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Praise from readers on **amazon.com**

GOOD IN BED

by

Jennifer Weiner

★★★★★ **Everything a great novel should have...**

This was a great book. I loved the heroine, I laughed, I cried, I ached -- what can I say? Thank you Jennifer, for writing this book, I will eagerly await your next novel!

★★★★★ **Terrific!**

GOOD IN BED is truly one of the most entertaining and moving books I have read recently. As a thin male, I may seemingly have nothing in common with our wonderfully funny and touching "larger woman" heroine, Cannie. However, I found her to be someone I identified with, cared for, rooted for, and reluctantly said "goodbye" to at the novel's end. Jennifer Weiner brings Cannie to life and takes you on a superbly wonderful adventure with this funny, brave character. I can't recommend this novel

JP 1000
reviewer

★★★★★ **Funny and Real**

Jennifer Weiner captures the hilarious and the painful absurdity of life in this excellent story of Cannie, a smart and witty heroine for everyone.

★★★★★ **Witty, funny, fun and surprisingly moving debut**

I must confess that I was predisposed to like GOOD IN BED, since I've been a big fan of Jennifer Weiner's newspaper columns for some time. I wasn't, however, prepared for how fine a first novel she has produced, finely-written and sensitive first novel.

★★★★★ **Thoroughly enjoyable!!!**

Finally, a book about someone fighting with her self-esteem/looks who does not conveniently turn into Cinderella at the end. Cannie's sense of humor is fantastic and she is a thoroughly likeable character. One that I would love to have as a friend!

★★★★★ **Excellent read!**

Cannie is a terrific person with a great sense of humor that helps her through some very painful and lonely times; as I read the book I found myself laughing and tearing up and cheering her on the to ending she deserves so well. This is a terrific first novel; I can't wait to read what Jennifer writes next.

★★★★★ **Good In Bed: Best In Print!**

This is a really wonderful novel. Touching, sweet, warm, often-hysterically funny, Jennifer Weiner's debut novel is the kind of book you try to pace yourself on because you know you want to parcel out the joy, but find yourself staying up until 2 am finishing because you can't put it down. Cannie Shapiro is a remarkable heroine with a true voice, wise yet still learning, embattled yet still fighting. I cannot say enough good things about this book. Read it: you'll see. Whatever Weiner has in store for us next, I'll be first in line.

★★★★★ **Smart, Funny, Romance**

I picked this up on a lark at a local bookstore, and wound up being immensely satisfied. The characters are funny and believable, the story is compelling, and the author brings a characteristic voice of her own to the table. Cannie Shapiro is a different type of heroine than we've become used to--not a glamorous supermodel type working in a glamorous job, but a real person, fully imagined, who comes out of the pages breathing.

★★★★★ **The Perfect Summer Read To Get Lost In**

From the first page of GOOD IN BED I was laughing. I was surprised at all the surprises that were weaved throughout the book. And that the many poignant moments literally made me cry. Cannie, the smart, successful and funny focus of this novel reminded me of myself and also my close friends. I think every woman will be able to relate to this story of love, relationships, and finally learning what is really important in life. Caution: start this book when you have time to read for hours on end...you aren't going to want to put it down until you find out what happens to Cannie and her family and friends.

★★★★★ **I Loved This Book!**

GOOD IN BED has to be one of the best books I've read in a long, long time. It's one of those books that you feel sad finishing, because it's like you are saying goodbye to a friend. The heroine, Cannie Shapiro, is funny, smart, sassy, and imperfect. She makes mistakes but learns from them, and by the end of the book she has changed in many ways. Once you start this book, it's impossible to put down. **GOOD IN BED** deserves more than 5 stars, in my book!

praise for

Jennifer Weiner's IN HER SHOES

"Weiner follows the successful GOOD IN BED with a wonderful contemporary fairy tale. (Yes, there is a wicked stepmother.)

Meet plump, dependable Rose Feller and her gorgeous, out-of-control sister, Maggie. As children, they lost their mother and contact with grandmother Ella. Now, 20 years later, we follow their struggles to forgive the past, reclaim each other's love, and become their best selves. Within a year and a half, all three women, who seemed only to share a shoe size, possess more than they ever dreamed possible.

Reworking the age-old theme that self-knowledge and acceptance are needed before love and happiness can be achieved, Weiner embroiders serious matters with threads of humor to produce a novel full of memorable characters and situations. (Every family should have a Mrs. Lefkowitz.) **Here's a novel that satisfies on many levels.**

LIBRARY JOURNAL

"One is a plain Jane with a brain; the other's a hot redhead with a learning disability and a body like Britney's. Naturally they hate each other and, of course, they're sisters. Maggie thinks Rose, a Princeton-educated lawyer, is boring. Rose thinks Maggie, fired and evicted yet again, is a leech and a slut. What they have in common is an enemy -- their stepmother -- and a conundrum -- how to get their father to discuss their vibrant birth mother, who died when they were children.

