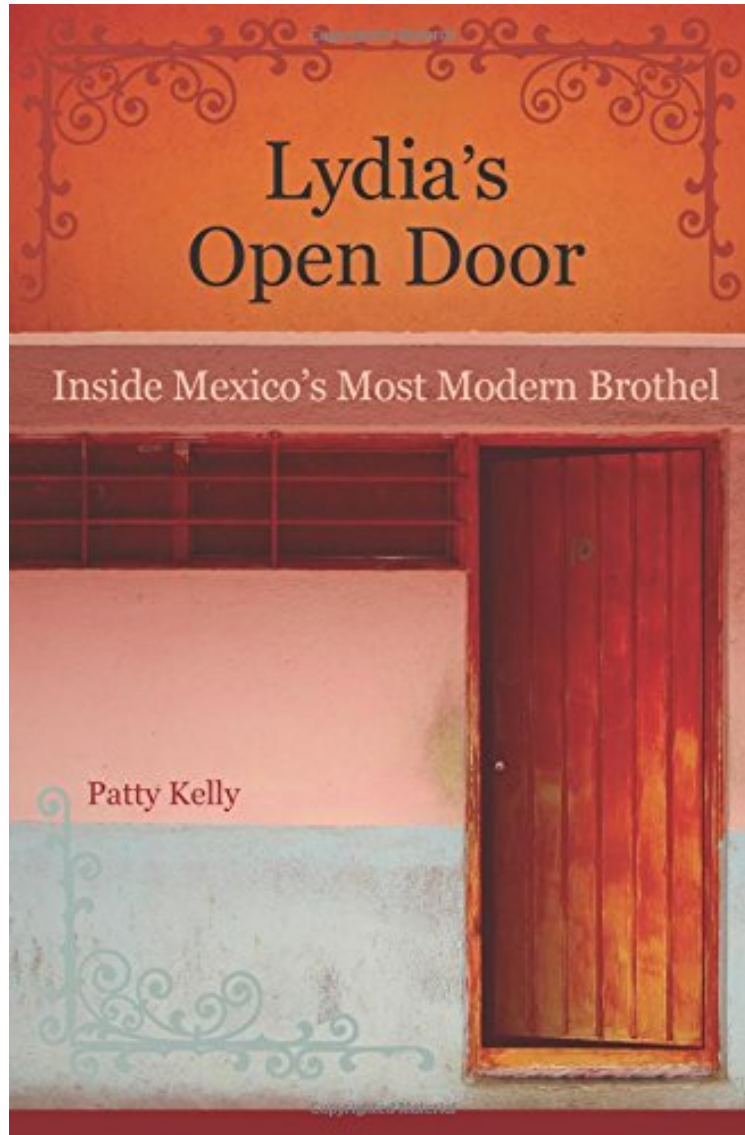


(Free read ebook) Lydia's Open Door: Inside Mexico's Most Modern Brothel

Lydia's Open Door: Inside Mexico's Most Modern Brothel

Patty Kelly

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Patty Kelly : Lydia's Open Door: Inside Mexico's Most Modern Brothel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lydia's Open Door: Inside Mexico's Most Modern Brothel:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Okay. Could've been better.By AuntDanWritesI bought this as research material for a book I'm writing. The factual background is helpful but oftentimes the author gets too bogged down trying to make her socio-political arguments. It would've been a much better read without all of that mess thrown in. Still, interesting information about a topic that doesn't receive much attention.0 of 0 people found the

following review helpful. An anthropological dissection of social life in a government run brothel-community in Oaxaca, Mexico. By bubinish There must be a heroine or victory somewhere, but i missed her. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. HerdingCats.gov By Heath Synnestvedt I didn't learn a darn thing from this book. Loved it anyway. Of course, not many readers will be as familiar with Latin America's prostitution ambiente as i am. I've been in 'regulated', sanitized brothels just to visit with the women in one country and i've hired independent street workers to go to dinner with me elsewhere, and eventually i lived in the middle of them for seven months. You might say i've had much the same experience she did, and come to many of the same conclusions. I am giving four stars, though, not five, for the book reads like an incomplete work, too full of speculation that passes for explanation. The author's understanding of the phrase 'free market' is a prime example: she misuses it repeatedly by talking about uncharitable competition in the rat cage of La Zona as a 'free market' or -gag- even applying this to the NAFTA travesty. Yikes! I'm no proponent of capitalism per se, but don't attack it by holding up a paper tiger! Her critique is savvy on the ground, but her language is gibberish on this topic. Of Gender and Power she has little to say and spends many words saying it. What i gathered was that she acknowledges the futility and hypocrisy of binary, antagonistic debates. She is essentially a courageous and good person and therefore cannot fully accept post-feminist tropes. Yet she fails repeatedly to recognize the simple, living, breathing, two-legged proofs of the fact that traditional masculine roles are as insufferable as traditional feminine roles. She comes close, though, when discussing Pepe the partnerless gay man, mandilnes (hen-pecked husbands), and boys unhappy with their introduction to sexuality via prostitutes. In each of these cases her habitual explanations and theorizing fall flat, and she sometimes admits intellectual defeat: a great strength. So in the end, i'm giving it four stars. It is written from a feminist perspective that fails only in being uninformed by an equally enlightened masculinist perspective. If i had been there to offer content editing, it would be a five star book. ;-)

In this groundbreaking ethnographic study, Patty Kelly examines the lives of the women who work in the Zona Galactica, a state-run brothel in Chiapas's capital city. By delving into lives that would otherwise go unremarked, Kelly documents the modernization of the sex industry during the neoliberal era in the city of Tuxtla Gutierrez and illustrates how state-regulated sex became part of a broader effort by government officials to bring modernity to Chiapas, one of Mexico's poorest and most conflicted states. Kelly's innovative approach locates prostitution in a political-economic context by treating it as work. Most valuably, she conveys her analysis through vivid portraits of the lives of the sex workers themselves and shows how the women involved are neither victims nor heroines.

Effective and insightful.