the rules of civility by amor towles: Rules of Civility Amor Towles, 2011 A chance encounter with a handsome banker in a Greenwich Village jazz bar on New Year's Eve 1938 catapults witty

Wall Street secretary Katey Kontent into the upper echelons of New York society, where she befriends a shy multi-millionaire, an Upper East Side ne'er-do-well and a single-minded widow. A first novel. 75,000 first printing.

the rules of civility by amor towles: 3 Novels Collection Set by Amor Towles - Rules of Civility, a Gentleman in Moscow, the Lincoln Highway Amor Towles, 2023-03-21

the rules of civility by amor towles: *Eve in Hollywood* Amor Towles, 2013-06-25 The further adventures of Eve Ross, best friend of Katey Kontent in *Rules of Civility*, the New York Times bestselling novel by Amor Towles Coming this fall, *A Gentleman in Moscow* – the highly anticipated new novel from Amor Towles Near the end of Amor Towles's bestselling novel *Rules of Civility*, the fiercely independent Evelyn Ross boards a train from New York to Chicago to visit her parents, but never disembarks. Six months later, she appears in a photograph in a gossip magazine exiting the Tropicana Club on Sunset Boulevard on the arm of Olivia de Havilland. In this novella made up of six richly detailed and atmospheric stories, each told from a different perspective, Towles unfolds the events that take Eve to the heart of Old Hollywood. Beginning in the dining car of the Golden State Limited in September 1938, we follow Eve to the elegant rooms of the Beverly Hills Hotel, the fabled tables of Antonio's, the amusement parks on the Santa Monica piers, the afro-Cuban dance clubs off Central Avenue, and ultimately the set of *Gone with the Wind*. With the glamour and grit of the studio system's golden age as a backdrop, Towles introduces in each story a memorable new character whose fate may well be altered by their encounter with Eve. In following the thread of these varied encounters, we watch as Eve forges a new and unexpected life for herself in late 1930s Los Angeles.

the rules of civility by amor towles: Summary of The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles Condensed Books, 2022-04-27 A high-quality summary of Amor Towles's book *The Lincoln Highway*, including chapter details and analysis of the main themes of the original book. About the original book: June 1954. Emmett Watson, then eighteen, is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the juvenile work farm where he had just completed a fifteen-month sentence for involuntary homicide. Emmett's plan is to pick up his eight-year-old brother, Billy, and fly to California, where they can start their lives over, with his mother long gone, his father lately deceased, and the family farm foreclosed upon by the bank. However, after the warden drives away, Emmett discovers that two of his work farm pals have secreted themselves in the warden's car trunk. They've devised a whole different plan for Emmett's future, one that would lead them all on a perilous voyage in the opposite direction—to New York City. Towles' third novel, which spans only 10 days and is recounted from several points of view, will delight admirers of his multi-layered literary style while also introducing them to a variety of new and brilliantly imagined locales, characters, and topics.

the rules of civility by amor towles: "A Study Guide for Amor Towles's 'A Gentleman in Moscow'" Gale, Cengage, 2018-12-13 A Study Guide for Amor Towles's *A Gentleman in Moscow*, excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Novels for Students*. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Novels for Students* for all of your research needs.

the rules of civility by amor towles: Table for Two Amor Towles, 2024-04-02 A New York Times Bestseller "This may be Towles' best book yet. Each tale is as satisfying as a master chef's main course, filled with drama, wit, erudition and, most of all, heart." —Los Angeles Times "The book spans the 20th century, bringing characters into tableaux of deceit and desire. Beneath his coifed prose Towles is a master of the shiv, the bait and switch; we see the flash of light before the shock wave strikes, often in the final sentence. . . . Table for Two delivers the kick of a martini served in the Polo Lounge." – The New York Times Book Review Millions of Amor Towles fans are in for a treat as he shares some of his shorter fiction: six stories based in New York City and a novella set in Golden Age Hollywood. The New York stories, most of which take place around the year 2000, consider the fateful consequences that can spring from brief encounters and the delicate mechanics of compromise that operate at the heart of modern marriages. Told from seven points of view, "Eve

in Hollywood” describes how one of Towles’s most beloved characters, the indomitable Evelyn Ross from *Rules of Civility*, crafts a new future for herself—and others—in a noirish tale that takes us through the movie sets, bungalows, and dive bars of 1930s Los Angeles. Written with his signature wit, humor, and sophistication, *Table for Two* is another glittering addition to Towles’s canon of stylish and transporting fiction.

