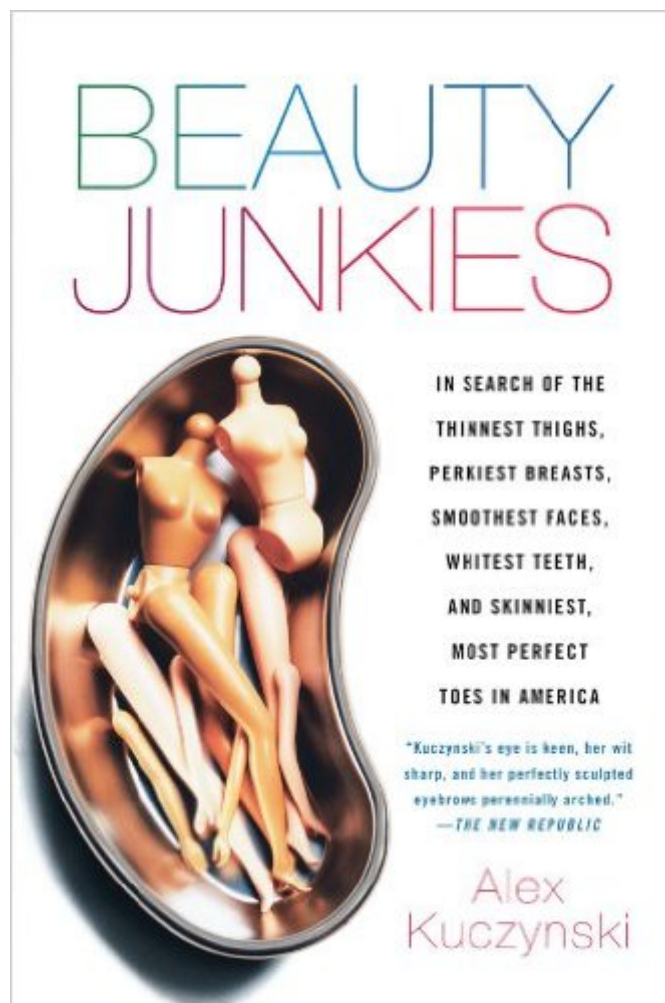


The book was found

Beauty Junkies: In Search Of The Thinnest Thighs, Perkiest Breasts, Smoothest Faces, Whitest Teeth, And Skinniest, Most Perfect Toes In America



Synopsis

A star writer for the New York Times Styles section captures the follies, frauds, and fanaticism that fuel the American pursuit of youth and beauty in a wickedly revealing excursion into the burgeoning business of cosmetic enhancement. Americans are aging faster and getting fatter than any other population on the planet. At the same time, our popular notions of perfect beauty have become so strict it seems even Barbie wouldn't have a chance of making it into the local beauty pageant. Aging may be a natural fact of life, but for a growing number of Americans its hallmarks—wrinkles, love handles, jiggling flesh—are seen as obstacles to be conquered on the path to lasting, flawless beauty. In *Beauty Junkies* Alex Kuczynski, whose sly wit and fearless reporting in the Times has won her fans across the country, delivers a fresh and irresistible look at America's increasingly desperate pursuit of ultimate beauty by any means necessary. From a group of high-maintenance New York City women who devote themselves to preserving their looks twenty-four hours a day, to a "surgery safari" in South Africa complete with "after" photographs of magically rejuvenated patients posing with wild animals, to a podiatrist's office in Manhattan where a "foot face-lift" provides women with the right fit for their \$700 Jimmy Choos, Kuczynski portrays the all-American quest for self-transformation in all its extremes. In New York, lawyers become Botox junkies in an effort to remain poker-faced. In Los Angeles, women of an uncertain age nip and tuck their most private areas, so that every inch of their bodies is as taut as their lifted faces. Across the country, young women graduating from high school receive gifts of breast implants "from their parents. As medicine and technology stretch the boundaries of biology, Kuczynski asks whether cosmetic surgery might even be part of human evolution, a kind of cosmetic survival of the fittest—or firmest? With incomparable portraits of obsessive patients and the equally obsessed doctors who cater to their dreams, *Beauty Junkies* examines the hype, the hope, and the questionable ethics surrounding the advent of each new miraculous technique. Lively and entertaining, thought-provoking and disturbing, *Beauty Junkies* is destined to be one of the most talked-about books of the season.

Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Harmony; Reprint edition (January 15, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0767914112

ISBN-13: 978-0767914116

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (40 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,071,039 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 in Â Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Exercise & Fitness > Hip & Thigh Workouts #197 in Â Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Surgery > Plastic #730 in Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Medicine

Customer Reviews

I read the paperback version of Alex Kuczynski's book, so I'll stick my review here. I don't understand why the publisher decided to muddle things up by re-launching the paperback as a new-ish piece of work with a brand new subtitle of "In Search of the Thinnest Thighs, Perkiest Breasts, Smoothest Faces, Whitest Teeth, and Skinniest, Most Perfect Toes in America." Not only is that a sales-flopping mouthful, it's also off-base. First, she hardly talks about toes. There's just a fleeting reference to them, no longer than a paragraph. Second, the book does a 360 degree look at the cosmetic surgery industry, not just the 'search' which sounds like it's purely a consumer-centric look. The subtitle of the hardcover was more spot-on: "Inside Our \$15 Billion Obsession With Cosmetic Surgery." That's a better indication of what's inside. On page 215 of the paperback, the author notes that "(t)he multiple eyes on the cover of this book are mine..." Well, not on my paperback, with its lame 'Barbie doll pieces in a surgery pan' photo that probably got scooped off of iStockPhoto. That text should have got changed for the paperback version. Plus, the cover concept of the hardcover version - 16 marked-up instances of the author's very attractive eye - is brilliant: it completely captures the spirit of the book, in which not only does Ms. Kuczynski report on the cosmetic industry, she participates in it. In fact, as her reporting unfolds, so too does her immersion as a patient...or, at least, her level of revelations. We're told of her eyelid surgery, botox treatments, regular dermabrasion sessions, liposuction and Restylane lip injections.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Beauty Junkies: In search of the thinnest thighs, perkiest breasts, smoothest faces, whitest teeth, and skinniest, most perfect toes in America Word Search Book for Adults: Word Search Puzzles to Improve Memory and Exercise: word search, word search books, word search books for adults, adult word search books, word search puzzle books Word Search Puzzles Large Print: Large print word search, Word search books, Word search books for adults, Adult word search books, Word search puzzle books, Extra large print word search Total Body Lift: Reshaping the breasts, chest, arms, thighs, hips, back, waist, abdomen, and knees after weight loss, (n/a series) DIY Beauty

Magic (6 in 1): Epsom Salt, Aromatherapy, Body Scrubs, Candles, Essential Oils and Lotions for Your DIY Beauty Routine (Body Care & Beauty Products) A Practical Guide to the Management of the Teeth ; Comprising a Discovery of the Origin of Caries, or Decay of the Teeth, With its Prevention and Cure Children's Books: WHO NEEDS TEETH? (Adorable Rhyming bedtime Story/Picture Book About Caring for Your Teeth, for Beginner Readers, Ages 2-8) Multicultural Children's Books: WHO NEEDS TEETH? (Adorable Rhyming Bedtime Story/Picture Book About Caring for Your Teeth, for Beginner Readers, Ages 2-8) How to Keep Your Teeth for a Lifetime: What You Should Know About Caring for Your Teeth Belles on Their Toes Wedding Dresses - A Picture Guide Book For Wedding Dress and Gown Inspirations: A Picture-Perfect Guide To Selecting The Perfect Wedding Gown Is The Perfect ... For Brides-To-Be (Weddings by Sam Siv 7) Warriors Word Scramble: Word Scramble Games - Word Search, Word Puzzles And Word Scrambles (Word Games, Brain Games, Word Search, Word Search Games, Word ... Scramble, Word Scrabble, Unscramble Word) The Best Large Print Word Search Puzzle Book: A Collection of 50 Themed Word Search Puzzles; Great for Adults and for Kids! (The Best Large Print Word Search Puzzle Books) (Volume 1) Fingerspelling Word Search Games - 36 Word Search Puzzles with the American Sign Language Alphabet: Volume 01 (Fingerspelling Word Search Games for Adults) Natural Beauty: Radiant Skin Care Secrets & Homemade Beauty Recipes From the World's Most Unforgettable Women (Essential Oil for Beginners Series) Wok This Way - 50 Asian Style Recipes - Wok Recipes - Stir Fry Recipes - (Asian Stir Fry Cookbook, Asian Wok Cooking, (Recipe Junkies - Wok Recipes) Vinyl Junkies: Adventures in Record Collecting RICE RICE BABY #2 - THE SECOND COMING OF RICED - 50 RICE COOKER RECIPES - (Kitchen Appliance Cooking, Rice Cooker Appliance, Rice Cooker Cookbook, Clean ... Recipes, Healthy Recipes, Recipe Junkies America's Most Wanted Recipes: Delicious Recipes from Your Family's Favorite Restaurants (America's Most Wanted Recipes Series) The Globetrotter's Get-Gorgeous Guide: Diet and Beauty Secrets of Travel and Beauty Pros, Traveling Executives and Celebrity Travelers