# **Table of Contents**

#### Part 1: Growing Up Girl

Womanhood Can Wait,	Nicole Hawkins	1
Most girls are in a h	urry to grow up,	but Nicole wants
to take it slow.		

Trying Femininity on for Size,	Debbie Seraphin	. 24
A tomboy's struggle to chan	ige her image.	

## Part 2: Family Matters

Mama Said, Clariza Sanchez, Jessica Maissonet, Miranda Chung	
and Faleisha Escort	. 39
What our mothers tell us about how a girl is supposed	
to behave.	

Our Parents' Rules: Fair or Square?, *Miranda Chung......*42 *Most parents are trying to protect their daughters and keep them out of trouble, but some of their rules are hard to follow.* 

### Part 3: How Do We Look?

The Identity Experiment, *Lily Mai......*67 *Lily tries dressing in different styles—and learns that people make immediate assumptions and judgments based on one's appearance.* 

- Big, Black, and Beautiful, *Anonymous*......77 *The author has to contend with racial and gender stereotypes about what a black woman should be.*

## Part 4: Together/Apart

Ready for Mr. Right, <i>Faleisha Escort</i>
Tired of relationships that revolve around the guy,
Faleisha decides to figure out what she wants from a
boyfriend and how to go about getting it.

From Silent Victim to Self-Confident Sister, *Anonymous*...........90 *After years of degrading encounters with men, the author develops a sense of self-esteem.* 

I Am Religious, Outgoing, Short, African-American, Talented,

Two's a Crowd: Why I Won't Get Married, *Clariza Sanchez*.... 102 *Her parents tell her marriage is the key to happiness, but Clariza wants to keep her freedom.* 

#### Part 5: Hey Baby: You Look Good

Don't Judge Me By My Short Skirt, *Marcia Persaud......* 109 Just because Marcia likes to wear sexy clothes doesn't mean she wants to be propositioned by every guy she sees.

FICTION SPECIAL: Lost and Found, Anne Schraff......121

Teens: How to Get More Out of This Book	130
How to Use This Book in Staff Training	131
Teachers and Staff: How to Use This Book In Groups	132
Credits	134
About Youth Communication	135
About the Editors	138
More Helpful Books from Youth Communication	140