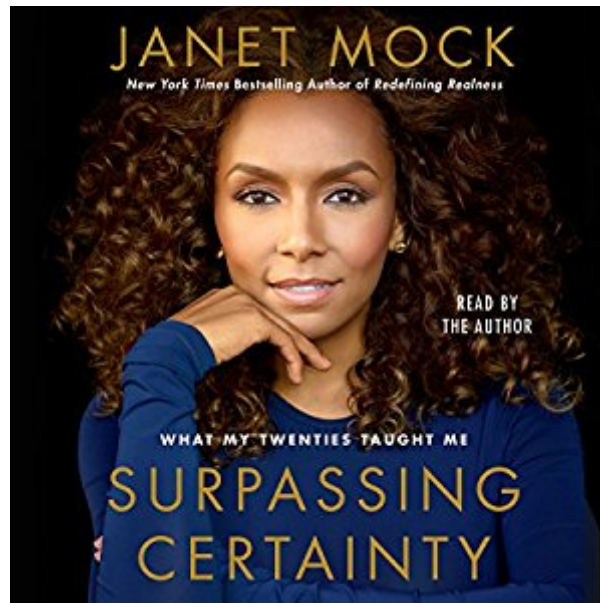




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Surpassing Certainty: What My Twenties Taught Me



Synopsis

Riveting, rousing, and utterly real, *Surpassing Certainty* is a portrait of a young woman searching for her purpose and place in the world - without a road map to guide her. The journey begins a few months before her 20th birthday. Janet Mock is adjusting to her days as a first-generation college student at the University of Hawaii and her nights as a dancer at a strip club. Finally content in her body, she vacillates between flaunting and concealing herself as she navigates dating and disclosure, sex and intimacy, and, most important, letting herself be truly seen. Under the neon lights of Club Nu, Janet meets Troy, a yeoman stationed at Pearl Harbor naval base, who becomes her first. The pleasures and perils of their union serve as a backdrop for Janet's progression through her early 20s with all the universal growing pains - falling in and out of love, living away from home, and figuring out what she wants to do with her life. Despite her disadvantages, fueled by her dreams and inimitable drive, Janet makes her way through New York City while holding her truth close. She builds a career in the highly competitive world of magazine publishing - within the unique context of being trans, a woman, and a person of color. Long before she became one of the world's most respected media figures and lauded leaders for equality and justice, Janet was a girl taking the time she needed to just be - to learn how to advocate for herself before becoming an advocate for others. As you witness Janet's slow-won success and painful failures, *Surpassing Certainty* will embolden you, shift the way you see others, and affirm your journey in search of self.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Janet does it again! This book is just as inspirational and well written as the first. I knew she wouldn't disappoint.

Truthful reflections of a beautiful soul.

Wonderful and Moving memoir that everyone- whether LGBTQIA or not- should read especially in this time. Janet Mock is a wonderful writer and guide through the human experience.

unputdownable

Grace, honesty, brilliance, humanity, a sense of service, and resilience. Excellent writer. Beautiful Soul.

Great read

This was so good!! I've been listening to Janet Mock's *Surpassing Certainty* over the past day, and I found any spare moment to press play. This is her second biography and I need her to keep living her life, because her memories make the best stories. I know, I sound like an insufferable gossip feeding off other people's lives, but I don't just watch anyone, I watch the interesting ones, and Mock is a very interesting one. I loved Mock's first bio, *Redefining Realness*, but I adored *Surpassing Certainty*. I connected with this one more, since it felt more personal and revealing. It covers a shorter span in Mock's life and a pivotal relationship that spanned the majority of her twenties, a relationship that in many ways helped free her to be who she is today. It was compelling, enlightening, heartbreaking, and uplifting. As with her previous book, Mock shows the reader all sides of herself, but I think unlike her first book, we also get to see how her journey to happiness and self-fulfillment left a mark on the people in her life, particularly one. It's this aspect that had me crying during the book's final chapters. Janet Mock is strong and resilient, but she's also self-absorbed and selfish. Her strengths are also flaws, and like us all, she had to make difficult choices about how much of herself to give to people, how much to bend before she started to take the form of someone she didn't recognize. In this memoir, Janet meets a love of her life, she graduates college and struggles to realize her dreams and love the man who showed her unconditional acceptance and support, but who may not fit in with the image of the future she has for herself. This memoir is a coming-of-age story in many ways like hundreds that have been told

before, while being unique and revealing a perspective that's often unperceived. I don't read a lot of biographies, but if I can find more like this one, then I'll start reading more. I love reading novels, and *Surpassing Certainty* felt like one. It felt like a coming-of-age fiction, romance, chic-lit, whatever. The way Mock narrates it (both in print and via audio) is intimate and compelling, and I felt like I was taking her journey, as opposed to simply being told about it. I recommend you take the journey as well.

If you have read and enjoyed Janet's first book, *Redefining Realness*, then *Surpassing Certainty* will not leave you disappointed. This book delves into the journey, trials and tribulation of someone's 20s. While Janet speaks to her trans experience in her 20s, the lessons learned in this book can be word of wisdom to many. Furthermore, it is a great learning opportunity for anyone to step out of their comfort zone and understand one person's trans experience, black experience, woman experience, and black woman experience. This book left me loving Janet even more and she truly is a sister in my head.

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