the rules of civility by amor towles: *Between the Lines* Uli Beutter Cohen, 2021-11-09 From the creator of the popular instagram account Subway Book Review comes a collection of over 150 of the most fascinating and inspiring stories from strangers on the subway--a glorious document of who we are, where we're going, and the stories that unite us--

the rules of civility by amor towles: *Men's Society* Men's Society, 2018-05-08 In the complicated modern world, not every man is born with those necessary things he should know or have. Let the minds behind the successful Men's Society brand instruct you in everything about being a man that they forgot to teach you in school. With the Men's Society, you'll learn the skills that every man needs to impress those around him and stand out from a crowd. Whether you want to mix a martini, build a campfire, or pack the perfect outfit for a weekend getaway, this collection of must-know skills will make you the impressive specimen that everyone wants to be around. Other skills taught in this book include: Basic knowledge of wine, beer, and liquor How to get what you want from a barber, and fix your hair and beard if you don't How to avoid, withstand, and cure a hangover How to deescalate a fight before it starts Important books, films, and musicians to know in order to impress a date Six things every man should do with his hands, including cook an omelet, build a fire, and more. The Live Well series from Rock Point invites you to create a life you love through multiple acts of self-discovery and reinvention. These encouraging gift books touch on fun yet hardworking self-improvement strategies, whether it's learning to value progress over perfection, taking time to meditate and slow down to literally smell the roses, or finding time to show gratitude and develop a personal mantra. From learning how to obtain more restful sleep and creating a healthy work/life balance to developing personal style and your own happy place, the Live Well series encourages you to live your best life. Other titles in the series include: Progress Over Perfection; Find Your Flow; Be Happy; Seeking Slow; Finding Gratitude; Eff This! Meditation; The Joy of Forest Bathing; Find Your Mantra; It Had to be You; Genius Jokes; The Calm and Cozy Book of Sleep; Beating Burnout; Ayurveda for Life; Choose Happy; and You Got This

the rules of civility by amor towles: *The New York Times: Footsteps* New York Times, 2017-05-09 A curated collection of the New York Times' travel column, Footsteps, exploring iconic authors' relationships to landmarks and cities around the world Before Nick Carraway was drawn into Daisy and Gatsby's sparkling, champagne-fueled world in *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald vacationed in the French Riviera, where a small green lighthouse winked at ships on the horizon. Before the nameless lovers began their illicit affair in *The Lover*, Marguerite Duras embarked upon her own scandalous relationship amidst the urban streets of Saigon. And before readers were terrified by a tentacled dragon-man called Cthulhu, H.P. Lovecraft was enthralled by the Industrial Trust tower-- the 26-story skyscraper that makes up the skyline of Providence, Rhode Island. Based on the popular New York Times travel column, Footsteps is an anthology of literary pilgrimages, exploring the geographic muses behind some of history's greatest writers. From the dangerous, dirty and seductive streets of Naples, the setting for Elena Ferrante's famous Neapolitan novels, to the stone arches, creaky oaken doors, and riverside paths of Oxford, the backdrop for Alice's adventures in *Wonderland*, Footsteps takes a fresh approach to literary tourism, appealing to readers and travel enthusiasts alike.

the rules of civility by amor towles: *Goodbye to All That (Revised Edition)* Sari Botton, 2021-04-06 From Roxane Gay to Leslie Jamison, thirty brilliant writers share their timeless stories about the everlasting magic—and occasional misery—of living in the Big Apple, in a new edition of the classic anthology. In the revised edition of this classic collection, thirty writers share their own stories of loving and leaving New York, capturing the mesmerizing allure the city has always had for writers, poets, and wandering spirits. Their essays often begin as love stories do, with the passion of

something newly discovered: the crush of subway crowds, the streets filled with manic energy, and the sudden, unblinking certainty that this is the only place on Earth where one can become exactly who she is meant to be. They also share the grief that comes like a gut-punch, when the grand metropolis loses its magic and the pressures of New York's frenetic life wear thin for even the most dedicated dwellers. As friends move away, rents soar, and love—still—remains just out of reach, each writer's goodbye is singular and universal, just like New York itself.

