



# The Inviting Life: An Inspirational Guide to Homemaking, Hosting and Opening the Door to Happiness

*Laura Calder*

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## The Inviting Life: An Inspirational Guide to Homemaking, Hosting and Opening the Door to Happiness Laura Calder

Far more than a guide to homemaking and being a fine host--although it is definitely all that too--*The Inviting Life* is about how to live each day with a desire and determination to turn the ordinary into something lovely. It's also a book about why we should bother. Whether the subject is d'cor, ambience, shopping, feeding weary travellers, mixing cocktails, planning dinner parties, or getting yourself motivated for spring cleaning, Laura Calder affirms the value of our everyday activities and shows how beauty, creativity, and delight have the power to change the world. This one-of-a-kind book is both a page-turning narrative about Laura's own hosting and home-making adventures and an invaluable work of reference. It's a spur to ideas for everything from creating a welcoming living space and making a respectable salad, to putting guests at their ease and writing a thank-you note worth receiving. Written with candour and humour in Laura's inimitable and engaging voice, *The Inviting Life* offers empowering guidance for anyone looking to take more pleasure in their life and home.

## The Inviting Life: An Inspirational Guide to Homemaking, Hosting and Opening the Door to Happiness Details

Date : Published November 7th 2017 by Appetite by Random House

ISBN : 9780147530523

Author : Laura Calder

Format : Hardcover 344 pages

Genre : Nonfiction

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## **From Reader Review The Inviting Life: An Inspirational Guide to Homemaking, Hosting and Opening the Door to Happiness for online ebook**

### **Tia says**

This could have been 100 pages shorter if the writer could curb her rambling. For every one page of information the three pages before that are rambling anecdotes loosely related to the topic. Maybe the writer has a following I'm unfamiliar with but I don't think of her as nearly interesting enough to warrant so much self reflection in a book about hosting and curating a lovely life

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### **Lisa James says**

This is a delightful book. Being familiar with Laura Calder from her TV series I could actually hear her voice as I read. Just as the title states it is filled with inspirational information on not only hosting but making life special in general. The hardback, small size and textured cover were so nice to touch and hold.

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### **Ellen says**

This was exactly the lightweight, almost contentless read that I needed right now. It seems to have been written from some floating, elegant, alternate universe. It did not in any way instruct or inspire me, but it did amuse me! Flip directly to the section with "Ten Tips for Entertaining On A Tight Budget" to enjoy a description of potlucks seemingly written by a bemused heiress down on her luck but nonetheless unwilling to let standards slip so far as bringing store-bought hummus to a party.

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### **Nicole says**

This book is very inviting! The tone is casual and witty and even though some of Calder's opinions are super old-fashioned bordering on snobby, she manages to express these views in a friendly, approachable way. Some of her tips are common sense (quality entertaining is more about your attitude than the extravagance of your home or the complexity of the meal) but a lot of what she says is a good reminder and a subtle push. Calder is married, so a lot of the book is about entertaining as a couple. I'm not, so I do wish she had focused a few more pages on solo entertaining. There's also a LOT of focus on alcohol - stocking a bar, mixing cocktails, etc. - and, personally, I don't know a soul who has ever thrown a party with this kind of attention to drinking. Maybe this is a generational or regional thing.

Regardless, it's clear that the main point of this book is that the world would be a better place if we all did a little more inviting - whatever that means to us as individuals. I really enjoyed reading this book and it has definitely inspired me to do a little more inviting in 2018!

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### **Colette Connors says**

It is a homey,happy,how to book on living the entertaining life.

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### **Lynne says**

3.5 stars

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### **Laura says**

This book was amazing! The author is very funny and the book covers a whole lot, but my favorite thing about it is the practical advice she includes — specific advice about cleaning, decorating & furniture layout, supplies needed for cozy guest rooms, how to get better sleep, entertaining on a budget, guest lists, etc. This is pretty much my new bible.

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### **B says**

A light informative read. Biggest area was parties, and that's not my thing. But interesting to read :)

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### **Kay Bowen says**

Witty, literate, fun.

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### **Nancy says**

I think I'm at a point in my life where I'm not really sure any of this matters anymore.

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### **Denise says**

Not a novel, but reads like one. Miss Laura on television hopefully the show will return.

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### **Jocelin says**

I did not know the author prior to reading this, the book was a gift from an always thoughtful friend. I completed adored this book, and took away helpful tidbits. I especially loved “A Digestif”, which reminds us all to celebrate the life we have, even during tough times like these.

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### **Maggie Wrobel says**

This was wonderful! I read the whole thing with a slightly deranged smile on my face. It could have been twice as long! Great insights into hosting, manners and staying spirited in a tough world.

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### **Yioti says**

Easy and pleasant read. Charming stories. She managed to inspire me to do more regarding home life. LC clearly has no kids or pets. I reckon it would be a different book if she did.

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### **Dora says**

#### **The Inviting Life**

I first was introduced to Laura Calder through her TV show French Food at Home. I then explored her cookbooks. I really enjoyed this book as well. I think that it may help some people start inviting friends over more. Ms. Calder does have some very strong opinions but then so do I so I didn't have a problem when she aired hers. I was able to learn several things from this book which is always a good thing as far as I am concerned. I would recommend this book.

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