



## This Is Ridiculous This Is Amazing: Parenthood in 71 Lists

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Author and family man Jason Good delivers a laugh-out-loud reminder that everything is easier and more fun when approached with a sense of humor—especially parenting. Each list captures a perfect (or perfectly terrible) aspect of parenthood while wholeheartedly embracing every moment: "You Deserve a Break" offers ideas for downtime, such as giving blood and untangling cords, while "Self-Help from a Three-Year-Old" collects such wisdom as "If you fall down, stay down. Someone will pick you up eventually." Sweet, sincere, and oh-so-true, this is the ideal gift for parents who could use a laugh. And isn't that every single one of them?

## This Is Ridiculous This Is Amazing: Parenthood in 71 Lists Details

Date : Published May 13th 2014 by Chronicle Books (first published April 18th 2014)

ISBN :

Author : Jason Good

Format : Hardcover 144 pages

Genre : Humor, Parenting, Nonfiction, Adult



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## **From Reader Review This Is Ridiculous This Is Amazing: Parenthood in 71 Lists for online ebook**

### **Kim Bongiorno says**

Here's why you should buy this book: People like Jason Good deserve to get paid to be professional writers. This guy is funny—absolutely—but he's also modeling what it's like to be a good human being (and we need more of that these days). He's a loving dad with a great sense of humor, an understanding husband who doesn't undervalue his partner. As someone who has been a parent for nine years, myself, I've found that family life can be summed up perfectly with Good's own words: "...even suffering is kind of fun when we do it together."

From travel tips to games that might let you nap, creative cursing to things he'll miss when his kids grow up, the reasons why he's fat now to the many uses of baby wipes, and the made-me-cackle-out-loud kindergarten spelling section, he's making himself the malleable victim of his jokes, without making himself look a fool—or like a bad dad. In this book? Everybody wins.

Jason Good's book was a fresh, fun read that reminded me I'm not alone in either my kid-induced madness or adoration of the little ones who make me that way. I can't wait to read whatever he writes next.

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### **Evan says**

The lists of "Things You'll No Longer Need," "Things You'll No Longer Do," and "The New and Wonderful New Things You'll Get to Do" are **VERY ACCURATE**.

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### **Susan Bazzett-Griffith says**

This is a funny book of lists about life as a parent. Most hit the mark, while a couple made my feminist eyebrows raise. Perfect for bathroom reading or as a book for moms too busy or tired to read in the two minutes they may get to themselves each day because most chapters average about 13 sentences and will make them smile or giggle. Three stars because it's a little too insubstantial to award a 4th, not because I didn't enjoy it.

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### **Guinevere Mare says**

Got my hands on an advance of Jason Good's forthcoming book and read it on a flight home for the holidays. I was laughing out loud the whole way through. Without children, some of the gallows humor might be lost on you, but any parent who can appreciate the fierce loathing a three-year-old has for pants will love it. The self-proclaimed "parenting spirit animal" made holiday travel with a small child actually enjoyable--no small feat.

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## **Mari Rydings says**

If you are a parent with a sense of humor who isn't afraid to admit the way you REALLY parent at times, then you will love this little book. I laughed out loud so many times!

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## **Chris says**

This fun little book adds a nice humor to the pains of parenting. Anyone with little children running around will tell you that trying to understand the world of children can be a difficult challenge and if you try to figure it out on a literal sense, even the child will think you are crazy for thinking that. What's funny is that when a parent says back what a child just says, it sounds weird and confusing and very unreal, but ask a child what they said and it is very real and true. "Dad, my pancakes this morning don't want me to eat them because they like being pancakes so I want to save them and put them in my room and call them 'Tom' and 'Larry.'"

The lists that the author created in this book ring true for most occasions in a parent's life that let their kids be kids. I've always wondered how it happens but once you have kids it seems that everything in the house, especially the remote controls (and now any tablet device) becomes greasy and sticky out of the blue. Even if you were to try and figure out how it got sticky in the first place you won't be able to figure out the mystery.

I did like the letter he wrote to his son about living his life and love. He made sure to include both sides (what to look for in a girl or what to look for in a guy) to his son's feelings incase he was either one of them. You can't assume anymore that your child will grow up the way you want them too, that's too selfish of yourself to think like that. As your child grows they develop their own feelings, their own thoughts, and even beliefs so remember to respect them or at least try to understand them.

That was his humor in all of this book. You have to see the funny side of parenting (bathing with your child and how much fun it is for your child but hell for the parent) because if you don't you will go crazy trying to make your child follow all these arbitrary rules that have no real meaning to them.

Things to glean from this book-

- If you've never made a fort with your son with your living couch cushions because you think it will cause a mess, you are missing out on the joy of having a son or even daughter.
- If you've never camped out in your own backyard in a tent with your kids and told scary ghost stories while eating fun snack foods, again you're missing out.
- Instead of trying to correct or make sense of what your child is saying you just go with the story and add to it. They will think you are funny but will love you even more for being funny.
- Sleeping with kids can be a challenge, seeing how you might end up with a foot in your face the next morning, but to them their fun slumber parties.