the rules of civility by amor towles: *The Swans of Fifth Avenue* Melanie Benjamin, 2016-10-25 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • The author of *The Aviator's Wife* returns with a triumphant new novel about New York's "Swans" of the 1950s—and the scandalous, headline-making, and enthralling friendship between literary legend Truman Capote and peerless socialite Babe Paley. People's Book of the Week • USA Today's #1 "New and Noteworthy" Book • Entertainment Weekly's Must List • LibraryReads Top Ten Pick Of all the glamorous stars of New York high society, none blazes brighter than Babe Paley. Her flawless face regularly graces the pages of *Vogue*, and she is celebrated and adored for her ineffable style and exquisite taste, especially among her friends—the alluring socialite Swans Slim Keith, C. Z. Guest, Gloria Guinness, and Pamela Churchill. By all appearances, Babe has it all: money, beauty, glamour, jewels, influential friends, a prestigious husband, and gorgeous homes. But beneath this elegantly composed exterior dwells a passionate woman—a woman desperately longing for true love and connection. Enter Truman Capote. This diminutive golden-haired genius with a larger-than-life personality explodes onto the scene, setting Babe and her circle of Swans aflutter. Through Babe, Truman gains an unlikely entrée into the enviable lives of Manhattan's elite, along with unparalleled access to the scandal and gossip of Babe's powerful circle. Sure of the loyalty of the man she calls "True Heart," Babe never imagines the destruction Truman will leave in his wake. But once a storyteller, always a storyteller—even when the stories aren't his to tell. Truman's fame is at its peak when such notable celebrities as Frank and Mia Sinatra, Lauren Bacall, and Rose Kennedy converge on his glittering Black and White Ball. But all too soon, he'll ignite a literary scandal whose repercussions echo through the years. *The Swans of Fifth Avenue* will seduce and startle readers as it opens the door onto one of America's most sumptuous eras. Praise for *The Swans of Fifth Avenue* "Exceptional storytelling . . . teeming with scandal, gossip and excitement."—*Harper's Bazaar* "This moving fictionalization brings the whole cast of characters back to vivid life. Gossipy and fun, it's also a nuanced look at the beauty and cruelty of a rarefied, bygone world."—*People* "The era and the sordid details come back to life in this jewel of a novel."—*O: The Oprah Magazine*

the rules of civility by amor towles: *How to Be a Lawyer* Jason Mendelson, Alex Paul, 2022-06-09 Transform your legal education into a successful and fulfilling legal career In *How to Be a Lawyer: The Path from Law School to Success*, a team of veteran lawyers and entrepreneurs delivers an eye-opening discussion of how to translate your years of training and education into a running start in the world of practice. The book bridges the gap between law school and practice, whether you hope to be a big firm transactional attorney, a solo criminal lawyer, work for the government or any other legal profession. You'll discover how you can use what you learned in law school and how you can develop the real skills you'll need as you deal with clients and colleagues. The authors explain what your professors won't tell you in law school and what employers and clients will actually expect from you. You'll also find: Case studies and guest chapters describing the transition to major areas of law and how it can and should affect your law school decision making Expert advice on making your first job a successful one Guidance on how to avoid the most common career pitfalls and client mistakes Unfiltered opinions from clients about what they really think about lawyers An ideal resource for aspiring and current law students and early career lawyers, *How to Be a Lawyer* is the practical blueprint you need to build your legal career from scratch.

the rules of civility by amor towles: *Gotham Rising* Jules Stewart, 2016-10-28 New York is often described as the greatest city in the world. Yet much of the iconic architecture and culture which so defines the city as we know it today from the Empire State Building to the Pastrami sandwich only came into being in the 1930s, in what was perhaps the most significant decade in the

city's 400-year history. After the roaring twenties, the catastrophic Wall Street Crash and ensuing Depression seemed to spell disaster for the vibrant city. Yet, in this era, New York underwent an architectural, economic, social and creative renaissance under the leadership of the charismatic mayor Fiorello La Guardia. After seizing power, he declared war on the mafia mobs running vast swathes of the city, attacked political corruption and kick-started the economy through a variety of construction and infrastructure projects. In culture, this was the age of the Harlem Renaissance championed by writers like Langston Hughes, the jazz age with the advent of Tin-Pan-Alley, the Cotton Club and immortals such as Duke Ellington making his name in the Big Apple. Weaving these stories together, Jules Stewart tells the story of an iconic city in a time of change.

the rules of civility by amor towles: *The Little Library Christmas* Kate Young, 2020-10-01 A festive cookbook from award-winning food writer Kate Young. The perfect Christmas gift for cooks and bibliophiles alike. *The Little Library Christmas* is a collection of 50 festive recipes from Kate Young, the Little Library cook, including 20 favourites and 30 brand new creations. From edible gifts and cocktail party catering, to the big day itself and ideas for your leftovers, this book will guide you through the Christmas period with meals, treats, tipples and – of course – plenty of reading recommendations. With beautiful photographs throughout and in a gorgeous, giftable format, this is the perfect book to put under your tree this Christmas.

