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## Mother's Day reads

Looking for the ideal Mother's Day gift? Can't decide between the tea cosy or the slippers? Then make mum's day and buy her one of these little books. It will help her forget about the burnt toast and the cold cup of tea on the breakfast tray.

***The Complete Guide to Uninvited Advice on Raising Children*, by Alice Beaven (Hodder & Stoughton), 112pp, \$25:** Alice Beaven, mother-of-two, has received plenty of unwanted advice over the years and compiled it, tongue firmly in cheek, in this little classic. Complete with rather Victorian cartoons, there's advice on making friends — "It's better to have a child that's a hitter than to have one that's always being hit" — to faddy eating — "If your child will not eat liver, sardines, broccoli and ox tongue, then he is not hungry. Wait four hours and then try again." At least your mother will see the humour in it.

***The Bad Mother's Revenge*, by Sonia Neale (ABC Books), 221pp, \$24.95:** Sonia Neale was battling post-natal depression when her therapist suggested writing things down. She

had a few articles published on a website and this led to a regular segment on 720ABC Perth. She calls this book a "what you definitely didn't expect guide to parenting", telling it like it really is, with a good dose of sarcasm. Neale has been to the dark side, and isn't afraid to take you there, but there will be plenty of laughs to light the way.

