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Look at You Now: My Journey from Shame to Strength

Liz Pryor

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Look at You Now: My Journey from Shame to Strength Liz Pryor
For readers of *Orange Is the New Black* and *The Glass Castle,* a riveting memoir about a lifelong secret and a girl finding strength in the most unlikely place

In 1979, Liz Pryor is a seventeen-year-old girl from a good family in the wealthy Chicago suburbs. Halfway through her senior year of high school, she discovers that she is pregnant—a fact her parents are determined to keep a secret from her friends, siblings, and community forever. One snowy January day, after driving across three states, her mother drops her off at what Liz thinks is a Catholic home for unwed mothers—but which is, in truth, a locked government-run facility for delinquent and impoverished pregnant teenage girls.

In the cement-block residence, Liz is alone and terrified, a fish out of water—a girl from a privileged, sheltered background living amid tough, street-savvy girls who come from the foster care system or juvenile detention. But over the next six months, isolated and in involuntary hiding from everyone she knows, Liz develops a surprising bond with the other girls and begins to question everything she once held true. Told with tenderness, humor, and an open heart, *Look at You Now* is a deeply moving story about the most vulnerable moments in our lives—and how a willingness to trust ourselves can permanently change who we are and how we see the world.

Advance praise for *Look at You Now*

“Engrossing . . . Readers will swiftly be drawn into the author’s compassionate retelling of her teen pregnancy—her fear, shame, regret, joy, and even her forgiveness of her parents for sending her away. This coming-of-age memoir is authentic and unforgettable.”***—Publishers Weekly***

“Pryor’s refusal to bury the truth of her experiences is the greatest strength of her book. Her honesty about a youthful error and desire to let that honesty define the rest of her life are both uplifting and inspiring. An unsentimental yet moving coming-of-age memoir.”***—Kirkus Reviews***

“I started reading this book thinking it was a compelling, honest, sometimes funny, sometimes poignant look at the world of teenage pregnancy, and knowing it would offer an inside look at the places where girls used to be hidden away until their babies came. I finished it damp-eyed and understanding that *Look at You Now* is much more than that. It is a story about how family dynamics work. It is about how wrenching it is to give away something born of your flesh, even if you know it’s the right decision. It’s about how much we can learn from people very much different from us. Most of all, it is a subtle, graceful story about how sometimes the worst things in our lives work best to shape our characters into something shining and true, something that will serve us for the rest of our lives. Liz Pryor says she will never forget the girls she shared that time of her life with. I will never forget this book. I really, really loved it.”**—Elizabeth Berg, author of *The Dream Lover***

“Liz Pryor’s story is shocking, moving, riveting, and, ultimately, inspiring. She writes like a natural, can balance humor and sorrow perfectly, and in *Look at You Now,* has written a pitch-perfect memoir.”**—Darin Strauss, author of *Half a Life***

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From reader reviews:

Cindy Knutson:

In this 21st one hundred year, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive right now, people have do something to make all of them survives, being in the middle of the actual crowded place and notice by simply surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated the item for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a book your ability to survive raise then having chance to stand up than other is high. For yourself who want to start reading a new book, we give you this particular Look at You Now: My Journey from Shame to Strength book as starter and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

Michael Crew:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book may be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the guide untitled Look at You Now: My Journey from Shame to Strength can be great book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

Ann Macdonald:

This Look at You Now: My Journey from Shame to Strength is great guide for you because the content that is full of information for you who have always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This particular book reveal it data accurately using great plan word or we can declare no rambling sentences inside it. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole data in it. Doesn't mean it only gives you straight forward sentences but tough core information with beautiful delivering sentences. Having Look at You Now: My Journey from Shame to Strength in your hand like getting the world in your arm, info in it is not ridiculous one. We can say that no guide that offer you world within ten or fifteen moment right but this reserve already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. occupied do you still doubt this?

Jeannie Brenner:

As a college student exactly feel bored to be able to reading. If their teacher expected them to go to the library or to make summary for some reserve, they are complained. Just tiny students that has reading's heart or real their leisure activity. They just do what the professor want, like asked to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading seriously. Any students feel that examining is not important, boring as well as can't see colorful pictures on there. Yeah, it is for being complicated. Book is very important for you. As we know that on this period of time, many ways to get whatever we really wish for. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this Look at You Now: My Journey from Shame to Strength can

make you feel more interested to read.

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