



The Secret Lives of Wives: Women Share What It Really Takes to Stay Married (Library Edition)

By Iris Krasnow

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[This is the Library Edition in vinyl case.]

A bestselling, groundbreaking author investigates wives who thrive, sharing their uncensored strategies for staying married.

America's high divorce rate is well known, but little attention has been paid to the flip side: couples who creatively (sometimes clandestinely) manage to build marriages that last longer than we ever thought possible. What's the secret? To find out, bestselling journalist Iris Krasnow interviewed more than two hundred wives whose marriages have survived for fifteen to seventy years. They are a diverse cast, yet they share one common and significant trait: they have made bold, sometimes secretive and shocking, choices on how to keep their marital vows, "till death do us part," as Krasnow says, "without killing someone first."

In raw, candid, titillating stories, Krasnow's cast of wise women give voice to the truth about marriage and the importance of maintaining a strong sense of self apart from the relationship. Some spend summers apart. Some make time for wine with the girls. One septuagenarian has a recurring date with an old flame from high school. In every case, the marriage operates on many tracks, giving both spouses license to pursue the question, who am I apart from my marriage? Krasnow's goal is to give women permission to create their own marriages at any age. Marital bliss is possible, she says, if each partner is blissful apart from the other.

A fascinating window on the many faces of modern relationships, *The Secret Lives of Wives* brims with inspiring and daring examples of women who have it both ways: a committed marriage and personal adventures in uncharted territory. For anyone who wants to stay married and stay sane, this is the book to read.

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Editorial Review

Review

"At first this book terrified me: another submission and sacrifice marriage manual for wives? Instead Iris Krasnow delivers astonishing candor, realistic compassion, and invaluable wisdom when it comes to how paradoxically infuriating and rewarding long-term marriages can be. The best book on marriage ever." —

Leslie Morgan Steiner

"In this breathtaking book *The Secret Lives of Wives*, Iris Krasnow opens a window into the inner world of women whose unique courage and vision has enabled them to find relationship happiness over the long term. With wit and wisdom, she thoughtfully tells their stories and then fills the reader with brilliant ideas and concepts to apply to their own lives. This is as much of a men's book as it was written by and for women."

— **Dr. Bill Cloke**

"Iris Krasnow has managed to demystify the workings of long-term marriages by confirming the mysterious uniqueness of each one. The secret, she finds, lies in the way two people negotiate their own personal amalgam of companionship and sex, compromise and disappointment, lust and tenderness, trust and lies. The challenge for the rest of us is to do the same." — **Suzanne Braun Levine**

"She whips up a spirited, enlightening cocktail of comfort, support and grace. Fulfilling and well-structured." — **Kirkus Reviews**

"One of Ten Titles to Pick Up Now. 'Boyfriends with boundaries,' separate summers, and other therapeutic strategies for maintaining wedded bliss over the long haul." — **O, The Oprah Magazine**

About the Author

IRIS KRASNOW is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Surrendering to Marriage*, as well as *Surrendering to Motherhood*, *Surrendering to Yourself*, and *I Am My Mother's Daughter*. She has appeared on numerous national shows, ranging from "Oprah" and "Good Morning America" to "All Things Considered". She lives in Maryland with her husband and four sons.

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