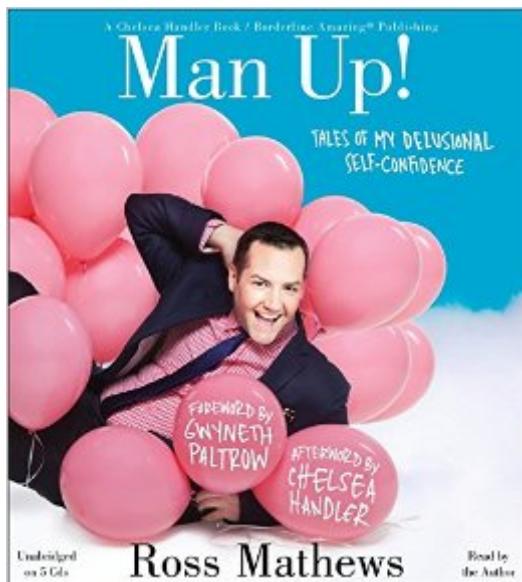


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# Man Up!: Tales Of My Delusional Self-Confidence



## Synopsis

As a young kid growing up in a farm town, Ross Mathews might as well have wished for a pet unicorn or a calorie-free cookie tree to grow in his front yard. Either of those far-fetched fantasies would have been more likely to come true than his real dream: working in television in Hollywood, California. Seriously, that stuff just doesn't happen to people like Ross. But guess what. It totally did. Now, with his first book, Ross takes us inside his journey as a super-fan, revealing the most embarrassing and hilarious moments of his small-town life and big-city adventures. From learning to swear like a hardened trucker to that time in high school when had to face down the most frightening opponent of all (his girlfriend's lady bits), Ross holds nothing back. Oh, then there's his surprisingly shady past involving the cutest pair of plus-sized women's pajama bottoms, deliciously dangerous pot butter, and embezzled sandwiches. And, of course, how he's managed to turn an obsession with pop-culture into one-on-one interactions with celebrities like Gwyneth Paltrow, Tiffani-Amber Theissen, Madonna, Michelle Kwan, and countless more without ever having a single restraining order issued against him. Infused with Ross's trademark humor, unique voice, and total honesty, *MAN UP!* is a mission statement for anyone who doesn't fit the mold. His hasn't been the most traditional way to build a career in Hollywood, but Ross has somehow managed to make his mark without ever compromising who he is. He is as serious about this as he is about *Golden Girls* trivia: You don't need to change who you are to achieve your dreams (although there's nothing wrong with a makeover every now and then). You just need to Man Up!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

From start to finish, I could NOT put this book down! Ross Mathews has always been a source of inspiration for me but after reading this book I learned something. I love him even more. His Superhero voice leaps from the pages as he tell his most intimate secrets. If laughter is the best medicine then give me a dose of Man Up. Ross knocks it out of the park and beyond with this firt of what I hope to be many more tales of small town pride and determination to make it a world where the odds are not always stacked in a persons favor. It's a must read for anyone who has looked at themselves and didn't like something they saw, (or heard). So, I guess it's a must read for all of us.

I have loved Ross Mathews since I first saw his segments as Ross the Intern on The Tonight Show. I have loved following his career and watching him on Chelsea Lately. He is so funny and so is this book. He is what every woman would want in a best friend. He grew up with a loving and supportive family and I think that made the difference of how his life could have turned out. He just seems like a genuinely nice guy. I loved the quiz in the back. I only missed the superhero question. The last chapter had me in tears. His mother gave the best quote from the book. Ross asked her 'What advice would you offer the parent of a gay child?' and her response 'I'd tell parents this: your job is to protect, support, and love your children no matter what, so just keep doing your job.' That made the book worth reading right there.

As soon as I heard Ross Mathews was coming out with his first book, I knew I had to have it. The genuine, kind, and effervescent onscreen personality that radiates from the television is prevalent throughout this collection of stories and events in his life. It is a fun, quick read that will have you smiling and laughing aloud to yourself, causing others around you to wonder what could possibly be so amusing. You will find Ross' signature style of humor and wit in this book, along with some truly touching moments - from his coming out to his closest friend and parents, to the times he spent as a child with his father. I enjoyed this book more than the couple I've read by Chelsea, just because it made me feel happy as I read it. Kind of like how I always like Chelsea Lately a little more when Ross is the host! But I digress. If you like Ross Mathews, then you will not be disappointed with this book :)

Loved the stories, and they read just like Ross is sitting in front of you telling them. I will recommend to my friends!

Ross comes across superficially as fluffy and a little lightweight, but that's far from the truth. He's

actually a very strong individual who's managed to maintain a pretty positive outlook on life in spite of several hurdles along the way. This book is a charming, candid, funny read and very well written to boot. You find that you actually hope that you have become Ross' best friend as a result of reading it, as he sounds like a fine friend to have. What looks to have been good fortune and chance encounters is in reality more a product of being true to himself, keen to work, and charming. Ross was in the right place at the right time because he wanted to be; he was given opportunities because he deserved them - he's smart, witty and very much himself, and this comes across in his writing.

Ross Matthews I love you. Reading your book was like sitting down with you just telling me your life's story. Can't wait to read your next book!

Let me start out by saying I've watched Ross' career soar from The Tonight Show and the Red Carpet events to his appearances on Chelsea Lately and even his own show. He's definitely pleasant, vivacious, totally entertaining and seems to be just an overall nice guy. It would be hard to not like him! OK, as for the book, I just wasn't enthused about it. #1 -- There were wayyyy too many cliches. What he could have said in a paragraph took him five pages. #2 -- I prefer a story that starts with childhood, moves up to adulthood, gets into the career path then ends on a positive note leaving the reader (such as me) with a feeling that I have followed him thru his life and understand his feelings and how he got to where he is. In other words, I wanted Ross to take me on this journey through his life and FLOW instead of jumping back and forth to beginning from the middle, etc. Well, this is just MY opinion and how I honestly feel about the book! I don't mean to be mean because I've always liked Ross, thought he was funny and a genuine good guy but my overall opinion of the book is that I'm glad to close it and get my time back. (Sorry, Ross!!) btw, I scored a 7 on your quiz.

While I enjoyed reading this book, I had expected a lot more stories about his celebrity encounters, and not whole chapters about such things as butternut squash and his jobs at McDonald's and Lane Bryant. Ross has been in a unique position for years, interviewing celebrities from a fan's viewpoint, yet we get very little detail about his years on the Tonight Show, or his thoughts on all the famous people he's met. I didn't want a gossipy tell-all, but rather his unique "take" on the Hollywood scene and stars. Also, the book jumps around chronologically, so just when you think his Tonight Show career will be the focus, we go back in time to a whole chapter on his jobs at McDonald's and Lane Bryant. Maybe he's saving the good Hollywood tales for his next book? Hope so.

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