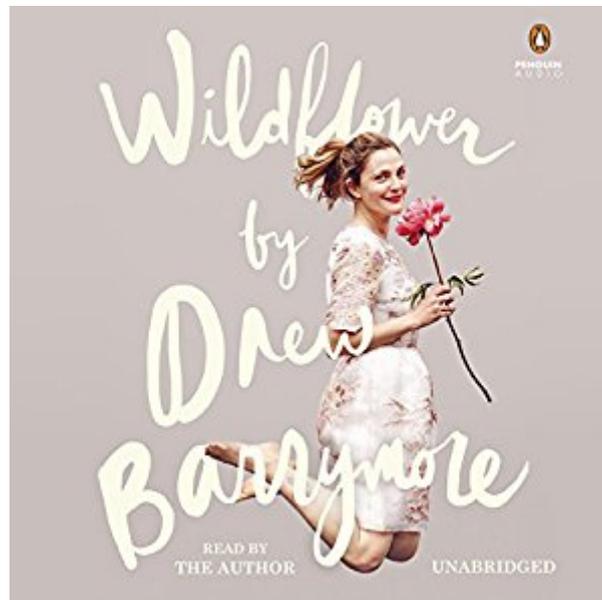


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# Wildflower



## Synopsis

Award-winning actress Drew Barrymore shares funny, insightful, and profound stories from her past and present told from the place of happiness she's achieved today. *Wildflower* is a portrait of Drew's life in stories as she looks back on the adventures, challenges, and incredible experiences of her earlier years. It includes tales of living on her own at 14 (and how laundry may have saved her life), getting stuck in a gas station overhang on a cross-country road trip, saying good-bye to her father in a way only he could have understood, and many more adventures and lessons that have led her to the successful, happy, and healthy place she is today. It is the first book Drew has written about her life since the age of 14.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 7 hours and 5 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Penguin Audio

Audible.com Release Date: October 27, 2015

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B0143PIT6Y

Best Sellers Rank: #39 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Humor > Essays #71 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Entertainers & Celebrities #118 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Essays

## Customer Reviews

While I grew up just loving Drew Barrymore, and even bought the audio version so I could hear her read it herself, I was very disappointed. As others noted, the disjointed chapters made it hard to keep an emotional investment in the book. You get to hear a meaningful story about her childhood and then one page later she's name dropping Cameron Diaz and talking about jumping out of a plane with her. Then back to her dad in another meaningful chapter, to talking about Adam Sandler and all the movies they've done together. Plus she uses the words "so" and "literally" way too often, and repeats figurative language many times throughout the book ("made a face like she ate a lemon"), something even more obvious to the reader when it is read to you. Lastly, I felt like she tried to prove a point that she's serious and proper and "a lady" even though I found her fun and

wild years something she should be far more proud of. She came off as rather prophetic and a teacher of life lessons and I didn't need an actress/producer author to tell me that I am the only thing standing in my way, you know. I was more interested in her stories and not a mini commercial about why her makeup line is amazing or that you just "choose happiness" and so forth.

I am a fan of Drew Barrymore's movies, and being of the same generation, I root for her. Sadly, I did not love this book, and I so wanted to. She is clear upfront that it is not a memoir, but I feel it should have been. The book lacked structure. As opposed to a memoir like Tina Fey's, Amy Poehler, Michael J Fox, Dick Van Dyke, etc., this book did not follow chronologically through her life; rather, it hopped randomly from topic to topic and through different time periods of her life. I felt like, had there been a clearer thread that tied the essays to each other, it would have been a more enjoyable read. Also, I felt that many of the essays were in a weird "middle place"-- not quite comedic, but not quite introspective either. It was almost like she didn't want to fully commit to a style, or was afraid to really let the reader in. I will remain a fan of her movies and production work, but felt she lacked direction as an author.

I am a huge fan of Drew...she just seems like an honest, down to earth person who made the best of her tumultuous past. I really wanted to love this book, but the style of writing and the disjointed tales made it hard to follow. This book is not a biography or memoir. It is a collection of memories in story form. Found myself losing interest about 1/3 of the way into each chapter. ..I think I enjoyed her radio and tv promos for the book, more than the book.

I cannot find the words to describe how rich and full of heart and love and beauty this book was. Drew is upfront from the start, this is a collection of stories, anecdotes and memories that you can pick up or put down any time you want to. This is just dipping in and out of different phases and moments in her life and I love that. She is such a wonderful storyteller, using her own insights and charming way to describe her adventures. Like how her beloved dog Flossy taught her how to love and look after someone, a gift that now lives on through her daughters. Or her friendships and special moments with longtime friends, how she taught herself to do things we take for granted, wild things that she did decades ago that still embarrass her every single day, her total love for and sisterhood with other women, her tremendous drive to be a better and worthy human. I wish I could thank her for giving us so much, this was a rad little book that I wish was 5 times as big because I devoured it in 1.5 days and didn't want it to end.

Let me preface this by saying I love Drew with all my heart. She's one of kind. That being said, her book is pretty dull. After reading Drew's book, I will now promise to steer clear of books by celebrities that are not "memoirs" but rather "stories" (ie Goldie Hawn, Debra Winger, Shirley MacLaine). The book is poorly organized in a chronological sense and many of the stories are incredibly self-involved. Many celebrities these days write "collections of stories" ala Chelsea Handler, however lacking the sophisticated eye and the comedic timing. I think many celebrities forget how different they are from civilians and believe that them sharing their life is in and of itself enlightening. Her story about taking her late dogs ashes to India and trying to make pancakes were pretty cloying. There are moments of brilliance and depth, but they are few and far between. In an attempt to keep her book "positive" it becomes pretty arduous. Also, after her wild child days it was disheartening to hear she has strong opinions about what is appropriate now and for her own daughters. She seems a little repressive and obsessed with having a perfect family. Not surprising, considering her upbringing. The book starts out strong and then falls off track. Not highly recommended

I enjoyed the book. I wish it was longer, filled with more stories. I always thought Drew's life was pretty cool as we all watched her grow up. I am sure there are many, many more stories in there. It was great reading the processes in which she went through to work out the issues she was having at each time in her life. I am so happy she came out on the bright side. I wish her nothing but continued happiness as surpluses overtakes her inner demons, one by one. A true treasure and a great read!

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