



WORTH A REVISIT: GLOSS REMINDS US OF ANOTHER TONGUE-IN-CHEEK MYSTERY: CARL HIAASEN'S *LUCKY YOU* (1997).

REVIEWS

BAD GIRLS, nonfiction essays edited by Ellen Sussman (Norton) **TO SUM UP:** True tales of girls behaving badly from 26 (naughty!) female writers. **WHY IT'S WORTH YOUR TIME:** These essays take back the "bad girl" label from spring-breakers and celebutantes. **DON'T MISS:** Joyce Maynard's "A Good Girl Goes Bad," on her destructive relationship with J.D. Salinger.

THE MANNY, a novel by Holly Peterson (The Dial Press) **TO SUM UP:** A Manhattan mom in a dead-end marriage hires a hot male nanny for her son. You see where this is going. **WHY YOU SHOULD READ IT:** It's like eating an entire carton of Dibs in book form. Oh, and there's a great blow-job scene on p. 166.

BEFORE, a novel by Iriani Spanidou (Knopf) **TO SUM UP:** Beatrice, a 20-something in 1970s New York, battles the bottle and an unwanted pregnancy. **WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT:** The realities of free love make the '80s and '90s seem pretty awesome.

GLOSS, a novel by Jennifer Oko (MIRA Books) **TO SUM UP:** A TV producer's feel-good story about the beauty industry ends up landing her in prison. **WHY IT FEELS SO REAL:** Author Oko is a producer at CBS, so she's seen the anchor catfights up close.

LOVING FRANK, a novel by Nancy Horan (Ballantine Books) **TO SUM UP:** Fact meets fiction in this story of Frank Lloyd Wright's scandalous affair. **WHY YOU SHOULD READ IT:** Horan spent seven years researching it—the least you could do is read it.



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