



33 Things Every Girl Should Know: Stories, Songs, poems, and Smart Talk by 33 Extraordinary Women

By Tonya Bolden

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Natalie Merchant. Sigourney Weaver. Tabitha Soren. Wendy Wasserstein. Rebecca Lobo. Lauren Hutton. Anita Roddick. Lynda Barry. These are among the thirty-three extraordinary women who lend their diverse voices to this outstanding collection of stories, songs, poems, comics, and essays that will give every adolescent girl reason to feel hopeful about making the transition from girlhood to womanhood. Dealing with subjects like popularity, success, communication with boys, speaking one's mind, and body image, here is a book that offers help and inspiration to girls as they struggle to find a portrayal of womanhood they can call their own. 33 Things Every Girl Should Know is an empowering and inspirational gift book that every girl will want to own, to share with friends, and to use as a springboard to self-knowledge, self-acceptance, and self-esteem.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Editor Tonya Bolden makes no bones about it: "It's no secret. This book is about girl build-up." Accordingly, the pieces collected in *33 Things Every Girl Should Know* have the spicy flavor of rabble-rousing. But instead of a radical call to arms, readers will find more of a call to self-esteem, self-respect, and a summons to keep their eyes on a bright future. Subtitled "Stories, Songs, Poems, and Smart Talk by 33 Extraordinary Women," this collection offers young women first-hand advice from such diverse luminaries as Lynda Barry, Sandra Cisneros, Johnnetta Cole, Alice Hoffman, Lauren Hutton, M. E. Kerr, Rebecca Lobo, Natalie Merchant, Faith Ringgold, Tabitha Soren, Vera Wang, Wendy Wasserstein, and Sigourney Weaver. These grown-up girls hearken from many realms and backgrounds, with widely varying experiences and skills, but all join their voices here to offer insight, advice, and a surprising expanse of common ground.

From a fiercely funny comic strip about mean girls, to a moving essay about living with spina bifida, to a forensic discussion of why it's not a crime for girls to love science, these stories reflect and encourage female wit, wisdom, and perseverance. Most of all, the essential 33 things display the infinite range of options for girls, and will inspire young women to pursue the pathways paving their dreams.

From School Library Journal

Grade 6 UpAMuch has been written and studied about the fragile self-esteem of adolescent girls. These selections, all by different authors, aim to offer advice that could help make them more confident and give them a positive direction and outlook. The contributors, such as M.E. Kerr, Vera Wang, Wendy Wasserstein, and Faith Ringgold, represent a wide range of backgrounds and professions and include scientists, athletes, artists, sociologists, writers, and others. A varied spectrum of quality is found in the stories, essays, fairy tales, poetry, cartoons, and memoirs. Some, though well written, give clichéd advice. Judith Ortiz Cofer recommends, "Love your work, and enjoy your play." The actress Sigourney Weaver touts the benefit of hard work and commitment. The underlying message throughout shouts that readers must be true to themselves and follow personal passions. The topics covered vary greatly and include dealing with one's sexual orientation, overcoming and triumphing despite physical handicaps, combating the pervasive "thin is beautiful" culture, dealing with insensitive people, and just finding oneself. Some selections are heavy-handed and preachy, but others speak with a true voice easily heard by adolescents. There's something here for everyone. Perhaps the title is a bit misleading since it seems to promise 33 different ideas. This is a worthwhile purchase for any library. The challenge is to channel it to its intended audience. ARenee Steinberg, Fieldstone Middle School, Montvale, NJ
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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 6⁺-12. Even the most famous, creative women of achievement and distinction had to survive the teenage years. This excellent collection brings together the voices and art of some of our time's best and brightest. The transition from childhood to adulthood isn't easy, and the selections here are comforting and inspirational, with the contributors serving as both mentors and coaches. Well-known and successful writers, artists, athletes, entrepreneurs, and scholars offer their takes on the trials and tribulations of growing up, from issues of self-esteem, popularity, overcoming handicaps and obstacles, and communicating with boys, to learning to follow one's heart and dreams and believing in oneself. Playwright Wendy Wasserstein talks about the pressure of having to attend the "right" private school; author Rebecca Goldstein's short story poignantly captures the awkwardness of feeling outside the mainstream; Lynda Barry's comic offer a

humorous, comforting message about the potential cruelty of peers. Astute, compassionate, sometimes witty, sometimes painfully honest, the pieces are highly readable, entertaining, and educational--and together achieve an important, amazing dichotomy: broadening horizons and possibilities while bringing the world into a manageable, realistic perspective during the confusing, often difficult teen years. *Shelle Rosenfeld*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Charles Anthony:

As people who live in the particular modest era should be up-date about what going on or info even knowledge to make them keep up with the era and that is always change and advance. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to anyone is you don't know what kind you should start with. This 33 Things Every Girl Should Know: Stories, Songs, poems, and Smart Talk by 33 Extraordinary Women is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and need in this era.

Tisha Betancourt:

Typically the book 33 Things Every Girl Should Know: Stories, Songs, poems, and Smart Talk by 33 Extraordinary Women will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading the book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. Should you try to find new book to see, this book very appropriate to you. The book 33 Things Every Girl Should Know: Stories, Songs, poems, and Smart Talk by 33 Extraordinary Women is much recommended to you to study. You can also get the e-book from official web site, so you can easier to read the book.

Bill Flores:

33 Things Every Girl Should Know: Stories, Songs, poems, and Smart Talk by 33 Extraordinary Women can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort that will put every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing 33 Things Every Girl Should Know: Stories, Songs, poems, and Smart Talk by 33 Extraordinary Women but doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource data that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information can drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial thinking.

Rhonda Munoz:

As a college student exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher expected them to go to the library or make summary for some reserve, they are complained. Just minor students that has reading's soul or real their pastime. They just do what the educator want, like asked to the library. They go to presently there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that reading is not important, boring and can't see colorful photographs on there. Yeah, it is to be complicated. Book is very important for yourself. As we know that on

this era, many ways to get whatever we would like. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore , this 33 Things Every Girl Should Know: Stories, Songs, poems, and Smart Talk by 33 Extraordinary Women can make you really feel more interested to read.

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