

mennonite in a little black dress

RHODA JANZEN

Read by Hillary Huber

"Janzen looks at her childhood religion with fresh, twinkling eyes....Janzen is always ready to gently turn the humor back on herself, though, and women will immediately warm to the self-deprecating honesty with which she describes the efforts of friends and family to help her reestablish her emotional well-being."

—Publishers Weekly (starred review)

Not long after Rhoda Janzen turned forty, her world turned upside-down. Her husband announced he was leaving her for Bob, a guy he met on Gay.com—and that same week a car accident left her with serious injuries.

Under circumstances like these, what was a gal to do? Naturally, Rhoda returned home to her close-knit Mennonite family. She was now more at ease sipping cocktails with fellow academics than sitting in a conservative church, but the oddball Mennonite community welcomed her broken body and soul with open arms and generous advice. It is in this safe place that Rhoda came to terms with her failed marriage; her desire, as a young woman, to leave her sheltered world behind; and the choices that both freed and entrapped her.

Written with wry humor and huge personality, *Mennonite in a Little Black Dress* is an immensely moving memoir of healing, certain to touch anyone who has ever had to look homeward in order to move ahead.

RHODA JANZEN is the author of *Babel's Stair*, a collection of poems, and her poems have also appeared in *Poetry*, *The Yale Review*, *The Gettysburg Review*, and *The Southern Review*. She teaches English and creative writing at Hope College in Holland, Michigan.



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Unabridged

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Read by Hillary Huber

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