# **QUARTERLY FUND REVIEW** | As of March 31, 2023

# **CYA** | Simplify Tail Risk Strategy ETF

### **FUND OVERVIEW**

**The Simplify Tail Risk Strategy ETF (CYA)** seeks to provide income and capital appreciation while protecting against significant downside risk to investors with a standalone solution for hedging diversified portfolios against severe equity market selloffs. By investing a substantial annual budget in highly convex equity-hedging strategies, modest allocations to the fund are intended to be valuable as a total portfolio hedging solution.

The fund deploys advanced option strategies that are designed to handle multiple types of market dislocations and be robust to path dependency. The fund invests in high income strategies to help fund the option purchases.

#### PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The fund was down 20% for the quarter, as market stresses failed to materialize into a more persistent panic, with US large caps being rangebound during the quarter within a 7% band.

The fund's updated guidelines of closer to 50% annual budget spend on hedges have been successful in creating payoff profiles more in line with our expectations of a tail risk strategy that can be just a few percent of a balanced portfolio.

We are also satisfied with our greater focus on hedges beyond just equity puts, e.g., VIX options, as we have been able to create payoff profiles that are also more diversified.

# Performance as of 03/31/23 | Inception Date: 09/13/21

	CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN				ANNUALIZED TOTAL RETURN	
	3 Мо	6 Mo	YTD	Since Inception	1 Year	Since Inception
NAV	-20.31%	-56.94%	-20.31%	-58.10%	-50.53%	-43.05%
Market Price	-19.97%	-57.63%	-19.97%	-58.11%	-50.08%	-43.11%
Ice BofA 3 Mnt Treasury Bill Index 4PM	1.07%	1.93%	1.07%	2.58%	2.52%	1.66%

The performance data quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. In addition, investment returns and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. For performance data current to the most recent month-end, please call (855) 772-8488 or go to <a href="https://www.simplify.us/etfs">https://www.simplify.us/etfs</a>.



## FUND DETAILS as of 03/31/23

### **CURRENT HOLDINGS\***

POSITION	ALLOCATION
Simplify Aggregate Bond PLUS Credit Hedge ETF	27.26%
Simplify Volatility Premium ETF	23.96%
Simplify Interest Rate Hedge ETF	15.68%
Simplify Stable Income ETF	10.59%
Simplify Enhanced Income ETF	10.50%
Simplify High Yield PLUS Credit Hedge ETF	5.53%
SPXW US 04/17/23 P4000	5.39%
VIX US 11/15/23 C20	3.54%
SPXW US 05/19/23 P3625	1.23%
SPXW US 04/21/23 P3965	0.60%
Cash	-0.11%

Gross Expense Ratio	1.09%
Net Expense Ratio**	0.84%
SEC 30-Day Yield	5.71%
SEC 30-Day Yield Unsubsidized	5.34%

<sup>\*\*</sup>The Fund's adviser has contractually agreed, until at least October 31, 2023, to waive certain fees and/or pay expenses, in order to limit specified expenses to 0.50% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

# **DEFINITIONS**

**Convexity:** An investment strategy is convex if its payoff relative to its benchmark is curved upward. Convex investment strategies are expected to be highly correlated with the benchmark in typical market environments but diverge to the positive in extreme markets. There are no free lunches though, and convex strategies are expected to lag during quiet markets.

**Expiry:** The time until an option expires. In the context here expiry is used to describe the length of time from when an option position is initiated to when it will expire.

Ice BofA 3 Mnt Treasury Bill Index: The BofA Merrill Lynch US 3-Month Treasury Bill Index is comprised of a single issue purchased at the beginning of the month and held for a full month. At the end of the month that issue is sold and rolled into a newly selected issue.

**Market Price:** The current price at which shares are bought and sold. Market returns are based upon the last trade price.

**NAV:** The dollar value of a single share, based on the value of the underlying assets of the fund minus its liabilities, divided by the number of shares outstanding. Calculated at the end of each business day.

**Option:** An option is a contract that gives the buyer the right to either buy (in the case of a call option) or sell (in the case of a put option) an underlying asset at a predetermined price ("strike") by a specific date ("expiry"). An "outright" is another name for a single option leg. A "spread" is when options are bought at one strike and an equal amount of options are sold at a different strike, all at the same expiry.

**SEC 30-Day Yield:** The yield is calculated with a standardized formula and represents net investment income earned by a fund over a 30-day period, expressed as an annual percentage rate based on the fund's share price. The yield includes the effect of any fee waivers and/or reimbursements. Without waivers, yields would be reduced. This is also referred to as the "standardized yield", "30-Day Yield" and "Current Yield". The unsubsidized SEC 30-Day Yield does not reflect the effect of any fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements.

<sup>\*</sup>Holdings are subject to change without notice.



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) before investing. To obtain an ETF's prospectus containing this and other important information, please call (855) 772-8488, or visit SimplifyETFs.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.

An investment in the fund involves risk, including possible loss of principal.

The fund is actively-managed is subject to the risk that the strategy may not produce the intended results. The fund is new and has a limited operating history to evaluate.

The Fund invests in ETFs (Exchange-Traded Funds) and is therefore subject to the same risks as the underlying securities in which the ETF invests as well as entails higher expenses than if invested into the underlying ETF directly.

The Fund is subject to the risk that the investment management strategy may not produce the intended results and may negatively impact Fund performance. The adviser's overlay strategy will not fully protect the Fund from declines in the market.

Fund risks include and are not limited to: credit default swaps - involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio security transactions, such as potentially heightened counterparty, concentration and exposure risks, geopolitical risk - the occurrence of global events similar to those in recent years may result in market volatility and may have long term effects on both the U.S. and global financial markets, and real estate risks may change in response to changes in the real estate market such as declines in the value of real estate, lack of available capital or financing opportunities, and increases in property taxes or operating costs.

While the option overlay is intended to improve the Fund's performance, there is no guarantee that it will do so. Utilizing an option overlay strategy involves the risk that as the buyer of a put or call option, the Fund risks losing the entire premium invested in the option if the Fund does not exercise the option. Also, securities and options traded in over-the-counter markets may trade less frequently and in limited volumes and thus exhibit more volatility and liquidity risk.

**Futures Contract Risk:** Futures contracts involve the following risks (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the forward or futures contract; (b) possible lack of a liquid secondary market; (c) leverage, which means a small percentage of assets in futures can have a disproportionately large impact on the Fund and the Fund can lose more than the principal amount invested; (d) losses are potentially unlimited: (f) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

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