the rules of civility by amor towles: *Similes Dictionary* Elyse Sommer, 2013-05-01 Language Appealing As Sunlight After a Storm. A sentence should read as if its author, had he held a plough instead of a pen, could have drawn a furrow deep and straight to the end. —Henry David Thoreau Prose consists of ... phrases tacked together like the sections of a prefabricated hen-house. —George Orwell Whether it invokes hard work or merely a hen-house, a good simile is like a good picture—it's worth a thousand words. Packed with more than 16,000 imaginative, colorful phrases—from “abandoned as a used Kleenex” to “quiet as an eel swimming in oil”—the *Similes Dictionary* will help any politician, writer, or lover of language find just the right saying, be it original or banal, verbose or succinct. Your thoughts will never be as tedious as a twice-told tale or dry as the Congressional Record. Choose from elegant turns of phrases “as useful as a Swiss army knife” and “varied as expressions of the human face”. Citing more than 2,000 sources—from the Bible, Socrates, Shakespeare, Mark Twain, and H. L. Mencken to popular movies, music, and television shows—the *Similes Dictionary* covers hundreds of subjects broken into thematic categories that include topics such as virtue, anger, age, ambition, importance, and youth, helping you find the fitting phrase quickly and easily. Perfect for setting the atmosphere, making a point, or helping spin a tale with economy, intelligence, and ingenuity, the vivid comparisons found in this collection will inspire anyone. Love comforteth like sunshine after rain. —William Shakespeare A face like a bucket —Raymond Chandler A man with little learning is like the frog who thinks its puddle a great sea. —Burmese proverb Peace, like charity, begins at home —Franklin Delano Roosevelt You know a dream is like a river ever changing as it flows. —Garth Brooks Fit as a fiddle —John Ray's Proverbs He's not to be allowed to fall into his grave like an old dog. —Arthur Miller Ring true, like good china. —Sylvia Plath Music yearning like a God in pain —John Keats Busy as a one-legged man in an ass-kicking contest. —Pat Conroy Enduring as mother love —Anonymous

the rules of civility by amor towles: *The Novel Cure* Ella Berthoud, Susan Elderkin, 2014-12-30 Delightful... elegant prose and discussions that span the history of 2,000 years of literature.—Publisher's Weekly A novel is a story transmitted from the novelist to the reader. It offers distraction, entertainment, and an opportunity to unwind or focus. But it can also be something more powerful—a way to learn about how to live. Read at the right moment in your life, a novel can—quite literally—change it. *The Novel Cure* is a reminder of that power. To create this apothecary, the authors have trawled two thousand years of literature for novels that effectively promote happiness, health, and sanity, written by brilliant minds who knew what it meant to be human and wrote their life lessons into their fiction. Structured like a reference book, readers simply look up their ailment, be it agoraphobia, boredom, or a midlife crisis, and are given a novel to read as the antidote. Bibliotherapy does not discriminate between pains of the body and pains of the head

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may paradoxically leave us feeling more alone and depressed. Drawing on over twenty years of original research, Dr. Primack explains the fascinating nuances of our relationship with social media, its impact on our mental health, and the dangers of social media using us instead of the other way around. He empowers us to take back control with a simple method: being more selective, positive, and creative with our lives online. Dr. Primack introduces surprising strategies you can use right away to fine-tune your online experience and discover your definition of digital balance. Through short, actionable chapters, you'll learn how to:

- Tailor your social media use to your personality.
- Select positive relationships over toxic ones.
- Overcome comparison syndrome and the fear of missing out.
- Fill your feed with meaningful, humorous, and uplifting content.
- Optimize your news intake and resist doomscrolling.
- Improve your sleep, create tech holidays, and more.

With innovative strategies for managing technology, you'll transform your relationship with tech and discover how to make social media work for you. *You Are What You Click* offers a science-backed approach from a credentialed doctor: Dr. Brian Primack has an MD and a PhD in Education and Behavioral Science. Primack is the go-to expert on this topic. His work on the intersection of media and health has been cited nearly 6,000 times in peer-reviewed scholarly literature, and he has been featured in major media outlets across the world.

FOR WELLNESS READERS, PARENTS, AND ANYONE WHO USES SOCIAL MEDIA: Dropping off the digital map or deleting all our social media accounts isn't the only option—and often isn't something we feel ready to do. Rather than digital abstinence, with Primack's 3-step plan, tech lovers will be able to understand how to regulate their online social platforms in healthier ways.

A BALANCED PERSPECTIVE ON TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA IN A POSITIVE LIGHT: Almost every book in this genre portrays technology in a negative or even scary way. With this book, readers will learn how to adjust and balance their presence online with a personalized plan they can use across all platforms, no matter what new social media app goes public next. Primack offers an empowering solution that is forward-thinking, and will continue to be relevant as technology becomes more immersed into our lives.

QUICK, PRACTICAL ADVICE: *You Are What You Click* is broken into short, actionable chapters that allow readers to understand the research, take action, and see results—perfect for short attention spans whittled down by Facebook and Instagram stories, Twitter, Snapchat, and TikTok!

FOR FANS OF PERSONALITY BOOKS: Fans of books like *The Road Back to You: An Enneagram Journey to Self-Discovery* and *The Four Tendencies: The Indispensable Personality Profiles that Reveal How to Make Your Life Better* will love the personality quiz and personalized solutions Primack offers for being selective, creative, and healthy with social media use.

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