

Dodging Satan: My Irish/Italian Sometimes Awesome, But Mostly Creepy, Childhood (Paperback)



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Reviews

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(Chelsea Durgan PhD)

DODGING SATAN: MY IRISH/ITALIAN SOMETIMES AWESOME, BUT MOSTLY CREEPY, CHILDHOOD (PAPERBACK)

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Sand Hill Review Press, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 216 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Sometimes glib, sometimes profound, the musings of young Bridget Flaherty will have many a Catholic (and a lot of others) in stitches. As an impressionable child, Bridget is frightened by Catholic iconography - the snake at Mary's feet multiply in her dresser drawers and the devil is everywhere. But what do they really symbolize? Sexuality, clashes between her Irish and Italian families, even garlic and leather handbags are sources of family anxiety. For a while, Bridget creates supernatural worlds that resolve the tensions of real life, performing exorcisms, creating relics, and discovering the holy in holy water. Her panoply of Italian relatives-glamorous Santa Anna, abused Aunt Maria, sophisticated Eleanor with a New York Fellini pageboy -offer sensual alternatives to the repression of her immediate family. And as she discovers feminism from a women's-libber neighbor and a stash of romance novels, her precarious religious world is threatened. Are her maiden aunts from Staten Island really lesbians? Are her uncles personally encouraged to be abusive by a sexist God-the-F? And what about her own mysterious virginity? Caught between the Church and the larger world, Bridget's Virgin Mary helps her enter adolescence with a new awareness and independence.



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