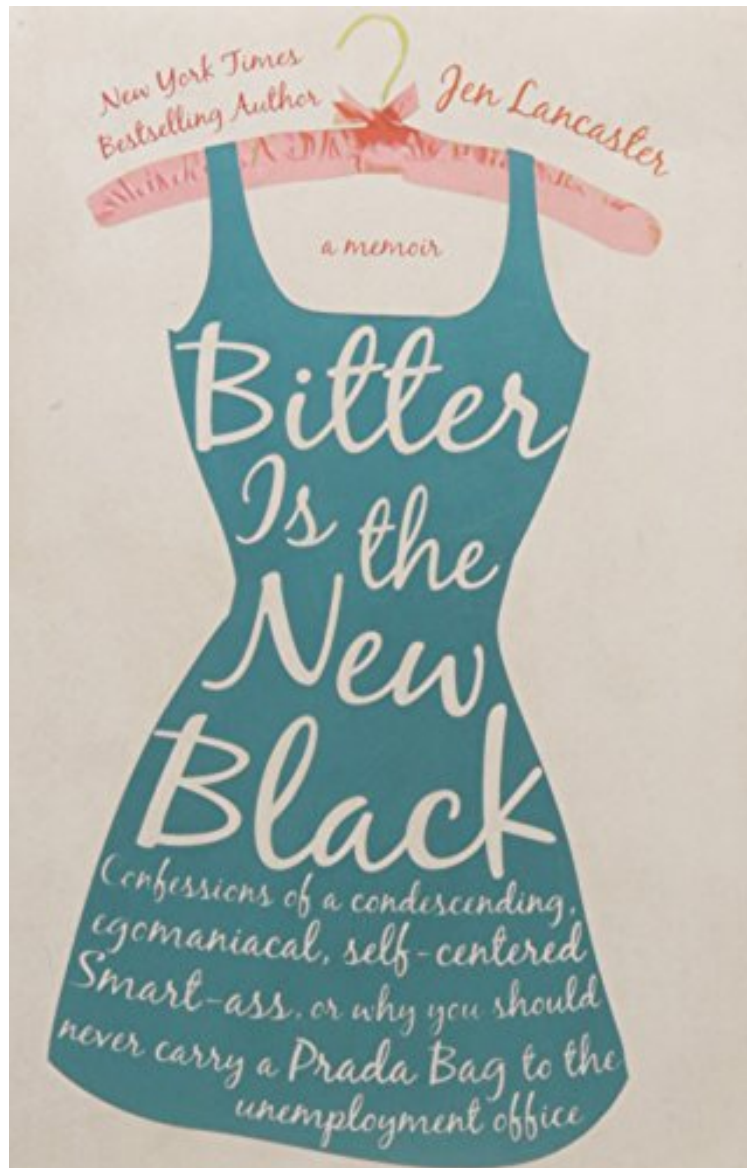


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Bitter is the New Black: Confessions of a Condescending, Egomaniacal, Self-Centered Smartass, Or, Why You Should Never Carry A Prada Bag to the Unemployment Office

Jen Lancaster

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Jen Lancaster : Bitter is the New Black: Confessions of a Condescending, Egomaniacal, Self-Centered Smartass, Or, Why You Should Never Carry A Prada Bag to the Unemployment Office before purchasing it in

order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bitter is the New Black: Confessions of a Condescending, Egomaniacal, Self-Centered Smartass, Or, Why You Should Never Carry A Prada Bag to the Unemployment Office:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. sarcastic and funBy GrrrrrBitter is the New Black: Confessions of a Condescending, Egomaniacal, Self-Centered Smartass,Or, Why You Should Never Carry A Prada Bag to the Unemployment OfficeJen is a vice-president at a major finance firm in Chicago. She is very high-maintenance, spoiled, and self-involved. But when her world comes crashing down in the post 9/11 recession, she is forced to re-evaluate her life. But she fights it all the way. And she does it with humor, sarcasm, and bluntness.my review: I decided to read this memoir after reading a review of it by Rebecca from Lost in Books.This book was incredibly funny with its biting humor. Reading about Jen's search for a job, from those equal to what she was doing and eventually down to a barrista at Starbucks, while scary in this economic climate, was hilarious. Jen and her fiance', Fletch, who also has job problems of his own, struggle to maintain their lifestyle, but deal with eviction, repossession, and almost get to the point of moving in with her parents. She is not particularly PC and even though she is a Republican :), I couldn't help but like this strong-willed woman and enjoyed her antics. She eventually begins blogging about her adventures and gains a following, which led to the writing of this book.This was the perfect antidote for what ailed me. I will definitely be checking out more of her work.my rating: 4/51 of 1 people found the following review helpful. recommended by a friend as a beach readBy DMcI started with The Tao of Martha, recommended by a friend as a beach read. When I finished it (and really liked it!), I decided I'd start at the beginning. Let's just say Jen Lancaster has evolved as a writer AND as a person since Bitter is the New Black--I could barely stand her in this book! Can anybody actually make that many terrible decisions? It sort've reminded me of Confessions of a Shopaholic...but with a much meaner and unwilling to change protagonist.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. saving too little) and I really enjoyed her storyBy Carol L. MeldrumJen Lancaster is very caustic but also self deprecating in her writing. She didn't try to hide her life mistakes (spending too much, saving too little) and I really enjoyed her story. No one's perfect, right? Her taking her Prada purse to the unemployment office was classically clueless! I can't wait to read her other books!

Jen Lancaster was living the sweet life-until real life kicked her to the curb.She had the perfect man, the perfect job-hell, she had the perfect life-and there was no reason to think it wouldn't last. Or maybe there was, but Jen Lancaster was too busy being manicured, pedicured, highlighted, and generally adored to notice. This is the smart-mouthed, soul-searching story of a woman trying to figure out what happens next when she's gone from six figures to unemployment checks and she stops to reconsider some of the less-than-rosy attitudes and values she thought she'd never have to answer for when times were good. Filled with caustic wit and unusual insight, it's a rollicking read as speedy and unpredictable as the trajectory of a burst balloon.

From Publishers WeeklyIt doesn't take Lancaster long to live up to her lengthy subtitle ("Confessions of a Condescending, Egomaniacal, Self-Centered Smart-Ass, or Why You Should Never Carry a Prada Bag to the Unemployment Office"): in just one chapter, she gloats over cheating a homeless man, is rude to a waitress and passes judgment on all of her co-workers (including her "whore" best friend). She's almost gleeful about lacking "the internal firewall that keeps us from saying almost everything we think," but she doesn't come off as straightforward, just malicious. (Of course, it's possible she's making up much of her dialogue, which is a little too clever to be believable.) Lancaster expects sympathy for her downward slide after getting fired from her high-paying finance job in the post-9/11 recession, and chick lit fans may be entertained watching life imitate fiction, but just when you start to feel sorry for her, the snotty attitude returns. In later chapters, Lancaster increasingly relies on entries from her blog (www.jennsylvania.com) and caustic replies to criticisms, and though things start looking upher husband finds a job, she lands a book dealit's not clear that she's been as chastised by her experiences as she claims. (Mar. 7) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.About the AuthorJen Lancaster is the author of Bitter is the New Black. She has lived in Chicago for ten years with her husband and pets, and has yet to get the hang of the subway or returning library books in a timely manner. Visit www.jennsylvania.com