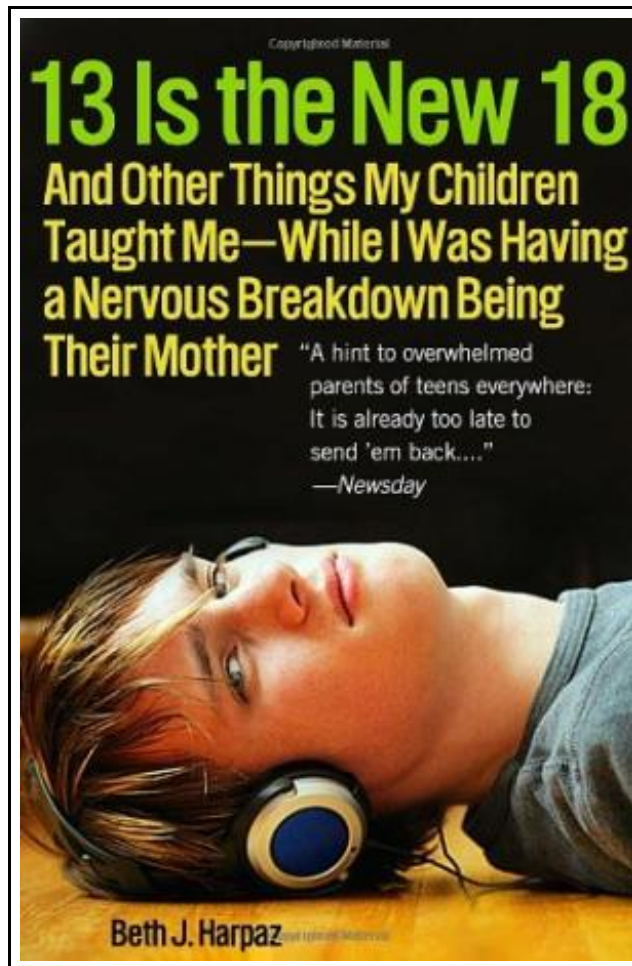


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Reviews

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13 IS THE NEW 18: AND OTHER THINGS MY CHILDREN TAUGHT ME - WHILE I WAS HAVING A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN BEING THEIR MOTHER



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Random House USA Inc, United States, 2010. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 198 x 130 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. I wonder sometimes if there s something to the old superstition about the number thirteen. Maybe that superstition was originally created by the mothers in some tribe who noticed that in their children s thirteenth year, they suddenly became possessed by evil spirits. Because it did seem that whenever Taz was around, things spilled and shattered, calm turned into chaos, and tempers were lost. So laments the mother of one thirteen-year-old boy, Taz, a teen who, overnight it seemed, went from a small, sweet, loving boy to a hulking, potty-mouthed, Facebook/MySpace-addicted C student who didn t even bother to hide his scorn for being anywhere in the proximity of his parents. As this startling transformation floors journalist Beth Harpaz and her husband, Elon, Harpaz tries to make sense of a bizarre teenage wilderness of \$100 sneakers, clouds of Axe body spray (to hide the scent of pot?!), and cell phone bills so big they require nine-by-twelve envelopes. In the process, she begins chronicling her son s hilarious, sometimes harrowing, indiscretions, blaming herself (I am a terrible mother becomes her steadfast refrain), Googling unfamiliar teenage slang, reading every parenting book she can get her hands on, and querying friends who also have teens. From a derailed family vacation where Taz is more interested in trying to get a cell phone connection than looking at the world s largest trees (boring!), to a prom where Taz is caught with liquor, to a trip to Australia sans parents in which Taz actually doesn t get into any trouble and manages to do his own laundry, the events that mark Taz s newfound and troublesome independence are told with a wry and...



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