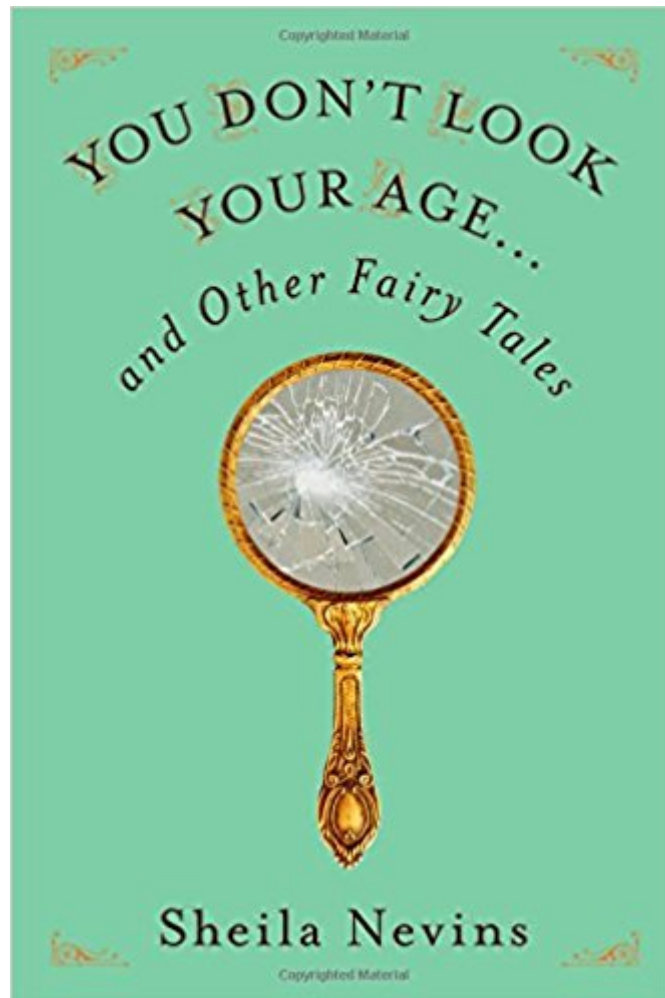




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# You Don't Look Your Age...and Other Fairy Tales



## Synopsis

INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER  
“Thank you to Sheila Nevins for putting all this down for posterity. Women need this kind of honest excavation of the process of living.”  
—Meryl Streep  
An astonishingly frank, funny, poignant book for any woman who wishes they had someone who would say to them, “This happened to me, learn from my mistakes and my successes. Because you don’t get smarter as you get older, you get braver.”  
Sheila Nevins is the best friend you never knew you had. She is your discreet confidante you can tell any secret to, your sage mentor at work who helps you navigate the often uneven playing field, your wise sister who has “been there, done that,” your hysterical girlfriend whose stories about men will make laugh until you cry. Sheila Nevins is the one person who always tells it like it is. In *You Don’t Look Your Age*, the famed documentary producer (as President of HBO Documentary Films for over 30 years, Nevins has rightfully been credited with creating the documentary rebirth) finally steps out from behind the camera and takes her place front and center. In these pages you will read about the real life challenges of being a woman in a man’s world, what it means to be a working mother, what it’s like to be an older woman in a youth-obsessed culture, the sometimes changing, often sweet truth about marriages, what being a feminist really means, and that you are in good company if your adult children don’t return your phone calls. So come, sit down, make yourself comfortable, (and for some of you, don’t forget the damn reading glasses). You’re in for a treat.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Audio book read by: Alan Alda, Bob Balaban, Christine Baranski, Kathy Bates, Ellen Burstyn, Glenn Close, Katie Couric, Blythe Danner, Lena Dunham, Edie Falco, Tovah Feldshuh, Diane von Furstenberg, Whoopi Goldberg, Gayle King, Sandra Lee, Judith Light, Jenna Lyons, Audra McDonald, Janet Mock, Rosie O'Donnell, RuPaul, Liz Smith, Lesley Stahl, Gloria Steinem, Martha Stewart, Meryl Streep, Marlo Thomas, Lily Tomlin, and Gloria Vanderbilt. "Thank you to Sheila Nevins for putting all this down for posterity. Women need this kind of honest excavation of the process of living." Meryl Streep "This book is gorgeous. I was blown away. The piece about Nevins' mother is stunning. There is such range to this collection. Funny but always honest." Delia Ephron "Brave, honest and inspiring." Edie Falco "Fearless! Funny! Honest! I loooove it!" Diane Von Furstenberg "Funny, sad, insightful, clever, touching! I was immediately captivated." There were moments when I thought Nevins was sharing secrets with me. I loved them all. This was a special read, and when I'd finished I felt I'd been given an unexpected present. Barbara Taylor Bradford

