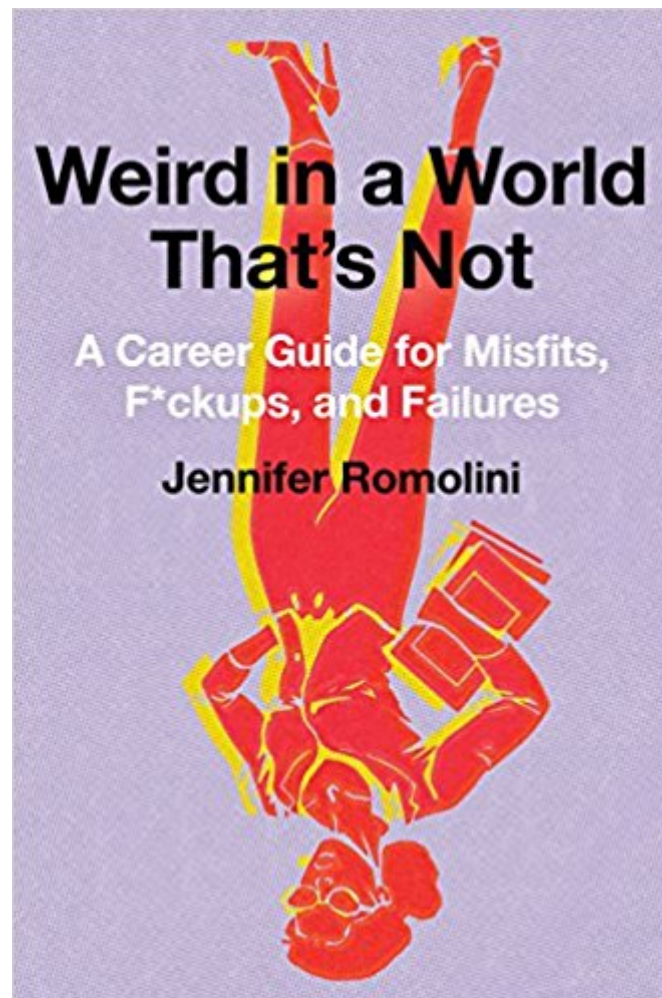




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# Weird In A World That's Not: A Career Guide For Misfits, F\*ckups, And Failures



## Synopsis

An honest, sharp-witted, practical guide to help you get and keep the job you want—*from an outsider whose been there and done it, a woman who went from being a broke, divorced, college dropout to running some of the biggest websites in the world.* Jennifer Romolini started her career as an awkward twenty-seven-year-old misfit, navigated her way through New York media and became a boss—an editor-in-chief, an editorial director, and a vice president—all within little more than a decade. Her book, *Weird In A World That's Not*, asserts that being outside-the-norm and achieving real, high-level success are not mutually exclusive, even if the perception of the business world often seems otherwise, even if it seems like only office-politicking extroverts are set up for reward. Part career memoir, part real-world guide, *Weird in a World That's Not* offers relatable advice on how to achieve your dreams, even when the odds seem stacked against you. Romolini helps you face down your fears, find a career that's right for you, and get and keep a job. She tackles practical issues and offers empathetic, clear-cut answers to important questions: How do I navigate the awkwardness of networking? How do I deal with intense office politics? How do I leave my crappy job? How do I learn how to be a boss not just a #boss? And, most importantly: How do I do all this and stay true to who I really am? Authentic, funny, and moving, *Weird in a World That's Not* will help you tap into your inner tenacity and find your path, no matter how offbeat you are.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Part career guide, part cautionary tale; part memoir, part motivation. With the candor and charm of a big sister/best friend, Jennifer Romolini has magically written a book as funny as it is wise.” (Rumaan Alam, author of *Rich & Pretty*) “Jennifer Romolini has written a career guide for actual humans. Humans who make mistakes, have feelings, and are learning every day. Her advice is practical and no-nonsense while still being wonderfully empathetic, warm and funny. I would tell you this book is perfect for a woman just starting her career, but the honest truth is that even though I’ve been a manager for several years, I learned so much from Jenn about how to lead: with high expectations and compassion.” (Jessica Grose, editor in chief of *Lenny* and author of *Soulmates* and *Sad Desk Salad*)

An honest, sharp-witted, practical guide to help you get the job you want and keep it from an outsider who has been there and done that; a woman who went from being a broke, divorced college dropout to running some of the biggest websites in the world Jennifer Romolini started her career as an awkward twenty-seven-year-old misfit but navigated her way through New York media and became a boss—an editor in chief, an editorial director, and a vice president—in little more than a decade. In *Weird in a World That’s Not*, she asserts that being outside the norm and achieving high-level success are not mutually exclusive, even if it often seems otherwise within the business world, and even if it seems that only office-politicking extroverts are set up for reward. Part career memoir, part real-world guide, *Weird in a World That’s Not* offers relatable advice on how to realize your dreams, even when the odds seem stacked against you. Romolini helps you face down your fears, find a career that’s right for you, and land a job that you love. Tackling practical issues, she offers empathetic, clear-cut answers to important questions: How do I navigate the awkwardness of networking? How do I deal with intense office politics? How do I leave my crappy job? How do I learn to be a boss, not just a #boss? And, most important: How do I do all this and stay true to who I really am? Authentic, funny, and moving, *Weird in a World That’s Not* will help you tap your inner tenacity and find your path, no matter how offbeat you are.

