



## Just Checking: Scenes from the life of an obsessive-compulsive

By Emily Colas

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*As my friend the heroin addict says, "You're only as sick as your secrets."*

Emily Colas -- young, intelligent, well-educated wife and mother of two -- had a secret that was getting in the way of certain activities. Like touching people. Having a normal relationship with her husband. Socializing. Getting a job. Eating out. Like leaving the house. Soon there was no interval in her life when she was not

#### *just checking*

This raw, darkly comic series of astonishing vignettes is Emily Colas' achingly honest chronicle of her twisted journey through the obsessive-compulsive disorder that came to dominate her world. In the beginning it was germs and food. By the time she faced the fact that she was really "losing it," Colas had become a slave to her own "hobbies" -- from the daily hair cutting to incessant inspections of her children's clothing for bloodstains.

A shocking, hilarious, enormously appealing account of a young woman struggling to gain control of her life, this is Emily Colas' exposé of a soul tormented, but balanced by a buoyance of spirit and a piercing sense of humor that may be her saving grace.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

*New York Magazine* Hilarious, harrowing.

*San Diego Union-Tribune* *Just Checking* twitches with pain and pulses with insight....It's also so enjoyable, and so frequently laugh-out-loud hilarious, you'll feel guilty profiting from Colas' agony.

*Dallas Morning News* A wonderful little book....

*Deseret News* In the literature of mental illness, this one is destined to be a classic....Every worrier will recognize in Colas a true sister. Everyone who likes to laugh will be glad she was brave enough to tell this story on herself.

David Sedaris author of *Naked* *Just Checking* is, in turn, mysterious, agonizing, and terribly funny. Emily Colas writes with such skill and honesty that I can't help but wish she suffers a relapse. It's selfish, I know, but I want more.

*Detroit News* Intimate and revealing.

*Booklist* This anecdotal, first-person account of Colas' illness is highly readable and funny...One hopes that Colas will take up her pen again.

*Kirkus Reviews* A frank and funny first-person account of living with obsessive-compulsive disorder...With its unique patient's-eye view and perceptive honesty, a valuable contribution to the literature....

Martha Manning author of *Undercurrents* and *Chasing Grace* Everyone knows what it's like to worry. But for most people, it's not a twenty-four-hour occupation. Emily Colas draws readers into a world dominated by details -- a dangerous world in which kitchen utensils are instruments of deadly contamination, restaurant food is probably poisoned, and a tiny paper cut is potentially fatal. Through a series of vignettes she paints a compelling picture of a life dominated by compulsions and the worries that fuel them. If she'd left it there, *Just Checking* would be a valuable case study of a psychiatric illness. But Colas is a born storyteller, and a wickedly funny one at that. *Just Checking* is as hilarious as it is harrowing -- a combination that makes it an engaging and ultimately powerful book.

*Java* A terribly funny, sad, and deeply human account...Honesty is the key here, and it's Colas' ironic self-awareness that makes for such a refreshing read.

#### From the Back Cover

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#### About the Author

Emily Colas is thirty-two years old and lives in New York City. Just Checking is her first book.

### **Users Review**

#### **From reader reviews:**

##### **Amanda Moberly:**

This book untitled Just Checking: Scenes from the life of an obsessive-compulsive to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, that is because when you read this reserve you can get a lot of benefit upon it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book store or you can order it via online. The publisher on this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, as you can read this book in your Mobile phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this reserve from your list.

##### **Gavin Wilkins:**

The guide with title Just Checking: Scenes from the life of an obsessive-compulsive contains a lot of information that you can study it. You can get a lot of profit after read this book. This kind of book exist new know-how the information that exist in this e-book represented the condition of the world at this point. That is important to yo7u to be aware of how the improvement of the world. This kind of book will bring you with new era of the the positive effect. You can read the e-book on your smart phone, so you can read that anywhere you want.

##### **Kim Romero:**

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specifically book entitled Just Checking: Scenes from the life of an obsessive-compulsive the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe not known for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a reserve then become one form conclusion and explanation which maybe you never get prior to. The Just Checking: Scenes from the life of an obsessive-compulsive giving you one more experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful data for your better life with this era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

**Michael Yancey:**

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