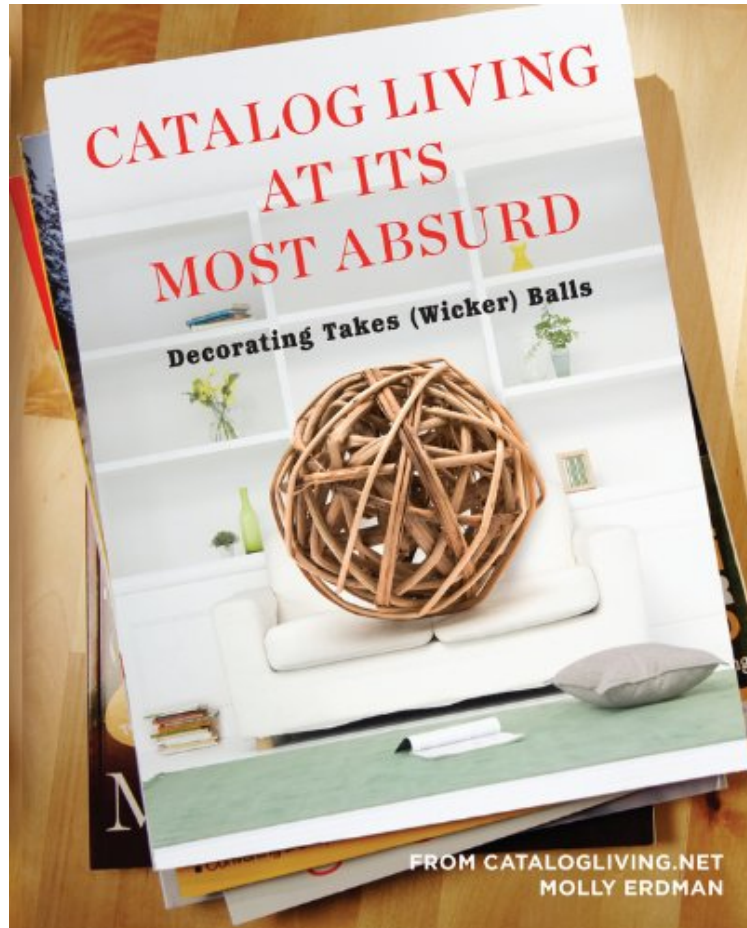


Catalog Living at Its Most Absurd: Decorating Takes (Wicker) Balls

Molly Erdman

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Molly Erdman : **Catalog Living at Its Most Absurd: Decorating Takes (Wicker) Balls** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Catalog Living at Its Most Absurd: Decorating Takes (Wicker) Balls:

18 of 19 people found the following review helpful. Not near as good as the websiteBy StephenI love the Catalog Living website. The photos are absurd, and the comments make you laugh out loud. I was so excited about this book and bought it as a gift for someone else I know who loves the blog.However, I'm glad looked at the book before giving it as a gift. It is not remotely as funny, mainly because the images aren't that funny.On the actual Catalog Living website, the authors use actual images from catalogs like Pottery Barn, west elm, etc. However, for the book, they went out and bought stock images from websites like istockphoto (it says so in the book ... I'm guessing it was so they'd own the rights to the images?) -- these stock images aren't nearly as ridiculous as the catalog images, so even though the writing style is similar to the Catalog Living website, you won't catch yourself laughing out loud.I would say I appreciate their attempt at the book, but in the end I felt like I'd been taken. The book is called Catalog Living -- and the website uses images from catalogs -- yet the book doesn't.I'm still a fan of the website, but don't recommend

this book.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Funny but shortBy Ly GI originally happened upon this on Twitter. I loved the idea and ridiculous photos they always find. I was super excited to find this book on sale. I like the chapter intros and the pictures are exactly what you would expect from reading the site. short but a good happy laugh.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Laugh out loud funnyBy EnglishMajorHighlights from the ongoing hilarious website, "Catalog Living." If you're on the mailing list of any of the upscale home furnishings catalogs (Williams Sonoma, Frontgate, Horchow, Restoration Hardware, et al.) - who among shoppers is not - you've seen the ridiculous ad layouts wondered, Why would someone drape a scarf over the side of their bed onto the carpet then leave pears on it? Or place a trio of woven wicker balls beside their toilet? Or use a rake as a snow removal tool? Well, Molly Erdman has the answer: Gary Elaine. Okay, the book is a little on the pricey side, but it's a great holiday gift for the friends on YOUR mailing list, especially that interior designer who way overcharged you for some throw cushions.

Started in 2010, Catalog Living takes a humorous look at the people who live inside home furnishing catalogs. The site has received over 4.3 million hits and has been featured in stories by The Chicago Tribune, NPR's Marketplace, and The Associated Press. Catalog Living was named one of Time Magazine's Top 25 Blogs of 2011. Millions have already been to Gary and Elaine's. Isn't it time you dropped by? Have you ever flipped through the pages of a Pottery Barn catalog and thought, "Who actually lives that way?" Rest assured, you are not alone. Pushed too far by a photo depicting a plate of figs placed under a table, actor and Second City-alum Molly Erdman created Gary and Elaine, a well-heeled and deeply superficial couple living happily amongst abundantly pillowed chairs, giant abacuses, and decorative fruit. Inspired by Erdman's popular blog Catalog Living, Decorating Takes (Wicker) Balls takes home decor catalog photos and sends them up with wickedly funny captions mockumenting Gary and Elaine, their lives, and their absurdly over-decorated rooms. Praise for www.catalogliving.net: "Catalog Living's" taps into thoughts many have had hellip; about how things are sold to us."mdash;Chicago Tribune"Hilarious."mdash;TheFrisky.com"Laugh-out-loud."mdash;Country LivingFrom the Trade Paperback edition.