



This Is Just My Face: Try Not to Stare

By Gabourey Sidibe

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The Oscar-nominated *Precious* star and *Empire* actress delivers a much-awaited memoir—wise, complex, smart, funny—a version of the American experience different from anything we’ve read

Gabourey Sidibe—“Gabby” to her legion of fans—skyrocketed to international fame in 2009 when she played the leading role in Lee Daniels’s acclaimed movie *Precious*. In *This Is Just My Face*, she shares a one-of-a-kind life story in a voice as fresh and challenging as many of the unique characters she’s played onscreen. With full-throttle honesty, Sidibe paints her Bed-Stuy/Harlem family life with a polygamous father and a gifted mother who supports her two children by singing in the subway. Sidibe tells the engrossing, inspiring story of her first job as a phone sex “talker.” And she shares her unconventional (of course!) rise to fame as a movie star, alongside “a superstar cast of rich people who lived in mansions and had their own private islands and amazing careers while I lived in my mom’s apartment.”

Sidibe’s memoir hits hard with self-knowing dispatches on friendship, depression, celebrity, haters, fashion, race, and weight (“If I could just get the world to see me the way I see myself,” she writes, “would my body still be a thing you walked away thinking about?”). Irreverent, hilarious, and untraditional, *This Is Just My Face* will resonate with anyone who has ever felt different, and with anyone who has ever felt inspired to make a dream come true.

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This Is Just My Face: Try Not to Stare By Gabourey Sidibe Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

One of *Glamour's* "Best Books to Read in 2017"

One of *Entertainment Weekly's* "Most Anticipated Books for 2017" and "Best Books to Read in May"

One of *People's* "22 Super-Revealing Celeb Memoirs to Read Right Now"

One of *Hollywood Reporter's* "27 Books to Watch For in 2017"

One of *Elite Daily's* "5 Celebs About to Light up the Red Carpet and Release Books in 2017"

One of *Bustle's* "20 Best Non-Fiction Books Coming in May 2017"

"This memoir [is] a book you will want to give your daughter." —*The New York Times*

"Sidibe's hilarious Twitter account is no fluke—the *Empire* actress' memoir about growing up in New York City and finding unexpected fame in Hollywood is sharp, witty, and wonderfully substantive." —*Entertainment Weekly*

"A read that lives up to the unforgettable attitude of its name...*This is Just My Face* will make you fall in love with this funny, talented, gorgeous, bad bitch of a woman." —*Glamour*

"A mix of complexity, intelligence and humor, Gabby's book promises to be as big a success as her acting." —*People*

"Her talent to entertain...is evident on every page...Genuine and accessible...[Sidibe] has so much material from her childhood and adolescence that she might have been able to sell a memoir *before* she landed her first movie role...*This Is Just My Face* doesn't capture just Sidibe that celebrity, but Sidibe the storyteller." —*The A.V. Club*

"Funny and revealing." —*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

"Gabourey Sidibe's memoir isn't your average celebrity memoir. It's good. Really good. And not just because it's revealing (although that it is), but because it's well-written... Observant and funny, but not indulgent or try-hard." —*Cosmopolitan Online*

"Gabby hilariously, radically, and fearlessly holds nothing back in *This Is Just My Face: Try Not to Stare*. And we love her for it." —*HelloGiggles*, "7 Celebrity Memoirs We Can't Wait to Read This Year"

"A funny, smart memoir." —*Nylon*, "50 Books We Can't Wait To Read In 2017"

"Unflinchingly honest." —*Bustle*, "9 Books By Celebrity Women Being Released in 2017 To Add To Your TBR"

"Gabourey Sidibe has a knack for speaking her mind in ways both touching and hilarious." —*Cosmopolitan*, "10 Books You Need to Read in 2017"

"[Sidibe] delivers a much-awaited memoir—wise, complex, smart, funny—a version of the American experience different from anything we've read... Irreverent, hilarious, and untraditional, *This Is Just My*

