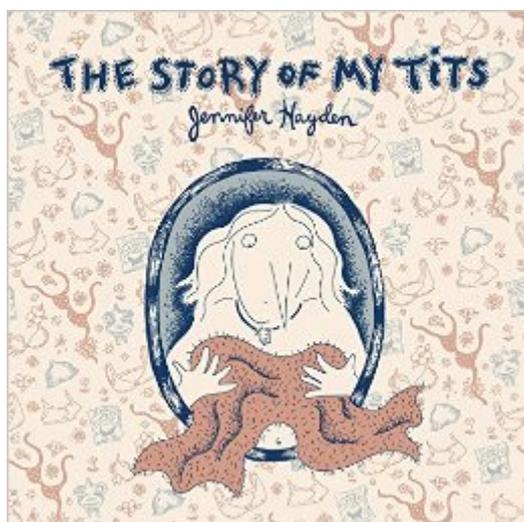


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# The Story Of My Tits



## Synopsis

"Truly moving. Hayden has created a heartfelt and often hilarious tribute to her life-and to the resilience of women everywhere." - Publishers Weekly (starred review)"Heartbreaking and riveting, Jennifer Hayden's caustic, sarcastic wit streams through her quirky drawings, unfolding a survivor's tale and so much more. The Story of My Tits takes us from her flat-chested adolescence to small-boobed acceptance, then loss - until the dramatic reconstruction of Jennifer herself." - Marisa Acocella Marchetto, author of Cancer Vixen and Ann Tenna

The pacing of her storytelling is seamless... Hayden's memoir will resonate with anyone who has suffered loss and gone on to tell the tale.

Named one of Library Journal's BEST BOOKS OF 2015! A landmark work of graphic memoir and a cancer narrative that Gabrielle Bell (Lucky and Cecil & Jordan in New York) calls, "comforting, straightforward and strongly connected to life."

When Jennifer Hayden was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 43, she realized that her tits told a story. Across a lifetime, they'd held so many meanings: hope and fear, pride and embarrassment, life and death. And then they were gone. Now, their story has become a way of understanding her story. For everyone who's faced cancer personally, or watched a loved one fight that battle, Hayden's story is a much-needed breath of fresh air, an irresistible blend of sweetness and skepticism. Rich with both symbolism and humor, The Story of My Tits will leave you laughing, weeping, and feeling grateful for every day.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Sometimes it seems that almost everybody I know has had breast cancer or know's somebody else who does. This fierce and loving graphic memoir is about Jennifer Hayden's own harrowing struggle through Stage 0 breast cancer when she was in her forties as well as the story of her mother's mastectomy when Ms Hayden was younger. What I enjoyed most about Ms Hayden's story was her ability to show us how a family, over time and through affairs, divorce, step parenting and of course, the brutal diagnosis and treatment of breast, and other cancers, handled the vicissitudes of family life in their own genuine, clumsy, hurtful and loving manner. Ms Hayden skillfully shows us how imperfect love can be and how in the end it is what we have as we plow through the hard stuff. I also enjoyed Ms Hayden's story of her tits as she pines for them as a teenager, watches them grown and take "shape" and misses them when they are gone. Yet, it is quite clear that she has made peace with this and has grown to love her body as is, an almost impossible task for women in this culture. I also wanted to heartily congratulate her for not being swayed by New Age philosophies that subtly, and not so subtly blame the victim for cancer while she does clearly appreciate all that she has. Thank you Netgalley for allowing me to review this book for an honest opinion.

I'm not one to emote while reading, but Ms. Hayden's graphic novel made me laugh out loud, quietly weep, and thoroughly engrossed me. I read it straight through, and then started over to appreciate the art work. The incredibly detailed and clever art work. From the magazines on the table, to the toys on the floor, to the titles of books on the shelves, every ink stroke is purposeful and frivolous at the same time. How does she do that?

It's a fantastically written and paced story. The fact that Ms. Hayden did all the artwork adds to the intimacy of the story. The story starts when the protagonist is 10 years old. She longs for boobs, but they don't even hint at popping out until she is 15. This is also the story of her relationship with her parents, siblings, husband, children, and herself. The relationships with her mother and mother-in-law are particularly well detailed and interesting. Eventually, the protagonist is diagnosed with breast cancer. It is handled exceptionally well. Having dealt with this in my own family, I can say that her presentation of this issue and the emotions around it is spot on. Thank you Ms. Hayden.

The story itself was interesting. A woman's relationship with her body image. The story of waiting to grow up and have breasts, the story of how those breasts sustain life when breastfeeding and the

pain of losing them to cancer. This is the story of Jennifer's struggle both with her own cancer and her mother's cancer years before. The story of how a family deals with cancer the relationship between a husband and wife and a mother and her daughter around breast cancer. The drawings were crude and the lettering was difficult to read in some of the panels.

Very moving story about life and death. Though we are all mortal and destined to suffer - there is strength and hope through acceptance and love. Jennifer is an "alternative" cartoonist, so traditionalists may not enjoy her style - but her artwork more than adequately told the story for me, and her writing is superlative.

This is a super good graphic novel, not only because it's a good story, even if ok, the illustrations are nothing special, but it's told in such a witty and humorous way that sometimes you can forget that the main topic is cancer. I would recommend all my friends to read it because it's not important if you had cancer or not, it's not about that, it's about life. Questa Ã© una bellissima graphic novel, non solo perchÃ© la storia Ã© veramente carina (sulle illustrazioni diciamo che....ecco, ti deve piacere il genere), ma soprattutto per il modo in cui Ã© raccontata: ironica, divertente, sarcastica....la maggior parte delle volte mi scordavo che stavo leggendo un libro che parlava di cancro, e non il segno zodiacale. Lo suggerirÃ© a tutti i miei amici, perchÃ© non importa se sei o meno un sopravvissuto, l'argomento di questa storia Ã© la vita.

Tears. Heartache. Perspective. Connection. Understanding. Relief. Release. I felt all these things and more as I read *The Story of My Tits*. My book club chose it in conjunction with my experience with breast cancer and honestly, I didn't want to read it. But, boy, am I glad I did. Jennifer Hayden captured it all, perfectly.

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