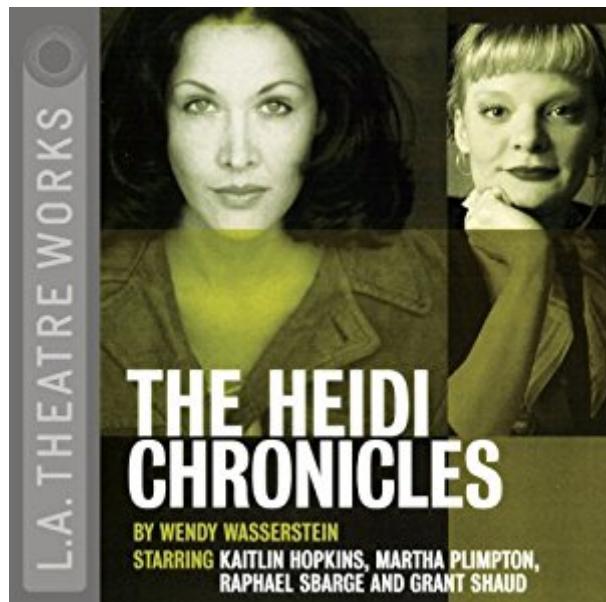


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The Heidi Chronicles



Synopsis

Wendy Wasserstein's Pulitzer Prize-winning play is the tale of a baby-boomer's long, hard road from 1960s confusion to 1990s self-assured woman...or so she hopes. An L.A. Theatre Works full cast performance featuring: Lisa Akey as Fran/Betsy/April/Kosha Engler as Becky/Clara/Denise/Kaitlin Hopkins as Heidi Holland/Barbara Klein as Jill/Molly/Lisa Pelikan as Debbie/Lisa/Hostess/Martha Plimpton as Susan Johnston/Scot Reese as Chris Boxer/Mark/TV Attendant/Waiter/Ray/Raphael Sbarge as Peter Patrone/Grant Shaud as Scoop Rosenbaum. Directed by Molly Smith. Recorded before an audience by L.A. Theatre Works. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Version: Original recording

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Customer Reviews

Wendy Wasserstein won both the 1989 Pulitzer and Tony awards for this play that spans 24 years in the life of Dr. Heidi Holland (17 to 41 or so). Like Wasserstein, Heidi is a baby boomer who has liberal politics, even more liberal friends, and has been wildly successful in her field. I have not read any interviews with Wasserstein, but Heidi states a long sadness at not having a husband or a family. Reading this in 2017, I found it fascinating that a play written in 1988 had a scene from 1982 where one woman asks another woman, "A lot of women are beginning to feel you can't have it all. Do you think it's time to compromise?" (50). Obviously, the debate over whether or not women can have it all is still going on. In a scene from 1986, Heidi describes a super woman's day that involves her work, food, exercise, successful children, successful husband, wonderful friends, excellent sex life, continual learning, many hobbies, and general adoration from everyone else. Much like the

previous paragraph, it could fit into any number of 2017 books, plays, movies, tv shows or women's magazines. This play does a nice job of providing stage directions for the changing music and clothes as it jumps ahead 2 to 3 years at a time. For people that are not sympathetic to the 60s and 70s women's movement, they will find a number of characters offensive. In addition to addressing the plight of women, there is a sub theme about homosexual men and a brief few lines about the AIDS epidemic of the 1980s. That is handled quite well. There are a few moments of great dialogue, but this play that was such a hit in 1988 is neither very entertaining nor moving. The fact that it points out several issues that are still relevant (they haven't been fixed, which means that either the women in the play were failures or that society is much harder to change than one would like...or a bit of both) is why it gets three stars instead of two.

Not only is *The Heidi Chronicles* wonderful, but so are the other plays. I love *Isn't It Romantic* and *Uncommon Women and Others*. I bought multiple copies and had friends over to read *The Heidi Chronicles* out loud for book club. It was a great night. I also hosted a group of girls graduating high school and their moms and had them read the play *Uncommon Women and Others* out loud and they loved it. I think it's a perfect mother-daughter read-out-loud with friends play.

Was easy enough to read, and required for a class. Could have been bound better

I ordered this initially because the DVD of the same name does not have closed captions and I am hard of hearing. It is a good script, but the movie doesn't follow it exactly. Wendy Wasserstein is a playwright of my generation and I like how she captures so many of the dilemmas women I know went through at the times the book covers.

Fun and prescient.

meh.

Pages fell out after only a couple days of owning it. One page cropped the right side of the page out, and you could not read all of the text.

I thought this was okay but kind of difficult to follow.

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