

Librarian Book Talk Guide for *My Big Nose And Other Natural Disasters*  
By Sydney Salter, Harcourt, April 2009

A. Interest level—age twelve and above.

B. Genre—contemporary fiction, humor.

C. Related topics—beauty, self-esteem, friendship, romance, jewelry making.

D. Book Talk Synopsis:

Seventeen-year-old Jory Michaels wakes up on the first day of summer vacation with her same old big nose, no passion in her life (in the creative sense of the word), and all signs still pointing to her dying a virgin. Plus, her mother is busy roasting a chicken for Day #6 of the Dinner For Breakfast Diet.

In spite of her driving record (it was an accident!), Jory gets a job delivering flowers and cakes to Reno's casinos and wedding chapels. She also comes up with a new summer goal: saving for a life-altering nose job. She and her new nose will attract a fabulous boyfriend. Nothing like the shameless flirt Tyler Briggs, or Tom who's always nice but never calls. Maybe she'll find someone kind of like Gideon at the Jewel Café, except better looking and not quite so different. Jory survives various summer disasters like doing yoga after sampling Mom's Cabbage Soup Diet, Enforced Mother Bonding With Crazy Nose Obsessed Daughter Night, and discovering Tyler's big secret. But will she learn to accept herself and maybe even find her passion, in the creative (AND romantic!) sense of the word?

E. One Line Hook: *My Big Nose And Other Natural Disasters* is about a girl who believes that getting a nose job will solve all the problems in her life.

F. Related Reads:

*Models Don't Eat Chocolate Cookies* by Erin Dionne

*Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld

*Perfect* by Natasha Friend

G. About Sydney Salter:

Sydney Salter held a variety of jobs before becoming a full-time writer, including her brief stint delivering pies and flowers, wrecking vans, and destroying wedding cakes in Reno, Nevada. Sydney now lives in Utah with her husband, two daughters, two cats, and two big Bernese Mountain dogs. She loves reading, writing, traveling, and, of course, baking and decorating cakes (but not driving them anywhere).

