



Award-winning journalist Melinda Blau has been researching and writing about relationships and social trends for more than thirty years. With her (lucky) thirteenth book, *Consequential Strangers: People Who Don't Seem to Matter...But Really Do*, she widened her lens to include the surprisingly vital connections that extend beyond family and close friends—a subject that has taken her into the world of business and marketing, the Internet and social media, health and "place making."

Many new parents will recognize Melinda as the co-author (with the late Tracy Hogg) of the best-selling "baby whisperer" series: *Secrets of the Baby Whisperer*, *Secrets of the Baby Whisperer for Toddlers*, and *The Baby Whisperer Solves All Your Problems*.

Those with older children may have read one of her books co-written with family therapist Ron Taffel, *Parenting by Heart*, *Nurturing Good Children Now*, and *The Second Family*. Melinda's other books include three on divorce and two on co-parenting: *Loving and Listening and Families Apart*. *Our Turn: How Women Triumph in the Face of Divorce*, was written based on a study by Christopher Hayes and Deborah Anderson.

In addition, Melinda also wrote the inspirational memoir *Watch Me Fly* for civil rights activist Myrlie Evers Williams and is the voice behind Barbara Biziou's *The Joy of Ritual* and *The Joy of Family Rituals*.

Melinda's more than eighty articles on families, education, adult relationships, health, sexuality, and social trends have been featured in highly-regarded print venues such as *New York*, *The New York Times*, *Utne Reader*, and *Psychotherapy Networker*. For six years, she also penned "The New Family" column for *Child* magazine.

Melinda has been a featured guest expert on *Oprah*, *Good Morning America*, *CBS This Morning*, and numerous other national and local TV and radio broadcasts. Her writing has been honored by a wide variety of organizations, including the American Psychological Association, the Children's Rights Council, the Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, the American Association of Applied and Preventive Psychology, the American Legion Auxiliary "Heart of America" competition, and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

Visit Melinda's Author Page on Amazon: <http://amzn.to/ahv2US>

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