

# [PDF] Secret Ceremonies

## Deborah Laake - pdf download free book

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### Books Details:

Title: Secret Ceremonies

Author: Deborah Laake

Released: 1994-03-05

Language:

Pages: 384

ISBN: 0440217806

ISBN13: 978-0440217800

ASIN: 0440217806



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### Description:

**From Publishers Weekly** Laake's heartfelt account of her strict Mormon upbringing and two disastrous Mormon marriages includes new material. Literary Guild selection in cloth. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.

**From Kirkus Reviews** A candid, often startling memoir of the author's life as a Mormon wife. Though Laake is now a professional journalist, she was raised in a Mormon family and sent to Brigham Young University with one paramount aim: to find and marry ``a faithful Mormon man." Without such a marriage, plus the guidance that only a devout husband could provide, she would ``be denied access to the highest level of Mormon heaven"--just one of the many unusual aspects of the emphatically patriarchal religion that Laake reveals here. Moreover, the author intended to wed not any man but ``the One"--the marriage partner predestined by God--and when she began to doubt that one narrow-minded but extraordinarily persistent suitor, Monty Brown, was the One,

Monty and Laake's own brother rushed to her side to exorcise ``the devil" that had invaded her soul. Laake married Monty in an arcane ceremony whose esoteric details are zestfully described here; pledged to wear ``garments" (a kind of sanctified nightgown) for the rest of her life; and began what most Americans would consider a bizarre life that included the recycling of condoms through vigorous washing. Within nine months, the naturally free-spirited author asked for a divorce and began--under the close (and, by her account, sexually obsessed) scrutiny of male church authorities-- a painful odyssey of self-liberation that included two further marriages, two nervous breakdowns with hospitalization, and the slow recognition of her worth as a woman. Throughout, Laake tends toward emotionally colored, often awkward, writing (``on her first engagement: ``Soon we had created a huge, gay, snowballing ritual of congratulations that sometimes shouted down my fears") that admirably avoids rancor but that evinces few good words for the church (``the hollow moan of dogma") she's left behind. By no means objective, then, but, still, an affectingly personal look into the well-guarded citadel of Mormondom. (First serial to *Cosmopolitan*) -- *Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.* --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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