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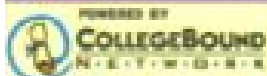
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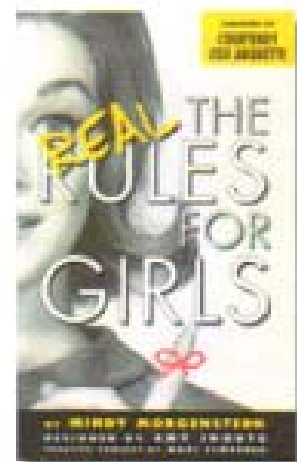
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# The *Real* Rules for Girls

By Vicki Salemi

Hey girlfriend! There's finally a book that was meant for us, to remind us the average model's career is over by the age of 23, and that the guy you have a crush on now will make you gag when you're 30. Listen up -- the rules we've lived by until now were meant to be broken... there are some new rules in town! Those are the facts according to Mindy Morganstern, author of *The Real Rules for Girls* (Girl Press, 2002). She's like the cool aunt you wish you had!



Morganstern admits the sad reality that so many girls suffer from low self-esteem. That's why she decided it was time to mix things up! "It's important to send the message that girls should just be themselves. Life is a journey to find out who you are. We need to calm ourselves down and realize we are capable, intelligent, and should act as though we can grow into being what we desire."

**"Life is a journey to find out who you are. We need to calm ourselves down and realize we are capable, intelligent, and should act as though we can grow into being what we desire."**

*The Real Rules for Girls* dishes on everything from romance to work, in order to hip tell us to the truth about topics so we realize it is possible to follow dreams and find a way to support ourselves -- financially *and* emotionally. According to "Aunt Mindy," teen girls experience so many pressures, including what our parents think, what our friends think, and what our boyfriends think. Many of us want to be liked so badly that we often lose sight of our own decisions. This book ditches those notions and instead, encourages independence so you can embrace a voice of your own.

wall" are some of Morganstern's new rules to love and live by. Here's a synopsis:

▪ **Romance** -- There's a lid for every pot (you just have to find a way to find your lid), and the football captains of today are the burger jockeys of tomorrow.

▪ **Work** -- There will be sucky jobs along the way... a good bluff can get you anywhere.

▪ **Social life** -- Learn how to "work a room" (including helpful hints from the "Secret Mindy Party Tips" file).

▪ **Family** -- Everyone's family is as freaky as yours. Accept them!

▪ **Money** -- Keep your own purse. You can't follow your dreams if you can't pay for gas.

▪ **Life tips** -- Learn to be alone, stay true to you, and stop obsessing over your weight.

**Combine the go-get 'em attitude with smart, sassy advice, and you've got a book you won't want to put down! As Morganstern puts it: "Keep your head in the moment and not on your hair."**

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