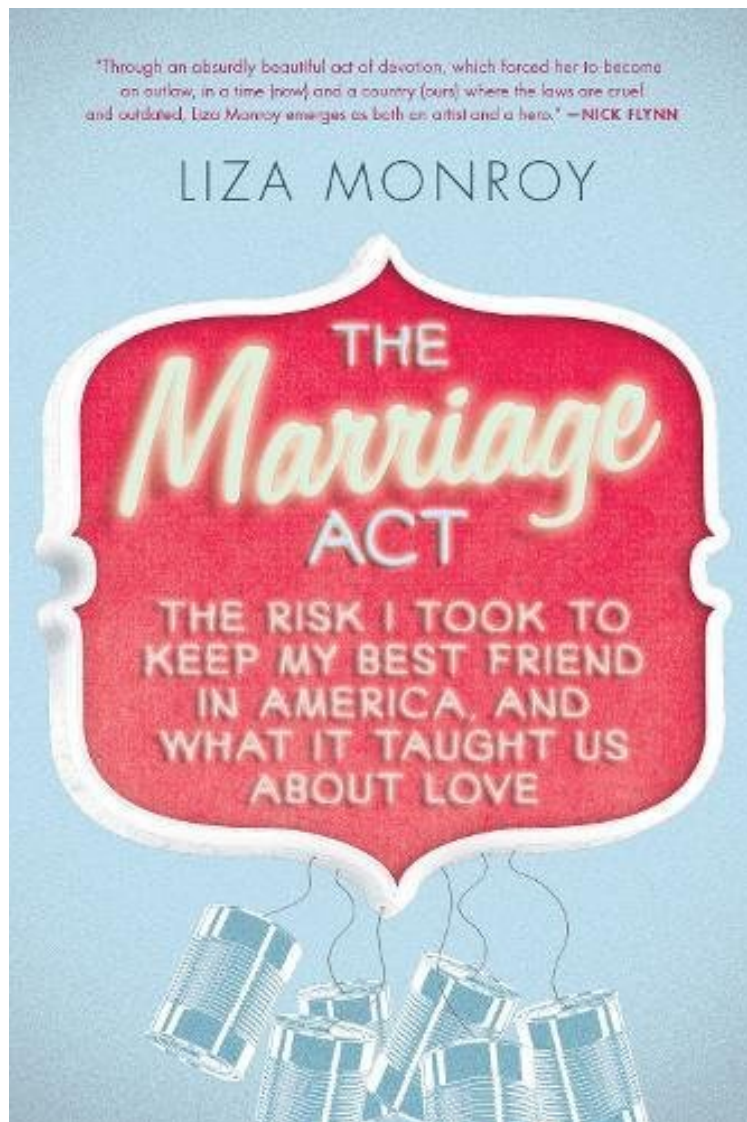


(Free read ebook) The Marriage Act: The Risk I Took to Keep My Best Friend in America, and What It Taught Us About Love

The Marriage Act: The Risk I Took to Keep My Best Friend in America, and What It Taught Us About Love

Liza Monroy

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Liza Monroy : The Marriage Act: The Risk I Took to Keep My Best Friend in America, and What It Taught Us About Love before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Marriage Act: The Risk I Took to Keep My Best Friend in America, and What It Taught Us About Love:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The recorded version offers even moreBy Tina MartinI had the

chance to hear Liza Monroy read from *The Marriage Act* on a book tour, and she was very entertaining. I got the recorded version of the book, which she herself recorded, and as I listened I recalled Daria of the animated series by that name. I also got the book in print so I could mark the passages that I wanted to share with others. One of the people I shared it with back: "Her story was very intriguing, and I liked how she didn't make herself out as a martyr or boast about her willingness to help Emir, but was rather frank about her selfishness. It makes one think about what kind of love is privileged in our society-- even now, heterosexual married love trumps many other very important relationships." 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Honest book with depth of emotion
By SeattleGourmetI loved this book. It is the story of a young woman who tries to help her best friend who is gay get a green card. It is a story of love and compassion. I savored this book, even though it was a page turner. This is one of the best I have read this year!!! 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Autobiographical material that reads like a novel
By Suzanne Cane y OlveraWhat a lovely book. I did not think anyone would do what Liza Monroy did at such great risk to herself. Not only is this a lovely human being, but she is an excellent writer as well. Biographies so often tend to be boring. However, although this book is autobiographical, it holds one's interest throughout. Even though it is not a mystery novel, it is written almost as if it were.