Jenn is a heartwarming, beautiful writer whose words and stories set the stage for a welcome and engaged read addressing the trials and tribulations of someone whose endless ambition pulled her up through the ranks of one of the most complicated industries in the world. It’s an inspiring guide for the young career woman who discovers she wants it all - well after college.

A career guide that cuts through the BS and actually, finally, admits that work is emotional and personal. Jennifer's insight into the world of media is fascinating, but her trajectory and her advice is applicable to any young person in any industry. Funny, smart, interesting.

A lot of good practical information as one progresses through one's career.

Very good this is making me review this book before I can read the end. This is annoying amazing come on

Great memoir/advice book all in one written with great humor!

I enjoyed this book--specifically, the memoir part of it and the author's discussion of her careers ups and downs. The opening story about the author's experience at a job orientation was especially funny and relatable. Unlike the title of the book, the author had gone on to be very successful in what she does, in a field that's ultra-competitive--especially commendable as the author started out as a college drop out with no connections, working in waitressing and barely getting by during her first marriage, which ended in divorce. In her mid-twenties, the author turned her life around by getting accepted into Emerson College's publishing program and moving to New York to initially work as a fact checker for magazines (a job that's very low on the totem pole, and revolves around basically arguing with the writer about getting their facts straight--hard to do when magazines are in the business of sensationalism) as well as a freelancer, before scoring her first job as an editor, despite not having editing experience at that point (she attributes the lucky break to the initial pick for the job flaming out, and the interviewer's belief in her abilities). From there, her career trajectory is on the up. Given the author's personal success, it's clear she's mastered the politics of corporate jobs, and is well-positioned to write this book. The career guidebook part of this book, is standard career advice--albeit told in a flashed out, detailed way, using the author's own experiences in hiring others. The ultimate lesson seems to be that whatever one's personal quirks, there are certain socially acceptable ways to behave in corporate jobs that must be adhered to, to keep the job. This is nothing new, and really common sense. Anyone who's ever worked at a nine-to-five should be pretty familiar with these principles, as they're pretty universal. The reason I liked this book is because of its unique message that even though corporate jobs all demand the same type of behavior, the workers themselves are individuals with their own unique personalities, and sensitivities. For some, the corporatism might be second nature, but for others (perhaps those who

are the target for this book) it takes some getting used to. Overall, an engaging, well-written read.

I was glad I read the prologue, because it placed the entire book into perspective for me. Sure the writer may have been successful, and to others may have looked perfectly normal, but it was her own brain that was making her a misfit and weird. She had to fight her own thoughts and her real or imagined self doubts and insecurities to get ahead. Believe me that is a much harder battle, and one that is much easier to give up on. It resonated with me on a personal level since I too have trouble shutting my brain down, always knocking myself for usually imagined missteps, and blowing small awkward moments into big social disasters in my mind when most people hadn't even noticed my error, and wouldn't have cared if they did. She appears similar to me in that she is probably often told she thinks too much, and those around her will either say she doesn't talk very much, or when she does let herself speak is found to be too opinionated; at least in her mind. The book does a great job of helping you get out of your own way, and just accomplish your goals, and for that alone it is well worth the price. Sure she was successful, and possibly good looking, but that wouldn't stop her from being weird or socially awkward. The bottom line is the help in this book comes from a good place, and will be very useful to most readers who are holding themselves back. Give it a read, it can't hurt, and will most likely do a lot of good.

Everyone has a story. And usually that story involves initial struggles or challenges before moving into a career, at home or away from home. What is weird to me in "Weird in a World That's Not: A Career Guide..." by Jennifer Romolini, is that the author, after many false starts, abrupt employment endings, and awkward life choices, thinks she has the answers. A career guide? People have been getting graduate degrees studying career paths. Numerous scholarly articles and books have been published on the topic. And what I get out of Romolini's book is this... there's a path for you. Hate authority? There's a path for you. Hate your companion? There's a path for you. Hate your boss? Your coworkers? Your life? There's a path for you. Romolini found a path. However, Romolini's path is hers alone. That path included opportunity, randomness, alcohol, hard work, weirdness, and more. Okay, so you are a civil engineer in Nebraska. How does this advice apply to you? You work as a undereducated library assistant in a small town in South Carolina. How does this advice apply to you? You want to be a physician, but math is your nemesis. How does this advice apply to you? Romolini lives in a non-typical world, and from her book, I don't think she knows this.

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