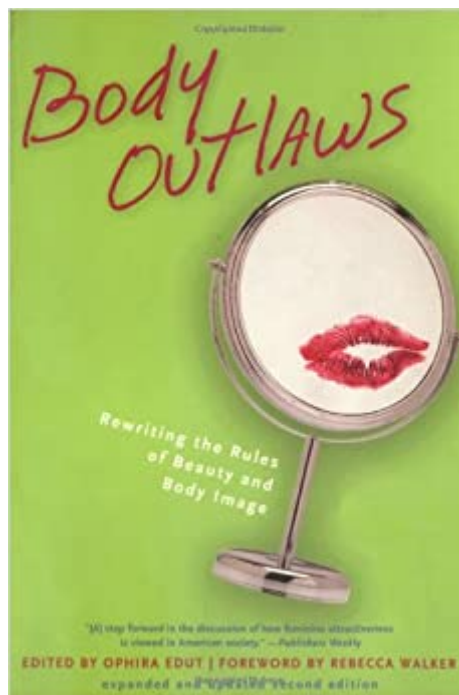




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# Body Outlaws: Rewriting The Rules Of Beauty And Body Image (Live Girls)



## Synopsis

Pick up a magazine, turn on the TV, and you'll find few women who haven't been fried, dyed, plucked, or tucked. In short, you'll see no body outlaws. The writers in this groundbreaking anthology reveal a world where bodies come in all their many-splendored shapes, sizes, colors, and textures. In doing so, they expand the national dialogue on body image to include race, ethnicity, sexuality, and power—issues that, while often overlooked, are intimately linked to how women feel about their bodies. *Body Outlaws* offers stories by those who have chosen to ignore, subvert, or redefine the dominant beauty standard in order to feel at home in their bodies.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The breezy, irreverent essays in *Adios, Barbie* are a welcome antidote to the narrow cultural consciousness the tiny doll has fostered for more than 40 years. While thousands of little girls worship Barbie's plasticine perfection, those who wind up dissatisfied with the message she sends--be white, be skinny, be stacked, be pretty, and then you'll be loved--can tell you how a toy skews body image in the real world. Among whites talking trash about blacks and upwardly mobile black folks, notes Erin J. Aubry, big butts are suspect--"low-class and ghettoish," the antithesis of Barbie's tightly tucked derriere. Yet on good days, Aubry applauds her ample proportions, for "unlike hair or skin, the butt is stubborn, immutable--it can't be hot-combed or straightened or bleached into submission. It does not assimilate; it never took a slave name." In "Fishnets, Feather Boas, and

Fat," Nomy Lam--a 250-pound, 22-year-old disabled woman--and friends elbow their way to the front of a determinedly different club, "dancing like fiends toward revolution." Lee Damsky tells us why her mother's model of scientific prowess took a dusty third-place to big-screen images of "beauty and femininity [that] seem to offer me absolute power rivaled only by a fascist dictatorship." Because the various writers gathered together here are young, their conceits and world-views are sometimes annoyingly unexamined; by the same token, though, their energy, heckling, and bone-deep assurance make large and pleasing dents in mainstream assumptions. --Francesca Coltrera --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Edut, founder and publisher of the magazine HUES (Hear Us Emerging Sisters), has assembled a collection of the freshest, hippest writers ever to slam Mattel's Barbie doll and speak up for the beauty of the un-blond, the un-tall and the un-anorexic. Addressing everything you always wanted to know about body image, from leg hair to transsexuals and African American women's posteriors, the more than 25 contributors present a spectrum of attitudes toward the female body. Although a few of the essays are weak when compared to the book's best pieces, the volume as a whole is a step forward in the discussion of how feminine attractiveness is viewed in American society, concluding that women must seek their own definition of beauty in order to gain a sense of self-acceptance. Essays such as Susan Jane Gilman's "Klaus Barbie, and Other Dolls I'd Like to See" and Graciela Rodriguez's "Breaking the Model" provide insight into the challenges of young women who grew up feeling as if they had to compete with the pert and impossibly perfect Barbie. Other pieces, such as "My Jewish Nose" by Lisa Jervis and "My Brown Face" by Mira Jacob, illuminate the obstacles in trying to emulate a Caucasian appearance. Every writer in this splendid collection raises a different issue, yet the essays address the same theme and, cumulatively, make for compelling and important reading. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I've been pretty happy with this book. It's a little too edgy for my liking-- almost like it's trying too hard to get people who are on the fringes of society. I have slowly been reading through most of the essays, and as I sit here right now the two that stand out as stellar in my mind are:-Kate Dillon's piece on life before and after becoming a plus-size model, and-a thoughtful essay by a woman who worked for awhile as a stripper and actually felt empowered and liberated by it, as opposed to objectified as we might think. Overall, I recommend this book but think it would've been richer if some of the pieces had been left out.

This is an excellent anthology for anyone interested in body image. It features a diverse selection of contributors writing about different image challenges. Hair texture and style, body weight, nose size, skin color, height and other issues are discussed in the pieces. The stories are honest and interesting, with many of the writers injected some humor and wit along the way. The book also is very well edited.

To read about the different body image struggles that other women go through was eye opening. Hearing about body image issues that I would never have thought to have myself helped me realize that there's no one unitary idea of beauty. Therefore I might as well define it for myself and run with it.

If you are looking for a book to challenge the status quo skip this one!

Really enjoyed most of these essays. Some more than others.

This book is fantastic! Very relatable.

Bought this with Deadly Persuasion for a HS report. It had the information I needed. Along the way, it was an eye opener.

When receiving this item it was a totally different book and did not have a return paper included in the package.

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