

Making the Body Beautiful

By Sander L. Gilman

Download now

Read Online 

Making the Body Beautiful By Sander L. Gilman

Nose reconstructions have been common in India for centuries. South Korea, Brazil, and Israel have become international centers for procedures ranging from eyelid restructuring to buttock lifts and tummy tucks. Argentina has the highest rate of silicone implants in the world. Around the globe, aesthetic surgery has become a cultural and medical fixture. Sander Gilman seeks to explain why by presenting the first systematic world history and cultural theory of aesthetic surgery. Touching on subjects as diverse as getting a "nose job" as a sweet-sixteen birthday present and the removal of male breasts in seventh-century Alexandria, Gilman argues that aesthetic surgery has such universal appeal because it helps people to "pass," to be seen as a member of a group with which they want to or need to identify.

Gilman begins by addressing basic questions about the history of aesthetic surgery. What surgical procedures have been performed? Which are considered aesthetic and why? Who are the patients? What is the place of aesthetic surgery in modern culture? He then turns his attention to that focus of countless human anxieties: the nose. Gilman discusses how people have reshaped their noses to repair the ravages of war and disease (principally syphilis), to match prevailing ideas of beauty, and to avoid association with negative images of the "Jew," the "Irish," the "Oriental," or the "Black." He examines how we have used aesthetic surgery on almost every conceivable part of the body to try to pass as younger, stronger, thinner, and more erotic. Gilman also explores some of the extremes of surgery as personal transformation, discussing transgender surgery, adult circumcision and foreskin restoration, the enhancement of dueling scars, and even a performance artist who had herself altered to resemble the Mona Lisa.

The book draws on an extraordinary range of sources. Gilman is as comfortable discussing Nietzsche, Yeats, and Darwin as he is grisly medical details, Michael Jackson, and Barbra Streisand's decision to keep her own nose. The book contains dozens of arresting images of people before, during, and after surgery. This is a profound, provocative, and engaging study of how humans have sought to change their lives by transforming their bodies.

 [Download Making the Body Beautiful ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Making the Body Beautiful ...pdf](#)

Making the Body Beautiful

By Sander L. Gilman

Making the Body Beautiful By Sander L. Gilman

Nose reconstructions have been common in India for centuries. South Korea, Brazil, and Israel have become international centers for procedures ranging from eyelid restructuring to buttock lifts and tummy tucks. Argentina has the highest rate of silicone implants in the world. Around the globe, aesthetic surgery has become a cultural and medical fixture. Sander Gilman seeks to explain why by presenting the first systematic world history and cultural theory of aesthetic surgery. Touching on subjects as diverse as getting a "nose job" as a sweet-sixteen birthday present and the removal of male breasts in seventh-century Alexandria, Gilman argues that aesthetic surgery has such universal appeal because it helps people to "pass," to be seen as a member of a group with which they want to or need to identify.


Gilman begins by addressing basic questions about the history of aesthetic surgery. What surgical procedures have been performed? Which are considered aesthetic and why? Who are the patients? What is the place of aesthetic surgery in modern culture? He then turns his attention to that focus of countless human anxieties: the nose. Gilman discusses how people have reshaped their noses to repair the ravages of war and disease (principally syphilis), to match prevailing ideas of beauty, and to avoid association with negative images of the "Jew," the "Irish," the "Oriental," or the "Black." He examines how we have used aesthetic surgery on almost every conceivable part of the body to try to pass as younger, stronger, thinner, and more erotic. Gilman also explores some of the extremes of surgery as personal transformation, discussing transgender surgery, adult circumcision and foreskin restoration, the enhancement of dueling scars, and even a performance artist who had herself altered to resemble the Mona Lisa.

The book draws on an extraordinary range of sources. Gilman is as comfortable discussing Nietzsche, Yeats, and Darwin as he is grisly medical details, Michael Jackson, and Barbra Streisand's decision to keep her own nose. The book contains dozens of arresting images of people before, during, and after surgery. This is a profound, provocative, and engaging study of how humans have sought to change their lives by transforming their bodies.

