

Going Down

By Jennifer Belle

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National Bestseller
“A funny, sad, nasty little gem of a novel.”—Jay McInerney

In bestselling author Jennifer Belle’s debut novel, *Going Down*, Belle introduces readers to Bennington Bloom, a coed working her way through college. As a call girl.

With a sharp eye for satire and a keen comic sense, Belle chronicles nineteen-year-old Bennington’s high-pressure adventures. Stuck with an ulcer, a father who loves his dog like a daughter, a shrink who is hard of hearing, and New York University tuition to worry about, she's working overtime to keep it all together and doing what she can to survive. Spending the night in an abandoned hotel pool, punching pushy old women on the subway, Bennington is at an all-time low, and things are only going down from there.

A witty take on making it in the city, *Going Down* showcases Jennifer Belle’s unerring gift for capturing the absurdities of day-to-day life. Funny and intelligent with an endearingly skewed take on life, Belle is the real thing.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
Belle combines very funny, sharply written prose and a superb grasp of narrative in her debut novel. At the center of it all is her unforgettable main character, Bennington Bloom, a 19-year-old who goes to work as a call girl in high-class New York City brothels to put herself through NYU. This is no hooker with a heart of gold. She's better. The arresting combination of her caustic wit and insightful observations make for a wickedly hilarious sense of humor evoking Dorothy Parker. This is keenest when she's in bed with the men who are paying her for sex; to focus her mind elsewhere, she calculates how much money she's making. She's not about to take anything seriously: her dysfunctional family, her ridiculous acting classes, her stress-induced ulcer, her wayward friends, her intensely type-A boyfriend or, least of all, herself. Even in her moments of intense self-pity when she's confessing to her deaf, senile shrink, she can stand far enough away to laugh, or at least smirk. Things do faze her but, true to her restless nature, never for long. With tight prose and precise detail, Belle transforms the perverse into the absurd and tempers it with an empathy that prevents the book from becoming mean or crude. Belle's riotous, vivid debut has the energy and gritty appeal of New York City itself. 50,000 first printing.
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From Library Journal
Bennington Bloom is a 19-year-old acting student at New York Univeristy in search of a part-time job. Answering an ad in the Village Voice for "coeds" leads her into a life as a high-paid call girl. In a light, no-nonsense, humorous voice, Bennington describes her sexual experiences, her adventures with eccentric friends, and her distant father. She becomes so hooked on the easy money she makes as a prostitute that when she finds a decent man and moves in with him, she can't give it up. Instead, she invents a job for herself as a caterer to explain her frequent evening absences, which leads to heartbreak and humiliation when the truth is discovered. While Belle is clearly a writer to watch, having crafted a first novel that is compulsively readable, her characters are so shallow that in the end the reader is left with nothing substantial to remember. Recommended for adventurous readers.?Patricia Ross, Westerville P.L., Ohio
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From Booklist
When NYU drama major Bennington Bloom beds down at the bottom of an empty swimming pool following a fight with her roommate, she figures there's nowhere to go but up. For a while, it seems she might be right. An impulsive call placed to an escort service advertised in the back of the *Village Voice* leads to easy money, adoring male attention, and a surrogate family in the form of a madam, Holly, and her husband. Even though Bennington's life as a hooker soon becomes an endless grind of long hours and emotional isolation that takes a heavy toll on her mental and physical health, she can't stop--she's gotten used to the money. Now all this may sound horribly depressing, but Belle's sharply observed characters and keen sense of the absurd mold movie-of-the-week material into a raw, funny, and compelling slice-of-life. Some of the dialogue is priceless, particularly in the scenes of working girls killing time between tricks. *June Vigor*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jennifer Tomasini:

Going Down can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort that will put every word into joy arrangement in writing Going Down however doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource info that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information can certainly drawn you into fresh stage of crucial contemplating.

Kelly Thompson:

Reading a book to get new life style in this 12 months; every people loves to go through a book. When you go through a book you can get a great deal of benefit. When you read guides, you can improve your knowledge, since book has a lot of information onto it. The information that you will get depend on what types of book that you have read. If you wish to get information about your examine, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself read a fiction books, such us novel, comics, and soon. The Going Down will give you new experience in reading a book.

Patrice Reese:

In this period of time globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make professionals understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of referrals to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You can observe that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended for your requirements is Going Down this reserve consist a lot of the information with the condition of this world now. That book was represented so why is the world has grown up. The language styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some exploration when he makes this book. This is why this book ideal all of you.

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