Sheila Nevins has a BA from Barnard and an MFA from the Yale School of Drama, and is a television producer and the President of HBO Documentary Films. She has produced over one thousand documentary films for HBO and is one of the most influential people in documentary filmmaking. She has worked on productions that have been recognized with 32 Primetime Emmy Awards, 34 News and Doc Emmy Awards, 42 Peabody Awards, and 26 Academy Awards. Nevins has won 32 individual Primetime Emmy Awards, more than any other person.

A powerful and poignant story of how Sheila Nevins got to and stayed at the top of the entertainment industry and what motivated her. In poetic and funny vignettes, she admits to having had to bring the coffee, shoulder the condescension, take the backstabbing of so-called work friends, engage in strategic sex (it worked), maintain looking gorgeous (enough botox to detonate Iran), and one thing she may have regretted: not baking cupcakes for her son's school fest. Spurred on by an underprivileged background and the class and anti-Semitic rejection she endured, Nevins in the end prevails, remains an absolute original, a brilliant documentarian who still wins umpteen awards, maintains her humor and keeps her nerve. Without political correctness or feminist homilies, her story encourages every aspiring woman to be brave, express her talents, face down challenges, and seek top of the heap success. -- Roberta Cohen

I loved this book, I could relate on so many levels; trying to make it in a man's world, feminism or lack thereof, baking cookies for a school bake sale, fading memory, not putting my two cents in when someone is wronged. I enjoyed the read very much.

Alas, Ms. Nevins has such a phenomenal resume, I expected a far more enjoyable book. I did not stop to consider that her powerhouse ability at producing award-winning documentaries at HBO might not translate into superb writing.

Summary: The author is a TV and documentary producer and has written a collection of short stories and poems. Some are about her personal experiences with moving up within the media world, while others are stories about getting older (menopause, aging and maintaining a beauty standard). Some stories are observations of people (conversations overheard), our society (her love of paper books), and even a child's diagnosis with Tourette's. Each story is short but interesting and entertaining. Review: Although I have seen the author's work, I had never associated it with her. Honestly the title and cover caught my eye when the book was released and as I age myself, I was interested to see what she would say about it. The stories present personal struggles that many women experience (I especially was interested in the stories about women aging and gaining weight [and not being a size 8 anymore], wanting to wear what they felt comfortable in but feeling the need to fit in to their profession, and moving up in the business world). The stories about a family member with dementia and the son with a neurological disorder definitely hit home for me. And the story about Working Mom (WM) vs. the stay at home moms and the cookie sale had me laughing. There are a lot of different stories in here that will make you experience different emotions. Some are very short and remind you of things that may have happened to you, while others are longer and may not be something you've experienced yet. The collection was entertaining, but I honestly wasn't drawn to the book. I sat down daily to read some but didn't feel the compulsion to continue reading into the night. If you enjoy short stories about women's experiences, then definitely check this out. You may find yourself in the pages.

Got to give as a gift for mother in law  
Se liked it

This book was funny and real. I related to the author on so many levels. I have passed it on to be read by others but specifically asked to make sure it is returned to me so I can read it again!

I wasn't sure how to read these stories - one after another, or with long breaks between each so as to absorb their poignancy? I did both, with the assurance in the back of my mind that once I tasted them all, I can go back anytime to savor each, one at a time, in any order. A truly honest collection of thoughts, memories, indulgences, and confessions that remind us of our human experiences, as they are and as they define us.

While reading several short stories, I laughed until I cried! Growing up in the same era, many stories were way too familiar. Thank you for putting it in writing for the current female executives. They are where they are because of crusaders like you!

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