



Unless you're in a library, feel free to laugh out loud with these books by comedy's wittiest women

# FUNNY GIRLS

When Samantha Bee (*The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*) began a six-city tour/media assault in June 2010 to plug her new book, she joined a growing list of funny females putting their memoirs (and punch lines) in print. — by Jennifer Goddard and Jim Colucci

## I KNOW I AM, BUT WHAT ARE YOU?

Samantha Bee

As one of Jon Stewart's "Most Senior" correspondents on *The Daily Show*, Samantha Bee is known for her seriously funny sarcasm, wit and irony. In her new book, Bee continues some of the shtick that has made her a favorite among fans of Comedy Central's fake news show, describing hilarious cringe-worthy stories from her upbringing in Toronto while turning the satire

on herself. She divulges awkward confessions about dating Jesus until she was 12 ("I had read *The Thorn Birds*, so I knew what I was getting myself into") and trying to kill herself as a teenager with a quarter-cup of Pine-Sol and six Correctol laxatives. ("[E]ight

hours later ... I had terrible diarrhea and my breath smelled like pine resin.")



## WHAT WOULD SUSIE SAY?

Susie Essman

Stand-up veteran Susie Essman infuses her first book with the trademark humor that fans of HBO's *Curb Your Enthusiasm* love about her volatile and profane character, Susie Greene. A blend of memoir, advice column and insider's look at comedy, she seamlessly shifts gears between her life lessons on relationships, parenting and getting older. While Essman

offers readers plenty of laugh-out-loud moments ("these kids and their whole lame generation think they are so hip, with their bike helmets and their safe sex. In my day safe sex was when you did it without handcuffs"), she also covers topics that she admits

aren't funny. "I just spewed everything," the comic explains, "and it turned out to be this really nice kind of combination of essays and memoir."



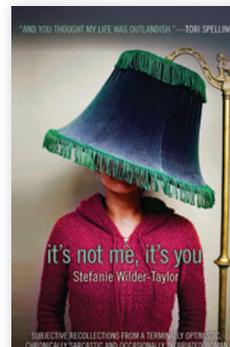
## IT'S NOT ME, IT'S YOU

Stefanie Wilder-Taylor

Comedian and author Stefanie Wilder-Taylor has given advice to America's parents on shows such as *Dr. Phil* while writing for more than 30 television, sketch and variety shows. The mother of three, best known for books with titles such as *Naptime is the New Happy Hour*, quit drinking just one month before the publication of her latest, *It's Not Me, It's You*. The chapters

are personal and entertaining, such as her assessment of a less-than-interested therapist's help with an eating disorder: "Every so often she'd stand up without warning, reach across the table, make a grab for a piece of candy, sit back down, battle furiously with the wrapper until finally setting it free, and pop it into her mouth, all the while saying, 'Go on, go on. I'm listening.'"

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EXCERPTS

## LAUGH TRACK

Which lady of laughs best suits your sense of humor? From domestic musings of Stefanie Wilder-Taylor to the stinging satire of Samantha Bee (with Susie Essman nestled somewhere between), here's a snapshot of what to expect from their books.

Wilder-Taylor's sassy rants on becoming a mother—"Can't you push a little Valium through that IV?"—would make Erma Bombeck blush.



Essman's musings include a chapter on how to judge a man's sexual prowess by his dog's breed. ("Doberman pinscher—definitely a sadomasochist.")



Bee's childhood memories include attending Catholic school and a chapter about fantasizing that "Jesus was totally my boyfriend."

