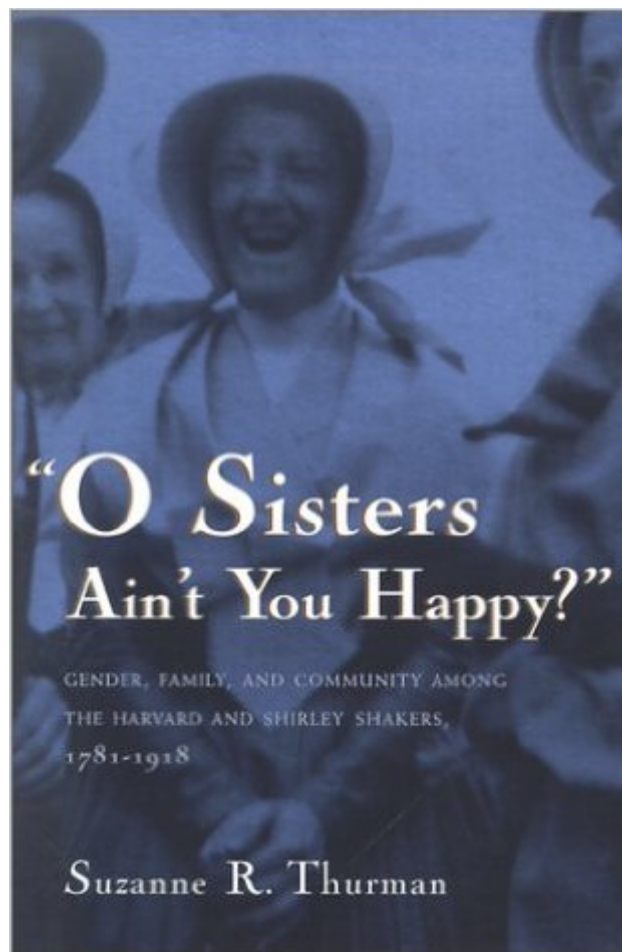


The book was found

O Sisters Ain't You Happy?: Gender, Family, And Community Among The Harvard And Shirley Shakers, 1781-1918 (Women And Gender In Religion)



Synopsis

Drawing on archival material from Shaker members, observers, and apostates, noted historian Suzanne R. Thurman offers a scholarly yet eminently readable study of life in two of the oldest, most prominent American Shaker villages: the Harvard and Shirley communities of Massachusetts. Even as she delves into the complex fabric of Shaker social life, Thurman challenges traditional perceptions of gender roles within the community. Shaker spiritual and social ethics, she points out, strongly favored women. Celibacy and an androgynous theology, for instance, allowed androgynous social roles to evolve. Another key factor was the lively arena of nineteenth-century reformers and intellectuals in nearby Boston. With admirable detail, Thurman documents the relationship that grew between these forward thinkers and the Believers. Their influence, she argues, enlightened Shaker consciousness and empowered their women of Harvard and Shirley with opportunities denied them in the world at large. The author also explores links, particularly economic, between Shakers and the greater American society. Treating Harvard and Shirley Believers as an idiosyncratic part of the nation rather than a fringe group, Thurman sheds new light on their constant struggle to be in the world but not of it.

Book Information

Series: Women and Gender in Religion

Paperback: 262 pages

Publisher: Syracuse University Press (December 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0815629346

ISBN-13: 978-0815629344

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.6 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,766,880 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #95 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Protestantism > Shaker](#) #8667 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Gender Studies > General](#) #11787 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Specific Demographics > Ethnic Studies](#)

Customer Reviews

If you have any interest in the Shakers, the Revivalist period in America, other models for families, and the evolution of gender roles, you must read this book. You will learn more than you can

imagine. The material is well organized, and for a book of its type, it is a good read. The author has apparently spent much of her lifetime in research. I appreciate that she never gave me the sense that she was trying to push an agenda.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

O Sisters Ain't You Happy?: Gender, Family, and Community Among the Harvard and Shirley Shakers, 1781-1918 (Women and Gender in Religion) The Intimate Universal: The Hidden Porosity Among Religion, Art, Philosophy, and Politics (Insurrections: Critical Studies in Religion, Politics, and Culture) Women in Shaker Community and Worship: A Feminist Analysis of the Uses of Religious Symbolism (Studies in Women and Religion) Acute Melancholia and Other Essays: Mysticism, History, and the Study of Religion (Gender, Theory, and Religion) Gender Born, Gender Made: Raising Healthy Gender-Nonconforming Children The Harvard Concise Dictionary of Music and Musicians (Harvard University Press Reference Library) Harvard Business Review on Work and Life Balance (Harvard Business Review Paperback Series) 65 Successful Harvard Business School Application Essays, Second Edition: With Analysis by the Staff of The Harbus, the Harvard Business School Newspaper The Harvard Dictionary of Music (Harvard University Press Reference Library) The Harvard Medical School Guide to Men's Health: Lessons from the Harvard Men's Health Studies (Well-Being Centre = Centre Du Mieux-Etre (Collection)) The Harvard Business School Guide to Careers in the Nonprofit Sector (A Harvard Business School Career Guide) Harvard Business Review on Pricing (Harvard Business Review Paperback) Spirit Possession and Popular Religion: From the old world to the new world: Origins of the Shakers Shakers, Mormons, and Religious Worlds: Conflicting Visions, Contested Boundaries (Religion in North America) Happy, Happy, Happy: My Life and Legacy as the Duck Commander Gender and Jim Crow: Women and the Politics of White Supremacy in North Carolina, 1896-1920 (Gender and American Culture) The Courthouses of Central Texas (Clifton and Shirley Caldwell Texas Heritage) Givens, Shirley - Adventures in Violinland, Book 1C: Meet the Bow - Arioso Press Publication Shirley Jackson: A Rather Haunted Life Injustice: Gods Among Us: Year Four (2014-) Vol. 2 (Injustice: Gods Among Us (2013-))

[Dmca](#)