Weiner's vivid characterizations and her light touch with heavy topics make this follow-up to last year's bestselling debut *Good in Bed* an entertaining romp through family battles and toxic relationships. Weiner combines the zany and the serious without making light of the issues faced by her characters. The book is like spending time with an

understanding friend who has a knack for always being great company, brightening the best times and knowing just how to convince you that not only will you get through the worst, you'll manage to squeeze a laugh or two out of the experience. **Bottom Line: Wonderful fit."**

PEOPLE MAGAZINE

"You don't need a shoehorn to see that [Jennifer Weiner]'s plot fits the Cinderella formula like a glass slipper. But unlike the fairy tale, which relies on stereotype characters who never change or surprise, Weiner's plot depends upon people who ultimately are unpredictable."

Boston Herald

"Weiner, whose debut novel *Good in Bed* was an instant bestseller, is back with **another exuberantly confident offering**. Twenty-eight-year-old Maggie Fuller relies on her looks and size zero body to flirt her way through life while working dozens of dead-end jobs and dreaming of stardom. At the other end of the spectrum is her older, larger sister, Rose, who relies on her intelligence and is an accomplished attorney at a large Philadelphia firm. The only things that these two seem to have in common is their shared history, a loathing for their "stepmonster," Sydelle, size six feet and a passion for luxurious shoes. When Maggie is evicted from her apartment and loses yet another job, Rose takes her in and tries to endure her closet raids and endless insults. But her patience abruptly ends when Maggie crosses a line so sacred that Rose kicks Maggie out and all but terminates their relationship ("Her sister was like a fucking Weebel, [Rose] thought. She'd wobble, she'd screw up, she'd steal your shoes... but she'd absolutely never fall down"). The sisters go on with their lives and Maggie discovers that she has a brain and a will to learn, while Rose learns to loosen up a bit and finds that there is more to life than work. The two sisters also get to know their maternal grandmother, Ella Hirsch, who they haven't seen since their mother's funeral more than 20 years ago. With Ella's love and support, Maggie reaches out to Rose and the two begin to repair their relationship. In the end, these three remarkable women learn that they are stronger than they thought they were, that family ties are worth preserving, and that there are perks to sharing the same shoe size. **Weiner, a marvelously natural storyteller, blends humor and heartbreak to create an irresistible novel. Forecast: This sweet sophomore effort should land Weiner on bestseller lists again—she more than proves that she has staying power."**

Publishers Weekly

In *Her Shoes*, Jennifer Weiner's highly anticipated follow-up to *Good in Bed*, speaks to women who have endured the hardships of sibling rivalry or dreamed of trying on someone else's life. It is also an honest look at one woman's struggle with weight. But unlike other weight-obsessed characters in contemporary popular fiction, 30-year-old Rose Feller actually is plus-size. She is not like Bridget Jones, who worries about being fat even though her weight is normal. Rose, a smart, wisecracking, successful lawyer in Philadelphia, is most definitely fat. The book begins when Rose's dream date is interrupted by a call and she is forced to rescue her drunk, irresponsible sister from a 10-year high school reunion. Maggie Feller, 28, is quite the opposite of Rose. Maggie is gorgeous and glides effortlessly through life, from one job and boyfriend to the next, until she's evicted from her apartment. She moves in with Rose, swiping everything from her older sister's credit cards to her shoes. But Maggie crosses the line by stealing the one thing Rose isn't willing to share. *In Her Shoes* chronicles the sisters' adventures as they go their separate ways and end up discovering, along the way, a missing part of themselves. **Weiner is at her best with her witty descriptions of the "stepmonster" Sydelle and Rose's eccentric law firm, where the managing partner has gone off the deep end.** Obsessed with extreme sports, Dom Dommel treats his firm like a sports team — replacing the water cooler with Gatorade, meetings with pep rallies and the yearly bonus with a skateboard. **The book has a happy ending, and Weiner avoids selling out Rose by making her thin (and more likable).** She finds love and happiness without shedding a pound."

USA TODAY

The Feller sisters are equal but opposite. Maggie is the good-looking, dyslexic little sister who knows how to get anything she wants--but not how to keep it. She "felt as if somewhere between the ages of fourteen and sixteen she'd walked off the edge of a cliff and had been falling ever since." Rose is the plump, practical, responsible older sister who knows about law but not much about her own happiness: "What did she like, besides shoes, and Jim, and foods that were bad for her?" When Maggie's latest eviction lands her in Rose's apartment, and Maggie insults Rose by seducing one of her sister's rare boyfriends, what follows is a chain of events by turns hilarious and heartbreaking. Embarrassed Rose evicts Maggie and begins a work sabbatical leading to a new livelihood and way of living. Maggie flees and runs away to Princeton. Masquerading as a student, she learns to love poetry and saves money for a trip to Miami--and a visit to a long-lost grandmother named Ella who might offer her a last shot at sanctuary. But *In Her Shoes*, the second novel from *Good in Bed* author Jennifer Weiner, is about more than the sisters' latest sibling rivalry; Maggie and Rose must sort out the childhood vulnerabilities and family mysteries that still linger two decades after their mother's death. In less capable hands, the plot might grow corny, but **Weiner's**

humor and affection for the characters ultimately helps them transcend both neuroses and grief and learn the redemptive power of love.”