Face takes its place and fills a void on the shelf of writers from Mindy Kaling to David Sedaris to Lena Dunham." —**BookBub**

“You’re the BOMB, girl!”—President Barack Obama

“Gabourey Sidibe’s delightful memoir *This Is Just My Face: Try Not To Stare* offers a memorable look into what happens when a black girl’s dreams come true, from the inside out. From her unique childhood as the daughter of a subway singer mother and polygamous father to struggling with depression to getting the role of Precious, Sidibe is fearless, incredibly funny and gorgeously open. What she offers of herself in these pages is a gift.”—**Roxane Gay**

"Here, Gabourey Sidibe cements her status as gives-zero-effs queen of Hollywood AND perceptive best friend in your head. Frank, funny, and insanely charming, these stories reveal the girl behind the gown and show Hollywood for what it really is: a wet t-shirt contest of an industry that sometimes redeems itself by picking the right star. Gabby is that star, and you'll root for her on every page--we are blessed by her honesty, passion and wit.”—**Lena Dunham**

“‘I just wrote the truth, and it made me feel better.’ That is the theme of this unique and universal book by a young woman who is both a total surprise and an instant classic. Gabby combines New York and Senegal, the streets and the heights, bravery and self-doubt, laughing and seriousness. Her truth helps us to find ours—and what could be a bigger gift than that?”—**Gloria Steinem**

“To know Gabby is to love Gabby. To read her book is to love her even more. It is bold, brave, on-your-front-foot writing. Her story inspires you to step up and own your life with a compassion and confidence so potent that it will break down any door.”—**Laura Linney**

“I always knew Gabby was magic.”—**Johnetta Elzie**

From the Back Cover

Gabourey sidibe—the Oscar-nominated *Precious* star and *Empire* actress?—?has a voice like no other. She is wise, complex, smart, and funny—just as likely to make you cry with laughter as to see the world differently. In *This Is Just My Face*, she shares a one-of-a-kind life story in a voice as fresh and challenging as many of the unique characters she’s played onscreen. With full-throttle honesty, Sidibe paints her family life growing up with a polygamous father and a gifted mother who supports her two children by singing in the subway.

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About the Author

GABOUREY SIDIBE is an award-winning actress who is best known for the title role of *Precious*, based on

the novel *Push* by Sapphire. She has since starred as Queenie in FX's *American Horror Story: Coven* and Denise in *Difficult People*, and can currently be seen as Becky on Fox's smash hit sensation *Empire*. *This Is Just My Face* is her first book.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Michael Scott:

In this 21st century, people become competitive in each and every way. By being competitive currently, people have to do something to make all of them survive, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice by means of surrounding. One thing that at times many people have underestimated the item for a while is reading. That's why, by reading a book your ability to survive enhance then having chance to remain than other is high. For yourself who want to start reading a new book, we give you this kind of *This Is Just My Face: Try Not to Stare* book as beginning and daily reading book. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

Diana Chung:

This Is Just My Face: Try Not to Stare can be one of your nice books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to place every word into delight arrangement in writing *This Is Just My Face: Try Not to Stare* yet doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource information that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information can certainly drawn you into new stage of crucial pondering.

Robert Hightower:

Beside this specific *This Is Just My Face: Try Not to Stare* in your phone, it can give you a way to get nearer to the new knowledge or data. The information and the knowledge you can get here is fresh from the oven so don't end up being worry if you feel like an aged people live in narrow village. It is good thing to have *This Is Just My Face: Try Not to Stare* because this book offers for you readable information. Do you sometimes have book but you don't get what it's facts concerning. Oh come on, that will not happen if you have this in the hand. The Enjoyable option here cannot be questionable, such as treasuring beautiful island. Techniques you still want to miss the idea? Find this book and also read it from today!

Kurt Bohnert:

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you to be great persons. So , why hesitate? Let me have This Is Just My Face: Try Not to Stare.

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