Making the Body Beautiful By Sander L. Gilman Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1507451 in Books
- Published on: 2001-01-15
- Released on: 2000-11-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .95" w x 6.00" l, 1.30 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 424 pages

 [Download Making the Body Beautiful ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Making the Body Beautiful ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

An intriguing inquiry into how aesthetic surgery has evolved into a major area of modern medicine, this book combines cultural perspectives on the body beautiful with a medical chronology. Gilman (*Creating Beauty to Cure the Soul*, etc.), who teaches human biology at the University of Chicago, focuses extensively on the nose as the original site of aesthetic procedures. He simultaneously explores "the basic motivation for aesthetic surgery—the desire to 'pass,'" starting with 16th-century surgery to rebuild the noses of syphilitics "so they would be less visible in their society" and its cultural implications. Early debate centered on whether surgery restored function or merely catered to human vanity. The "hierarchy of races" created by some scientists in the 18th century inspired procedures to create "American noses out of Irish pug noses," while "the origin of the 'correction' of the black nose is masked within medical literature [because] no reputable surgeon wanted to be seen as facilitating crossing the color bar." Gilman discusses political uses of aesthetic surgery, such as that of the Nazis to achieve the Aryan ideal, the transformation of former Klan Grand Wizard David Duke into what one commentator called "a blond, blow-dried replica of a young Robert Redford," transsexual surgery to permit "restoration of the relationship between the inner and outer selves" and aesthetic surgery as a fountain of youth. His fast-paced narrative blends cultural criticism with discussion of medical techniques and ethics in a thoughtful study that should appeal to both a lay and professional readership. Photos not seen by PW.

Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

Gilman, a distinguished professor of human biology at the University of Chicago, has drawn on a rich variety of sources—surgical texts as well as literature, art, and film—to trace the history and the cultural meaning of aesthetic surgery. His story begins with the Renaissance, when the focus on the human ability to transform the self and the world created the distinction between reconstructive and aesthetic surgery. In addition to undoing the ravages of disease, Gilman identifies other motives for aesthetic surgery: matching cultural ideals of beauty, repairing the impact of war-related injuries, and appearing youthful or erotic. Most disturbing are Gilman's wide-ranging examples of how aesthetic surgery has been used to correct signs of racial difference. Gilman brings his story to the present, discussing liposuction, breast enlargement and reduction, and transsexual surgery. He also gives examples from non-Western regions, reflecting the globalization of European American standards of beauty. A fascinating and provocative book that should appeal to scholars and informed general readers alike. Highly recommended. Marie Marmo Mullaney, Caldwell Coll., NJ

Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

Just what is the difference between aesthetic surgery and restorative surgery? Gilman explores many aspects of that question. He focuses on the nose as an object of surgery because it is the most visible element of the human body and has so many psychological, religious, and personal aspects. Can the surgical remodeling of the nose change a person's character? Should such an operation be performed if the surgeon believes the patient's vanity is the major motive? How does a particular patient at a particular time view his or her eyes, ears, breasts, and buttocks, or his penis? Gilman explores all these matters in terms of surgical possibilities, medical and political philosophies, and the individual's desires, both spoken and hidden. So doing, he produces a fascinating combination of text and illustration and of literary, medical, and scientific information. A thoughtful history by an author who knows his material well and has a sympathetic understanding of human beings as well as a lively sense of humor. *William Beatty*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ross Larson:

Do you certainly one of people who can't read enjoyable if the sentence chained in the straightway, hold on guys this aren't like that. This Making the Body Beautiful book is readable by you who hate the perfect word style. You will find the details here are arrange for enjoyable reading experience without leaving even decrease the knowledge that want to provide to you. The writer of Making the Body Beautiful content conveys the idea easily to understand by many individuals. The printed and e-book are not different in the content but it just different as it. So , do you continue to thinking Making the Body Beautiful is not loveable to be your top list reading book?

Kenneth Flowers:

This Making the Body Beautiful usually are reliable for you who want to be a successful person, why. The main reason of this Making the Body Beautiful can be one of many great books you must have will be giving you more than just simple studying food but feed a person with information that might be will shock your previous knowledge. This book is handy, you can bring it almost everywhere and whenever your conditions at e-book and printed ones. Beside that this Making the Body Beautiful forcing you to have an enormous of experience like rich vocabulary, giving you demo of critical thinking that we understand it useful in your day exercise. So , let's have it and revel in reading.

Julie Gooch:

Reading a publication tends to be new life style in this particular era globalization. With examining you can get a lot of information that may give you benefit in your life. Using book everyone in this world can share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. Lots of author can inspire their very own reader with their story or even their experience. Not only the story that share in the textbooks. But also they write about advantage about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors on this planet always try to improve their ability in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write on their book. One of them is this Making the Body Beautiful.

Barry Trusty:

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read a book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a publication. The book Making the Body Beautiful it is rather good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book possesses high quality.

**Download and Read Online Making the Body Beautiful By Sander
L. Gilman #845IBTM39GJ**

Read Making the Body Beautiful By Sander L. Gilman for online ebook

Making the Body Beautiful By Sander L. Gilman Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Making the Body Beautiful By Sander L. Gilman books to read online.

Online Making the Body Beautiful By Sander L. Gilman ebook PDF download

Making the Body Beautiful By Sander L. Gilman Doc

Making the Body Beautiful By Sander L. Gilman Mobipocket

Making the Body Beautiful By Sander L. Gilman EPub