Amazon.com

”Weiner follows up *Good in Bed* (2001) with this **engaging tale of two very different sisters** and the grandmother they've been estranged from since their mother's death. Rose Feller is a successful lawyer whose life finally seems to be going right, until her feckless younger sister, Maggie, gets evicted from her apartment and needs a place to stay. Rose reluctantly lets Maggie move in with her. It's a mistake: Maggie steals Rose's shoes, halfheartedly looks for a job, and soon sets her sights on Rose's handsome new boyfriend. While the two sisters' relationship grows more strained, their grandmother, Ella, is trying to get up the nerve to seek them out. After the girls' mother--Ella's daughter, Caroline--died, her husband shut Ella out of their lives. When one of her granddaughters, who is in desperate need of help, contacts her suddenly, Ella sees a chance to finally get to know the girls. But can the rift between Rose and Maggie ever be healed? **Weiner's second novel is every bit as enjoyable and moving as her first.**”

Booklist

Maybe Jennifer Weiner, former *Philadelphia Inquirer* reporter and columnist, isn't so bad after all. Her first book, *Good in Bed*, came out in May of last year and landed on the *New York Times* bestseller list by the end of that month. Now she's written another book, *In Her Shoes*, that--with its feminine touch and page-turning plotline--is poised to be just as big. *In Her Shoes*, just released to a starred review in *Publishers Weekly*, is the story of two sisters, Rose and Maggie Feller, who live in Philadelphia and frequent places like Rittenhouse Square, Striped Bass, even the Jamaican Jerk Hut on South Street. The two share a childhood tragedy, but that's about all they have in common. Maggie is a beautiful, too-skinny party girl who can't keep a job; Rose is a stern, overweight lawyer with a stack of romance novels for a social life. Things get shaken up a bit and the women learn to become more than the roles their family assigned them. Judging by the success of her debut novel, many American women are seduced by Weiner's topics--finding love, mending broken families and being big in a size 2 world--which for some hit close to the bone. **What you may not have counted on is that her writing's big heart and sense of humor might pull you in**--you who eschews beach books and instinctively turns your nose up at the mere mention of Bridget Jones.

Ironically, Jennifer Weiner says she was that way once, too. "Oh, I was a pretentious little thing," she says, when asked about winning Princeton's

Academy of American Poets prize for poetry. But now her prizes for poetry are dwarfed by her commercial success. Weiner is in talks to make *Good in Bed* a TV series, and she just signed another two-book deal with her publisher, Atria Books. She is now at work on a novel that features "lots of sex and violence," and Fox 2000 has optioned *In Her Shoes* with *Erin Brockovich* screenwriter Susannah Grant signed on to adapt the story for the big screen.

Philadelphia Weekly

The sophomore slump. Authors fear it. Critics often cite it. Publishers hope that it's just a myth. **But following a bestselling first book with another winner can be a daunting task. So it's a pleasure to report that Jennifer Weiner has avoided the slump with "In Her Shoes."** Weiner, 32, is a Connecticut native who by her own account had a miserable time in high school before becoming a reporter and columnist at the Philadelphia Inquirer. Then she wrote "Good in Bed," which rocketed onto the New York Times bestseller list. The comic novel about a woman whose ex-boyfriend writes about her in a magazine column titled "Good in Bed" was a natural for readers sympathetic to its witty, weighty heroine. So some might be wary when opening "In Her Shoes," the story of two dissimilar sisters -- smart, overweight Rose and screwy, sexy, size-2 Maggie. Is Weiner just revisiting familiar territory? Happily, no. There are similarities, and the heroine of "Good in Bed" makes a cameo appearance, but "In Her Shoes" succeeds on its own. Maggie can't hold a job, drinks too much and blithely appropriates things that mean a lot to Rose, such as her expensive shoes and, oh yeah, her boyfriend. Rose, a lawyer with self-esteem issues, is way too fond of lecturing Maggie about her shortcomings, all but driving her to bad behavior. There are reasons the Feller sisters have problems. As children, they lost their mother, Caroline, to emotional illness -- and for all practical purposes lost their widowed dad when he married their "stepmonster," Sydelle. Worse, when their mother died, Daddy shut off all contact with their maternal grandmother, Ella, who has wound up in a "Seinfeld"-ian seniors condo development in Florida. At first it seems that readers are meant to take Rose's side. **Then Weiner pulls the switcheroo that makes this novel a success.** Having set up Maggie as the selfish one, she takes us inside her head and heart and in so doing makes her sympathetic. Then Weiner introduces the missing grandma, who completes the triangle of women devastated by the sad life and death of Caroline Feller. Still smarting, still wary, the three gingerly connect and begin to form the family that had been missing for so long.

Hartford Courant

