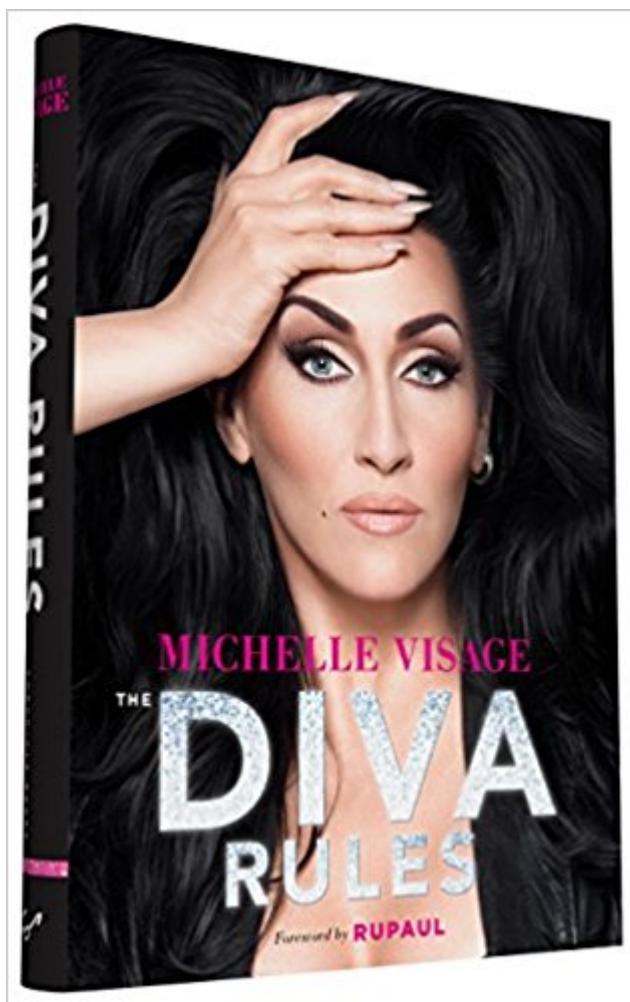


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The Diva Rules: Ditch The Drama, Find Your Strength, And Sparkle Your Way To The Top



Synopsis

Book Information

Hardcover: 216 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (47 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #66,321 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #105 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Self-Help & Psychology #165 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Love, Sex & Marriage #1099 in Books > Self-Help > Success

Customer Reviews

Part biography, part self-help ... ALL loving and glorious. In the beginning, there was the Drag Movement, and The Ms. Visage was Right There, Living it, Loving it, Taking Notes so she could encourage others to their most fabulous selves. Ladies and gents, Michelle Visage, along with RuPaul can easily be considered the standard bearers that brought the Queen Scene to national prominence ... refusing to allow some of our society's finest artists be condemned to painful silence. It takes grit, courage, focus, and a refusal to bow before any other ... yet to acknowledge and learn from competition, to stand up for one's own self in order to speak most clearly and passionately about what matters to us. For those who speak ill about her role in that tough-love judging on RuPaul's Drag Race, just know ... before we could openly declare our love and admiration for Queens, or even openly throw shade at their performance in competition (thereby admitting that we had even watched it), when people had to gather in parks to avoid violent action against them, and /or just be their selves, when tremendous artists were dying of AIDS and being shouted at that they deserved it, when all of that was happening, those self-same artists, those technicians of wonder, gave Michelle Visage their blessings and instilled in her hope that SHE would lead on their silenced too soon behalf. There can hardly be any greater honor. This book tells it: the Queen Scene, the Entertainment Scene, the Being One's Own Very Best Self without Apology, without Shame, without any need to harm others to raise oneself.

Michelle Visage is the very epitome of a diva, having graced stage and screen as a singer, television host, radio DJ, and (of course) judge on RuPaul's Drag Race. Her professional association with RuPaul actually goes back to 1996, when she began co-hosting The RuPaul show for VH1, before going on to co-host a morning radio show with RuPaul for six years, and even singing on RuPaul's Christmas album. The Diva Rules collects the same kind of frank, sparkling wisdom Visage shares with Drag Race contestants every week. It is a smart, sassy, no-nonsense kind of book full of chapters like Be thankful you're a misfit (Rule 2), Keep your s*** together (Rule 2), and Screw the penis club (Rule 17). A humorous sort of self-help guide, it mixes equal doses of wit and wisdom in laying out her 25 Diva Rules. Visage writes in the first chapter that "All divas, no matter what size, sex, race, orientation, class, or fashion sense, are beautiful," and that is what this book is about. It is not about costuming, creating a persona, or passing as someone or something else. It is about embracing who you are and recognizing that beauty isn't skin deep, it is what's beneath the skin. She doesn't encourage us to fit in or be normal, but to reject just being average and be thankful for what makes us stand out from the crowd. Rule 14 and Rule 22 are

probably my favourite chapters, and the ones most likely to resonate with readers of Frock. In them, Visage writes about how playing with our appearance can allow us to express ourselves and ultimately change our own self-image . . . before cautioning us not to rely on our bodies, and to never accept our bodies as our only or most important asset.

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