

#1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author

JENNIFER WEINER



a novel

THE GRIFFIN SISTERS' GREATEST HITS

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WILLIAM MORROW

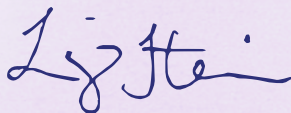
A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Reader,

In 2001, along with thousands of women across the country, I read Jennifer Weiner's first novel, *Good in Bed*. We all instantly fell in love with her absorbing writing and her real, relatable characters. We celebrated how she broke the mold of what a female protagonist could look like when she introduced Cannie Shapiro to the world. Since then, more than eleven million readers in thirty-six countries have connected with Weiner's compulsive, fun, smart novels. Weiner is an industry leader, paving the way for so many writers and providing readers over and over with the opportunity to simultaneously experience entertainment and personal self-discovery. Weiner's books do not shy away from the thorny issues that polarize and alienate, and we are lucky to have her powerful voice in these difficult times.

Weiner is, and has been for more than two decades, a prolific writer and commentator of pop culture and feminism, contributing to all the major conversations we have today about women's issues and body positivity. So it's no surprise that her new book, *The Griffin Sisters' Greatest Hits*, is poised at the intersection of fame and female creators. Set in the present day and twenty years ago, Weiner charts the paths of three women in the Grossberg family as they journey through the music industry. It's a love story, it's a sister story, it's a portrait of the golden age of pop music, and it's one you will not want to miss. If this is your twenty-third Jennifer Weiner novel or your first, you are in for a transporting experience guaranteed to deliver entertainment, nostalgia, reflection, and fun.

Happy reading,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liz Stein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Liz" and last name "Stein" clearly legible.

Liz Stein
Vice President and Executive Editor

BEHIND THE BOOK WITH JENNIFER WEINER

I am very excited to share this beautiful book with you and tell you a little about where the story came from.

The Griffin Sisters' Greatest Hits began with Carnie Wilson. Specifically, it began with the video for "Hold On," which was shot in black and white, on a beach. Wendy Wilson and Chynna Phillips, both tall and thin, sat on the sand, in pretty slip dresses. And Carnie Wilson, less tall, less thin, sat beside them, wearing . . . a pantsuit. As one does, on the beach.

When "Hold On" was topping the pop charts, I was twenty-two years old, just out of college, working as a newspaper reporter in Central Pennsylvania, and, as a Carnie-sized woman, I got the message, loud and clear. My talent would always matter less than my appearance. Women like me, with bodies like mine, were not beautiful or desirable. Our job was to change . . . or to hide.

I've spent a lot of my career challenging that notion, and the idea that a woman's worth resides in her face or her dress size. With this book, I wanted to specifically talk about Carnie Wilson's world and write about two sisters—one talented, the other fitting the prevalent notions of beauty. I wanted to put them in a chart-topping band, and I wanted to give them a different ending than what would be expected.

I'm so excited for readers to meet Cassie and Zoe, who start off as the Grossbergs and become the Griffin Sisters in 2003. In addition to Cassie and Zoe, readers will also meet Zoe's daughter, Cherry, who, twenty years later, is determined to uncover the true story of the band's breakup, connect with the aunt she's never met, and pursue her own dreams of stardom. Will her journey be any easier than her mother and aunt's? Has the industry gotten any better? Or will the sharp-toothed machine that tore the Griffin Sisters apart have its way with the next generation, too?

I loved writing this book, even as it took me back to a less-enlightened era, when diet culture had us in a chokehold, Britney Spears was hounded and hunted, and Jessica Simpson was pilloried for wearing the wrong pair of jeans. It was cathartic to turn a lens on those years, and it's been a delight to work with the brilliant team at William Morrow/HarperCollins to bring *The Griffin Sisters' Greatest Hits* to you!

In the almost twenty-five years since my first book was published, I've visited bookstores and libraries all across America . . . and, every time I do, I come home more convinced that book people are the best people, and that the work you're doing remains some of the most important work in the world. As a writer, and as a reader, I know that putting the right book into the right person's hands can be life-changing—even life-saving.

With book bans proliferating, with booksellers, authors, librarians, and educators under attack, you are on the front lines of a culture war none of us signed up for. Your role is more crucial than ever. As a writer, as a reader, as a parent, I am so grateful, not only for the support you've given me, but for everything you do.

Jennifer Weiner

PRAISE FOR JENNIFER WEINER

"*The Breakaway* is sexy and suspenseful and so much fun, even as it asks us to imagine lives unconstrained by convention or the Supreme Court. It's the lobster roll you get with mayo and melted butter—because why choose? To quote Mary Oliver grossly out of context, 'Let the soft animal of your body love what it loves,' whether it's noodles or romance or even the uncertainty that comes with getting to decide who we want to be."

— **NEW YORK TIMES, ON *THE BREAKAWAY***

"Weiner is the undisputed queen of the fun yet thoughtful poolside read."

— **VOGUE**

"Fun, smart, and a powerful reminder to follow your own path."

— **THE SKIMM ON *THE BREAKAWAY***

"Incredibly fun . . . A lovely, compulsively readable story about finding your path and believing in your own worth."

— **KIRKUS REVIEWS (STARRED REVIEW) ON *THE BREAKAWAY***

"This is a winning combination of a light read with serious emotional depth, the very mix Weiner's many fans have come to expect from her. Weiner's annual summer release is a welcome (and highly anticipated) treat for readers of relatable relationship fiction."

— **BOOKLIST (STARRED REVIEW) ON *THE BREAKAWAY***

"Sexy and satisfying . . . Observant, self-aware, and very funny, *Big Summer* will delight Jennifer Weiner's many fans and could be just the absorbing take-me-away read so many of us need right now."

— **USA TODAY ON *BIG SUMMER***

"It's the beach read to end all beach reads."

— **ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY ON *BIG SUMMER***

"It's deliciously fun: frothy entertainment with surprising depth. *Big Summer* is big fun, and then some. It's empowering and surprising—a reminder to put down the phone and enjoy each moment for what it is, rather than what it could look like on Instagram."

— **THE WASHINGTON POST ON *BIG SUMMER***

THE GRIFFIN SISTERS' GREATEST HITS PLAYLIST



1. "Why" – Annie Lennox
2. "When Will I Be Loved" – Linda Ronstadt
3. "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman" – Aretha Franklin
4. "One Way Or Another" – Blondie
5. "Don't Let the Sun Go Down on Me" – Elton John
6. "Desperados Under the Eaves" – Warren Zevon
7. "Somewhere That's Green" – *Little Shop of Horrors*
8. ". . . Baby One More Time" – Britney Spears
9. "You Oughta Know" – Alanis Morissette
10. "Genie in a Bottle" – Christina Aguilera
11. "Why Can't I" – Liz Phair
12. "Man! I Feel Like a Woman!" – Shania Twain
13. "Wannabe" – Spice Girls
14. "Celebrity Skin" – Hole

