

# **The Bigger the Better, the Tighter the Sweater: 21 Funny Women on Beauty, Body Image, and Other Hazards of Being Female**

*Samantha Schoech (Editor) , Jennifer D. Munro*

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Getting undressed for the dreaded seventh-grade gym class. Feeling fascinated with, yet disgusted by, the fashion magazines full of perfect, unattainable bodies. Enduring the pain of a bikini wax or suffering the ramifications of overplucked brows.

Like all women, the contributors to *The Bigger the Better, the Tighter the Sweater* have been there and lived to tell the tale. With laugh-out-loud essays on such topics as the hell of puberty; fashion errors and triumphs; rolls, jiggles, and dimples; the positives and pitfalls of cosmetic surgery; and beauty standards across different races and cultures, readers will feel that they are sitting down with their girlfriends for a funny, honest, and thought-provoking conversation about our complex relationships with our bodies.

With smarts, wit, and style, this collection captures the double bind of beauty and body image that women contend with each day.

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# **From Reader Review The Bigger the Better, the Tighter the Sweater: 21 Funny Women on Beauty, Body Image, and Other Hazards of Being Female for online ebook**

## **Emily says**

An excellent collection of truly humorous, poignant and thought-provoking essays. Any female reader will identify with and recognize herself in at least one of these pieces. The topics run the gamut from boob size to post pregnancy body blues, and the subjects are treated with humor, honesty and pathos. As the authors say, you might not feel better about yourself or your body after reading this, but you will know for sure that you are not alone.

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## **Jill says**

Very funny! A friend of mine from high school wrote one of the short stories in this book "Around the Bend." A great, funny, read.

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## **Angie Albright says**

I found very little about this that was funny. The writing is fantastic, but it was actually very depressing. It was one story after another detailing all the ways women have been indoctrinated with toxic thinking about our bodies.

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## **Emily says**

Not nearly as applicable to my life as I thought it would be. I was anticipating stories about encounters with prejudice, inappropriate sexual come-ons, dealing with the fact that having boobs makes you somehow more likely to be considered helpless, but this was really focused on what happens as you get old. Or have babies. I think I could have gotten more reading the Oprah magazine.

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## **Terri says**

A good collection of essays related to women and body image, health, hormonal changes, and related things. Mostly funny stories and some bittersweet.

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## **Jennifer Taggart says**

Biased view since this is my sis!

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### **Lisa says**

Hilarious and touching.

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### **kate says**

a collection of humorous essays by women of all ages about women's issues at all ages. you can't help but relate to at least one, from puberty and first crushes to pregnancy and disease.

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### **Tags Taggart says**

I am prejudiced but I think this book is very funny. "My Life as a Mammal" is brilliant, I think.

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### **Emily says**

An uneven, but entertaining collection of essays on female body image. Covers subjects like breast size, pregnancy, aging, infertility, adolescent sexual awakening, and more. Some are quite funny; others quite moving.

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### **Lauren says**

I am not in love with this book. It was fine plane reading, but didn't really enlighten me on women's body issues. Granted, the preface stated that it's purpose was "not to make you feel better about yourself," but rather to know that other women share and sympathize with your issues. Isn't that what I went to feminist college for? And for all the talk of these essays being funny, I wasn't laughing that often. I found many to be rambling and often not very cohesive. Save yourself the money and go buy a Bitch magazine (where I saw the ad for this book) - it's a better read any day of the week.

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### **Jenny Mcdermott says**

This book is a collection of hilarious essays written by women on body image. I laughed out loud reading the chapter titled "My Life as a Mammal". I recommend if you are having one of those days where you need some chick time. Basically, every woman has an area of her self image where she is crazy . . . . .

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## **Kelly says**

A collection of short stories about women's body image written by some VERY funny women. Obviously not a serious read, but a lot of fun!

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## **Annie says**

Fun vacation read

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