



Love Busters: Overcoming the Habits That Destroy Romantic Love

Willard F. Harley Jr.

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Helps readers identify and overcome the five most common destructive habits that threaten marriages.

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From Reader Review Love Busters: Overcoming the Habits That Destroy Romantic Love for online ebook

Heather says

For a non-fiction, self-help book I really liked this one. It really makes things easy to understand, as far as interpreting your marriage. I love the way he explains that we each have Love Banks and that certain, negative actions make withdrawals while other, positive actions make deposits. I look forward to eliminating the love busters from my marriage and moving on to read, 'His Needs, Her Needs' to learn about how to make more love deposits.

He offers examples from couples he has counseled, which I feel helped me understand the issue he was discussing, give illustration on how to put the tools to work, and hope that it WILL work as the couples were successful.

Christie says

A good companion for "His Needs, Her Needs."

Aimee says

Probably the most important book on marriage I've ever read (after the Bible, of course). It "called me out" on some things that I'd never addressed squarely before. I read this book as part of a marriage enrichment class offered at my church, Fairfax Church of Christ. The impact of the class, including this book, was profound.

Rachel says

A great book. I think if both people were prepared to embrace his suggestions a wonderful relationship would result. It all sounds very sensible. His ideas about our Giver & Taker made a great deal of sense to me. He seems slightly dogmatic and repetitive at times but also has the feeling of a wise person with a huge volume of experience.

Chad Eddy says

If you want to take your marriage from bad to good, or from good to great, this book is a great resource for you!

Max says

This was a bit cheesy, but it turned out to be better than I originally thought it would be. For me, the main takeaway was that in order for marriage to be successful it really has to be your priority. Family, friends, career, and interests are important, but if you prioritize them above your marriage, your marriage will probably suffer. And since your marriage is an extremely important part of your life, both qualitatively and quantitatively, it probably makes sense to make it such a priority.

Randi says

Overall, this book is a great read as ways to fight and compromise healthily in your relationship. There are a lot of healthy approaches to conflict in this that I really appreciated. It seems like the kind of book to read if you're "on the rocks," but it's actually a great book to read just because you want a healthy long term relationship.

HOWEVER, there is a sub-chapter called "Does Sin Make Sex Painful?" under the fighting about sex chapter that 1. made me knock a star off the rating 2. made me second guess the author's credibility. You see, this part covers something called vaginismus, but everything that the author talks about is WILDLY untrue. If you are having any issues similar to what's described in this part of the book, do NOT follow any of his guidance. It will make it so much worse. Seek medical professionals but also do your own research on the topic! In short, it is NOT caused by tearing or infection, and it is NOT cured that quickly or by the terrible method he describes. Genuinely, you will make it worse if you follow this author's advice. This chapter made me so, so angry. He clearly has no idea what he's talking about, and this particular story (at least) is clearly completely fake and impossible, and the misconceptions are very dangerous for anyone who may recognize any of their own situation in the story.

Edit: I am so angry about this dangerous misinformation, that I am actually lowering my rating to two stars.

Marjanne says

While I thought this book was a worthwhile read, I don't feel like it changed me much. Dr. Harley has some good ideas for resolving marriage conflicts, as well as how to maintain a romantic relationship. However, I'm not sure I agree with everything he suggests and I probably won't be integrating all of his suggestions into my marriage. I have read His Needs, Her Needs and thought it was more helpful to me.

Heather says

I can't help it: every time I say or read the title of this book, it's always to the tune of Ghostbusters.

Anyway...

This book was interesting -- when he would introduce a topic, I would think that it seemed too simplistic, but then he would expound and then it made complete sense. For example, one of the "love busters" is annoying

habits (like the way someone sits, eats, takes care of themselves, etc.) and it seemed a little silly, but then as he explained it, I could totally understand how something seemingly small could have bigger consequences. Another example was how the idea of a "love bank" seemed silly to me at first, but then it made so much sense and became something I'm going to focus on in my relationship with my husband. I appreciated this book and it has shown me many ways to take my marriage (which is already pretty darn good, if do say so) to an even better level.

One note, I wish he didn't read the audiobook. I had it on 1.5x and 2.0x speed the whole time because he talked so slowly and his voice is pretty boring. So there's that.

Monica Willyard says

In this book, the Author describes five behaviors that he says destroy romantic relationships as well as friendships. He calls them love busters. He offers a plan for identifying which of these behaviors are involved in your relationship and then teaches you how to reduce them or illuminate them all together. I found this book to be helpful and think it's definitely worth reading, despite its age.

Dave Johnson says

This was decent, but there's a LOT of reused content from his other books here. I thought many points were useful, though. It mostly seems as a book for marriages on life-support that are under threat of imminent divorce. Thankfully, my marriage isn't anywhere close. I can highly recommend He Wins She Wins, which has a lot of same content but condensed. I plan to read His Needs Her Needs--apparently I'm doing this all out of order. haha. I think I need a break from marriage/family books for a while. :)

Sally says

I found Dr. Harley's book to be a great source for understanding how and why we love our spouse one day and can barely tolerate them the next. It's like a checking account: making deposits and making withdraws.

No book is going to change you, that is something that you have to want to do for yourself. If you truly desire to be a better person, which will make you a better spouse, you will find guidance within these pages.

One word of caution - if your intention is to read this book in the hopes of getting your spouse to change - save yourself the time and effort. You only have control over yourself, no one else.

I can honestly say that after reading this book, I can see where my actions, words, and deeds made deposits and withdraws. The delivery of the information helps you understand how our actions and words affect our loved ones.

Sorento62 says

The advice is a little extreme at times, but overall, the principles are sound and thought provoking. Worth while.

Anne says

My hubby and I are best friends and have been married 14 years. We got the first book His Needs Her Needs years ago, which we reread at least yearly. Last month I bought this book for us to read. Just like His Needs, Her Needs it has changed our lives, instantly. Out of all the marriage books we love his best. Dr. Harley just gets to the point and helps you clearly be able to help yourselves. We love working on our marriage and these books have helped us grow even closer.

I'd say marriages are like car engines if they don't get oil all sorts of bad things happen over time and eventually fail. His books are like oil for your marital engine. If we keep growing, improving, loving, and changing with our spouse, our lives will be so much happier!

Nicole says

There is an old saying, "When the student is ready, the teacher will appear".

Learning about these Love Busters--and seeing them in myself--have helped me more in my marriage than anything else I have read. This book, and it's companion, "His Needs Her Needs" receive my highest recommendation!
