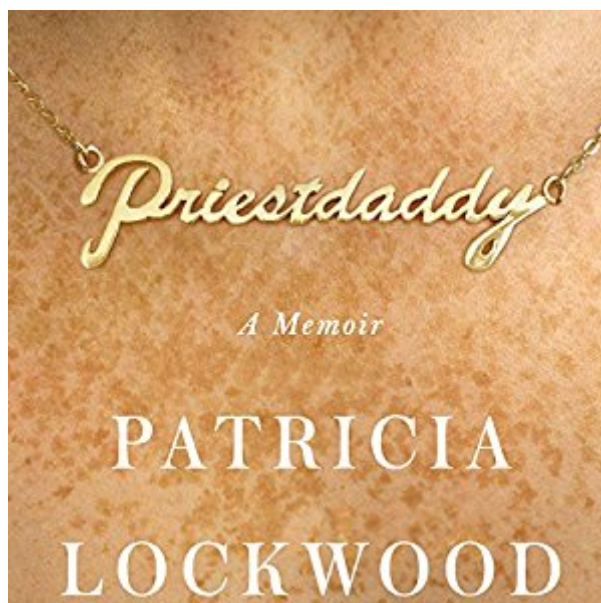


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Priestdaddy: A Memoir



Synopsis

From Patricia Lockwood - a writer acclaimed for her wildly original voice - a vivid, heartbreakingly funny memoir about having a married Catholic priest for a father. Father Greg Lockwood is unlike any Catholic priest you have ever met - a man who lounges in boxer shorts, who loves action movies, and whose constant jamming on the guitar reverberates "like a whole band dying in a plane crash in 1972". His daughter is an irreverent poet who long ago left the church's country. When an unexpected crisis leads her and her husband to move back into her parents' rectory, their two worlds collide. In *Priestdaddy*, Lockwood interweaves emblematic moments from her childhood and adolescence - from an ill-fated family hunting trip and an abortion clinic sit-in where her father was arrested to her involvement in a cultlike Catholic youth group - with scenes that chronicle the eight-month adventure she and her husband had in her parents' household after a decade of living on their own. Lockwood details her education of a seminarian who is also living at the rectory, tries to explain Catholicism to her husband, who is mystified by its bloodthirstiness and arcane laws, and encounters a mysterious substance on a hotel bed with her mother. Lockwood pivots from the raunchy to the sublime, from the comic to the deeply serious, exploring issues of belief, belonging, and personhood. *Priestdaddy* is an entertaining, unforgettable portrait of a deeply odd religious upbringing and how one balances a hard-won identity with the weight of family and tradition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

The sentences are like great big treats to wrap your head around. The book is also flat-out funny.

Ms. Lockwood finds a unique way to say anything, but what is more gripping is her story: she runs away with a fellow lover of poetry and this man becomes her husband. They move back in with her Father, the all-consuming cheddar-devouring "Homey don't play that," lead of the book. Patricia never attends a dull MFA, never moves to a cool, hipster city, and still her poems are picked from a Newyorker slush pile because they are that damned good. Better still: the way she sees the world, colored by this early Catholic lens that animates her now secular readings of culture which are filled with all her father's bombast. Then there are sweet, touching moments, like her relaying of the life of a calm church handyman who endured much. I loved this book.

I highlighted a zillion sentences; she stamps out gems that will thrill word lovers and students of the human condition alike. Right up there with Frank Conroy's "Stop-Time" and Jeanette Walls's "The Glass Castle."

This book is written all chopped up. It doesn't flow as a book should. The subject sounds great. Reading it is not great.

Beautifully written. If you like Mary Karr and David Sedaris, give it a go.

Still reading, but very good

Entertaining summer read

Wonderful!

I devoured this book like a midwest Catholic at all-you-can-eat mostaccioli night. Best book I've read in a while, maybe ever. PL -- please write another book stat because I may not be able to read again until you do. Thank you muchly.

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