After her traditional engagement to her high school sweetheart falls apart, Liza Monroy faced the prospect of another devastating loss: the deportation of her best friend Emir. Desperate to stay in America, Emir tried every legal recourse to obtain a green card knowing that his return to the Middle East where gay men are often beaten and sometimes killed was too dangerous. So Liza proposes to Emir in efforts to keep him safe and by her side. After a fast wedding in Las Vegas, the couple faces new adventures and obstacles in both L.A. and New York City as they dodge the INS. Their relationship is compounded further by the fact that Liza's mother works for the State Department preventing immigration fraud. Through it all, Liza and Emir must contend with professional ambition, adversity, and heartbreak and eventually learn the true lessons of companionship and devotion. This marriage that was not a marriage, in the end, really was. *The Marriage Act* is a timely and topical look at the changing face of marriage in America and speaks to the emergent generation forming bonds outside of tradition and sometimes even outside the law.

From Booklist *Starred * Despite its breezy style, Monroy's provocative memoir offers more emotional food for thought than can possibly be digested in one sitting. After only reading the introduction, one might wish to remain quiet for a few minutes and ponder her use of the phrase gender-neutral marriage. As it applies to what is more commonly referred to as same-sex marriage, the phrase tones down the hot-button image implied by the words same sex. Which, as her experience so powerfully testifies, is arguably the least important element of a contractual agreement between two people who genuinely love one another. It is perhaps the ideal way to perceive of such civil unions, one that encompasses everyone's right to a legal marriage, regardless of the ability or intention to procreate. As such, this phraseology perfectly embodies Monroy's intentional marriage to a gay man. The gay man, you see, was in danger of being deported back to a country where he would most certainly have been tortured and killed. So, as his best friend, she proposed a green card marriage. Though fraught with one psychological or legal time bomb after another, the marriage worked, despite the unimaginable odds. The book is bright. Its chatty. But Monroy manages to deliver a hefty emotional wallop. --Donna Chavez
Despite its breezy style, Monroy's provocative memoir offers more emotional food for thought than can possibly be digested in one sitting. After only reading the introduction, one might wish to remain quiet for a few minutes and ponder her use of the phrase gender-neutral marriage
As such, this phraseology perfectly embodies Monroy's intentional marriage to a gay man. Though fraught with one psychological or legal time bomb after another, the marriage worked, despite the unimaginable odds. The book is bright. Its chatty. But Monroy manages to deliver a hefty emotional wallop. Booklist, Starred review
Through an absurdly beautiful act of devotion, which forced her to become an outlaw, in a time (now) and a country (ours) where the laws are cruel and outdated, Liza Monroy emerges as both an artist and a hero. Nick Flynn
An irresistible blend of candor, humor, insight, lively prose, and plain old humanity, this roller coaster of a memoir about relationships, place, and displacement is so much fun to read!
Phillip Lopate
Liza Monroy, wise beyond her years, brilliantly portrays the highs and lows and loves of school life, the episodes we've all experienced and never forget. Spirited, harrowing, and utterly compelling, Monroy's captivating voice will be with you long after you've finished reading. Oscar Hijuelos, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love*
"Love is not a limited commodity. Sexuality enjoys limits far beyond heterosexual monogamy. And marriage is a promise limited only by those who make it. *The Marriage Act* doesn't just change the game when it comes to how we think about love and sex and marriage. It creates an entirely new one that we're all about to play." Jenny Block, author of *Open: Love, Sex, and Life in an Open Marriage*
"This book is a blast! It's a political act, a buddy story, a love story, and a family saga gone beautifully and tenderly wrong. Read it." Anthony Swofford, New York Times bestselling author of *Jarhead*
Monroy questions the meanings of friendship, love, discrimination, and breaking boundaries. But her wicked sense of humor makes *The Marriage Act* a brisk, entertaining read. You'll never think of love and marriage the same way again. Leora Tanenbaum, author of *Slut! Growing Up Female with a Bad Reputation*
Liza Monroy's coming of age story set in Mexico manages to be hot, hilarious, and

heartbreaking all at the same time. A stunning debut. Susan Shapiro, author of *Lighting Up* and *Five Men Who Broke My Heart* Liza Monroy has a magical voice, the kind that makes you want to read the next sentence and then the one after that to see what turn her writing will take next. She is observant, funny, and curiously wise about the culture we live and flounder in. Daphne Merkin, author of *Dreaming of Hitler* and *Enchantment* With *The Marriage Act*, Liza Monroy portrays a critical moment in our nation's troubled history of attempting to legislate love while also opening a space for future iterations of the institution that go beyond arguments of gender and into notions of friendship, passion, and dedication. A remarkable and generous book. Cris Beam, author of *To the End of June: The Intimate Life of American Foster Care* she writes and lives courageously. Monroy's timely memoir rises beyond sex and politics, ultimately revealing that only two partners themselves can determine what makes their love and union authentic. *Publishers Weekly* "... a memoir that's quite visceral and honest [...] She poignantly states her case for immigration reform with a larger focus on marriage equality as a whole." *Bust Magazine*