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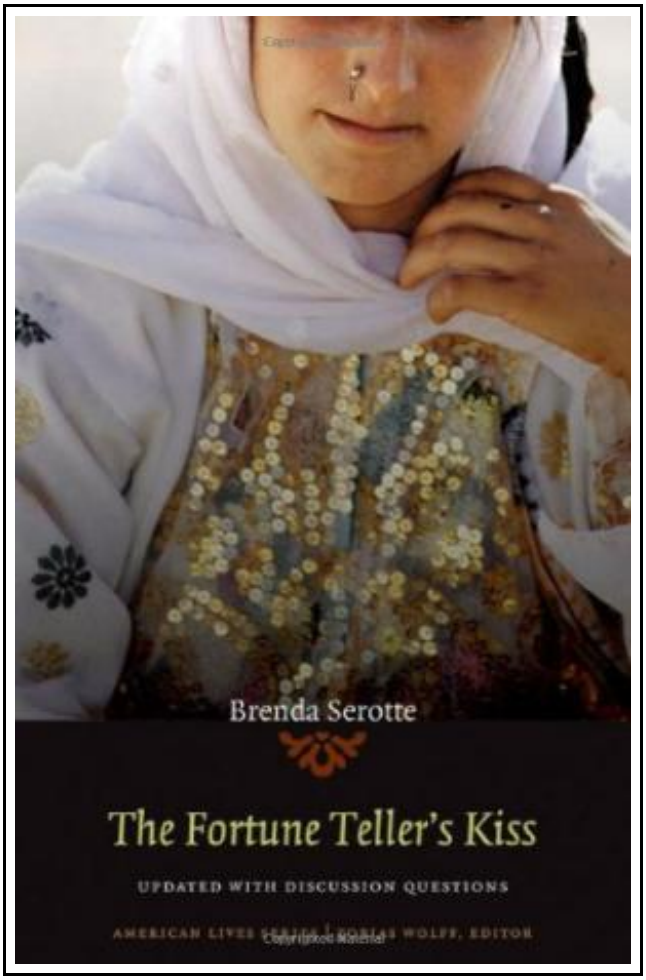

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Reviews

Very useful to all category of men and women. I actually have study and i also am certain that i am going to going to read through again once more down the road. Its been written in an exceptionally simple way and is particularly only soon after i finished reading this publication by which basically altered me, modify the way in my opinion.

(Dr. Sarai Fisher DDS)

THE FORTUNE TELLER'S KISS.

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University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln and London, 2006. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. American Lives Series.. 248 pages. Hardcover with dustjacket. New book. MEMOIRS. There was always the incantation: "Whoever wishes you harm, may harm come to them!" And just in case that didn't work, there were garlic and cloves to repel the Evil EyeÑor, better yet, the dried foreskin from a baby boy's circumcision, ground to a fine powder. But whatever precautions Brenda Serotte was subjected to, they were not enough. Shortly before her eighth birthday, in the fall of 1954, she came down with polioÑpainfully singled out in a world already marked by differences. Her bout with the dreaded disease is at the heart of this poignant and heartbreakingly hilarious memoir of growing up a Sephardic Jew among Ashkenazi neighbors in the Bronx. This was a world of belly dancers and fortune tellers, shelter drills and vast quantities of Mediterranean food; a world of staunchly joined and endlessly contrary aunts and uncles, all drawn here in loving, merciless detail. The Fortune Teller's Kiss is a heartfelt tribute to a disappearing culture and a paean to the author's truly quirky clan, especially her beloved champion, her father. It is also a deft and intimate cultural history of the Bronx fifty years ago and of its middle-class inhabitants, their attitudes toward contagious illness, womanly beauty, poverty, and belonging. Brenda Serotte is a poet and an adjunct professor at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Her poetry and prose have appeared in numerous publications, such as Atlanta Review, Kit-Kat Review, Quarter after Eight: A Journal of Prose and Commentary, and Fourth Genre, from which her chapter "Contagious" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. "Serotte is a marvelous storyteller, and this book, one of the American Lives Series, is a profoundly moving...

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