

For Immediate Release

Media review copies, press kits and interviews with the author available.
Contact Carol McCarthy (603) 772-7200 or carol@revolutionbooksellers.com

Paving the way for Hillary: The women who started it all.

Before Hillary Rodham gave the first student commencement speech at Wellesley College in 1969, and before she became the first female partner at Rose Law Firm in 1979, there were other women paving the road for her future successes. Barbara Paul Robinson (Bryn Mawr College, class of '62) became the first woman partner in her New York law firm in 1976, and in 1994 took office as the first woman president of the New York City Bar Association. This past year (2007) was a great year for women's college graduates. Nancy Pelosi (Trinity College, '62) took up the gavel as Speaker of the House; Drew Gilpin Faust (Bryn Mawr, '68) was appointed president of Harvard University; and Hillary Rodham Clinton (Wellesley, '69) announced that she was "in to win" the presidency. It has been a long and hard slog to achieve all these "firsts" for women, and earlier generations of women's college graduates can be credited for the bushwhacking that opened up the road.

In her most recent book, *It's Good To Be a Woman*, oral historian Alison Baker (Bryn Mawr, '62) captures the stories of her college classmates, talking about their lives and accomplishments, trials and triumphs. While most college-educated women in 1962 were still expected to have their lives revolve around marriage and family, these Bryn Mawr women were determined to have lives of their own, to make a difference in the world. They were inspired by Kennedy's call to "ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country," and they were encouraged by Bryn Mawr to question conventional wisdom and champion new ideas. One classmate tells Baker, "At Bryn Mawr, you're brought up with the idea that it's good to be a woman. There's nothing second class about being a woman."

The stories in *It's Good To Be a Woman* follow these stubborn, can-do optimists as they navigate the turbulence of the sixties and early seventies, confronting crisis, building careers and charting new territory for women, breaking down barriers for women entering the professions--law, medicine, journalism, academia--charting new territory and paving the way for Drew Gilpin Faust and Hillary Rodham Clinton. These are not the lives of celebrities, but ordinary capable women in extraordinary times.

About Alison Baker

Alison Baker is a writer and oral historian living in New York City, a graduate of Bryn Mawr College, class of '62. *IT'S GOOD TO BE A WOMAN* is her second book, following [Voices of Resistance: Oral Histories of Moroccan Women](#) (Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 1998).

It's Good To Be a Woman
By Alison Baker

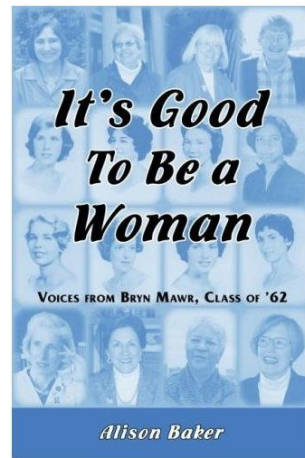
List \$15.95

Paperback: 316 pages

Publisher: PublishingWorks

ISBN-10: 1933002336

ISBN-13: 978-1933002330



Available online and at bookstores nationwide. For more information visit www.revolutionbooksellers.com or www.alisonbaker.info

What People Are Saying

“This is a good book for women who graduated from college and university in the last twenty years to read— much that is available for them was of course hard won by others, who actually it is clear in this very readable book, rather enjoyed the challenge.”

Mary Patterson McPherson, President Emeritus Bryn Mawr College

“Imbued with the Annie-Get-Your-Gun spirit that anything a man could do, we could do better, we set out to be Women in Full – in love and in work. Now we are grannies and neurosurgeons, widows and poets, newlyweds and entrepreneurs.”

Abigail Trafford, The Washington Post

“*It's Good To Be a Woman* provides an engaging portrait of a select group of women on the cusp of some of the 20th century's most radical change. To younger women, especially, Baker offers a rare gift...”

Rebecca Steffy, The Bulletin

“*It's Good To Be a Woman*” follows the lives and careers of members of the Bryn Mawr Class of '62, a transitional era at the vanguard of the women's movement.”

Nicole Sours Larson, La Jolla Today

"I would recommend *It's Good To Be a Woman* so much. You should read it as a freshman and again as a senior."

Kelly Harrell, Bryn Mawr, 2008

For more information, or to arrange an interview with Alison Baker, please contact Carol McCarthy of Revolution Booksellers at (603) 772-7200 or carol@revolutionbooksellers.com.

Review copies and press kits are available upon request.