

**HOW TO BE A LADY: A BOOK  
FOR GIRLS, CONTAINING  
USEFUL HINTS ON THE  
FORMATION OF CHARACTER**

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How to Be a Lady: A Book for Girls, Containing Useful Hints on the Formation of Character by  
Harvey Newcomb

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**HARVEY NEWCOMB**

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BOOK FOR GIRLS,

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BY

HARVEY NEWCOMB,  
AUTHOR OF THE "YOUNG LADY'S GUIDE," ETC

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## PREFACE.

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“PREFACE! I never read a preface, it's *so prosy*,” said a bright-eyed, sprightly little girl;—“I want to get at the story.” Her object in reading was *to be amused*. If she had desired to be benefited by what she read, she would have perused the Author's preface, in order to understand why he wrote the book. The “Young Lady's Guide” was intended for a class of females, who have attained some degree of maturity of character, and who are supposed already to have entered upon a religious life. The success of that work has led the Author, for several years, to contemplate the preparation of another, for a younger class of females. Having daugh-

ters of his own, and having been many years employed in writing for the young, he hopes to be able to offer some good advice, in the following pages, in an entertaining way, for girls or misses, between the ages of eight and fifteen. His object is, to assist them in forming their characters upon the best model; that they may become well-bred, intelligent, refined, and good; and then they will be *LADIES*, in the highest sense. This book covers substantially the same ground occupied by another work for boys, issued simultaneously with it. Some parts of both are identical; while other parts are entirely different. If it shall be the means of benefiting one immortal mind, the Author will be abundantly rewarded.

JANUARY, 1847.



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# HOW TO BE A LADY.

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## CHAPTER I.

### ON CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH.

IN one sense, very young persons are apt to think too much of themselves—in another, not enough. When they think they know more than their parents and teachers, or other elderly people, and so set up to be *bold* and *smart*, then they think too much of themselves. It used to be said, when I was a boy, that “Young folks *think* old folks are fools; but old folks *know* young folks are fools.” Although I would be very far indeed from calling you *fools*, because you have already acquired much knowledge, and have the capacity for acquiring much more, yet, with reference to such knowledge as is acquired by *experience*, and in comparison with *what there is to be known*, there is “more truth than *poetry*,”