



# Star-Spangled Manners: In Which Miss Manners Defends American Etiquette (For a Change)

*Judith Martin*

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**"Wonderfully wicked....A bracingly sensible guide to living peaceably together."?Francine Prose, *Elle***

In this "wryly perceptive, historically informed" (*BookPage*) new book, America's leading expert on civility reminds her Gentle Readers that when the Founding Fathers created a revolution in the name of individual liberty and equality, they also took a stand against hierarchical European etiquette in favor of simplicity over ceremony, and personal dignity over obsequiousness to our rulers.

Hailed by George Will as "The National Bureau of Standards," Judith Martin, who has "made etiquette writing an exercise in wit" (*Book*), recounts here how Americans fashioned this etiquette of egalitarian respect?a fascinating story that spans from the misunderstood origins of our table manners to the much overlooked legacy of African slaves to etiquette. 10 illustrations

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