Yes, raising kids is a challenge and not for people who think life is all about following the rules. They will tug at your heart strings, make you laugh, make you wish you could think like a kid again, but they remind you that life moves pretty damn fast and before you know it they are going on dates and heading to college and if all you did was make them follow the rules while living in your house you missed out on some pretty

great moments with them. Kids remind us that change is important and growth is never ending so enjoy it while you can and never go imagining crazy stories.

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### **Pat Elvidge says**

this book is laugh out loud funny and for parents who admit things dont always go to plan bringing up children its a must read.five stars and worth every star !!!!

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### **Jen Mann says**

I was lucky enough to receive an advance copy of this book and I've been laughing ever since it arrived in my box. Each one of Jason's lists is better than the last, but my favorite is "Baby Wipes Forever," because my kids are well past the diaper age, but I still buy baby wipes in bulk, because I can use them for everything! Do yourself a favor and get this book and then get two more for some friends of yours.

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### **Sylvester says**

Maybe only parents of toddlers will find this funny. I laughed and snorted till the tears ran down my face. The truth is funny. The problem with parenting is that I take it too seriously. I think I can do it right if I study and worry at it enough. But I've realized that all I can expect for sure is that I'm going to be a bad parent. What I really need in all this, is to see how ridiculous it is. To laugh my butt off at myself and everyone like me, and let it go, let it be. Thanks, Jason. I laughed - I'm still laughing. I needed that. The strange thing is, the person who got me through the hard bit before the Toddler Thing happened was a comedian too. Laughter is the preserver of sanity in this house, it seems.

I'm starting one of my own lists.

#### Things I Never Thought I'd Hear Myself Say

1. "Stop chewing the table!"
2. "No! You can't have chips until you finish your ice cream."

I'll add to it as I go along if I remember.

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### **Greg Hodgson-Fopp says**

Go to the google homepage, type in "Silly Parenthood Lists". Your results list will be more entertaining than this book. In my opinion, the author did not contribute anything particularly funny, meaningful or new to the

genre that Buzzfeed and various Mommy-Blogs haven't already covered.

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### **Pamela says**

This book was hilarious! I definitely recommend it to any friends that have kids under the age of 5! It would be a great "stocking stuffer" for a spouse, for sure! It is written as a series of lists, making it super easy to pick up and put down as you're taking care of your own little ones. Very fun!

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### **Danica Midlil says**

Laughed so hard that tears were pouring down my face and I had to cross my legs to keep from peeing. That's pretty damn funny.

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### **jess says**

This is a solid 2-star read. There are many cliche jokes about the tyranny of toddlers, which actually are funny if you haven't slept in 2 years and you are living the dream, but maybe not funny to anyone else. There are entire chapters about tired gender norms and roles, which is just exhausting and mind-numbing. I mean, I recognize that the hallmark of a feminist in her 30s is mounting frustration with the complete lack of incremental change in people's lived lives, but come on. Moms can and do mow the yard. Can we just get to a point where such stupid jokes aren't "funny"? I want to read a humor book about parenting by a dad where the humor isn't shored up on the inequity of parenthood, but I haven't found it yet.

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### **Lisa says**

Very cute.

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### **Lorilin says**

I read this book while strapped to The Pump, with my 4-year old and 2-year old wailing on each other in the other room and my 3-month old screaming from his bouncy seat right next to me...and I have to say that this book made me feel so, so much better about life.

I don't consider myself someone who readily laughs out loud at books (especially at this point in my uber-stressed life), but this book had me honest-to-god, from-the-belly laughing. Jason Good is funny. And you're going to have to be a parent (probably of multiple kids) to understand just how funny he is. If you've never been sleep-deprived to the point of weeping for no reason or experiencing mild hallucinations or asking yourself questions like, "Do I have pants on?" (I'm being serious), this book simply won't resonate with you as it should.

But if you have, then you are going to want to read This Is Ridiculous This Is Amazing. These lists cover so many of the impossibly trying situations that parents deal with, yet Good presents them in a way that somehow makes all the frustration and worry and despair okay. He is self-deprecating and honest, but also forgiving and kind--to himself and to all of the parents who are exhausted and trying, who feel that, despite giving everything they have, they are still falling short.

Here are excerpts from some of my favorite lists:

Oh, but the New and Wonderful New Things You'll Get to Do - Once you have kids, life as you once knew it is over, but you do get to experience new things like...

#01 - Butter a piece of toast while peeing

#11 - Wipe somebody's nose with your bare hand

#16 - Almost agree to cut up a raisin

# 21- Let someone watch you pee as they stare blankly while eating a Popsicle

Nap Guilt - If you take a nap while your partner is "on duty" you're going to have to make it up to her.

You Deserve a Break - "Before having a family, taking out the garbage was a chore. Now it's a thirty-second vacation." And he's right! Filling out insurance forms and taking the cat to the vet DO actually feel like an amazing vacation from my children.

Parenting the Firstborn vs. the Second-born

Food for the firstborn: all homemade in special baby food-processor. For the second-born: crackers.

Bathing the firstborn: every night in a special bathtub that's just the right size. The second-born: twice a week; swimming pools count.

TV rules for the firstborn: two 23-minute episodes of Sesame Street per day. For the second-born: has his own Netflix account.

Thank you, Jason Good, for making me feel okay about myself again. I'm so glad I'm not alone.

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