

#MOVING OUT

TWEET

**140 Bite-Sized Ideas to Help
You Move to College**

**GABRIELLE JASINSKI, ELIZA LAMSON,
ELIZABETH WASSMANN, and HANNAH MILLER**

FOREWORD BY MICHAEL S. MALONE

An Actionable Educational Summary

A THiNKaha® BOOK

Book 01

#MOVING OUT **tweet** Book01

140 Bite-Sized Ideas to Help You Move to College

Book Excerpt

**By Gabrielle Jasinski, Eliza Lamson,
Elizabeth Wassmann, and
Hannah Miller**

Foreword by Michael S. Malone



An Actionable Educational Summary

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Foreword by Michael S. Malone

Other than the day you get married, there is perhaps no more complete change in your life than the one that occurs when you leave home for the first time and go off to college.

No amount of planning and preparation fully prepares you for such a break. One moment you are living in your parents' home (which you still believe is *your* home), in the room and bed that have likely been yours as long as you remember, in a neighborhood as familiar to you as your own face, surrounded by friends you've known since childhood. The next moment you are sitting in a tiny dorm room, surrounded by boxes, staring at someone you don't know but will be living with for the next nine months, on a campus full of strangers you've visited exactly once, in a town you know little about.

And yet, despite the fear and the homesickness, the loneliness and the occasional tears, you survive. Indeed, somehow, you even thrive...until four years later, filled with memories, the tears you shed are because you are leaving these new friends and the buildings that are now your new home.

Leaving for college is the first and greatest of life's transitions, and it will serve as the template for all that follow. If you get it right this time, all of those future times will be that much easier.

The authors of this book—Eliza Lamson, Elizabeth Wassmann, Gabrielle Jasinski, and Hannah Miller—are all seniors at Santa Clara University. Each of them survived this transition from home and high school to dorm and college life—and each has a different story to tell. Hannah merely had to drive ten miles down the road to get to Santa Clara, Eliza from another part of California; and Gabrielle and Liz, who never met before they arrived, both travelled 1,500 miles from Chicago. To see them now—beautiful, smart, and most of all, confident—you would never know that four years ago they experienced the social angst and homesickness that lie behind many of the pieces of advice in this book.

The wisdom on these pages is hard won—and the authors have gone to great lengths to convey that knowledge in the most practical way possible. They don't start, as is often the case, as the student, a fish out of water, when they take their first steps onto campus. Instead, shrewdly, they begin in the middle of the senior year of high school, as the tidal pull of college begins to affect their relationship to school, friends, and most of all, family. And they continue their advice not just through the first delirious days of campus life, but well into the freshman year of college, when the secondary effects of college begin to appear.

This is a wise, witty, and quite wonderful book. High school seniors will find it both eye-opening and a trusted friend through this confusing and emotional period. They will find themselves dipping into its pages every few days—and each time come away with yet another pearl of comfort, humor, and practical advice. And their parents will find this book essential as well—as a guide to all that their children are going through, as a counselor for dealing with this separation, and as a wish list of things they can do to help.

#MOVING OUT tweet is the book we wish that we could have had in our own lives at that age. Thank goodness we have it now.

Michael S. Malone

Santa Clara University

Introduction

Moving away to college is nothing if not daunting. For the first time, everything you know about your life will shift. New home, new friends, new routine. It's time to create a new normal. Luckily, you have some expert advice on your side. Meet Gabi Jasinski, Liz Wassmann, Eliza Lamson, and Hannah Miller—we wrote this book. We are all college seniors at Santa Clara University; we're gearing up to make the transition to adulthood and we're fairly certain we have got college—and the move away from home—under control. Gabi and Liz moved across the country for college, while Hannah and Eliza stayed local. We've all had very different college experiences and been involved in different activities (the school newspaper, internships, campus ministry, intramurals, the literary magazine, study abroad, theatre, and club sports, to name a few), yet managed to compile these nuggets of advice that are sure to pave the way for any incoming freshman. Read through them, and consider what we have to say. If you take this book to heart, adjusting to college should come naturally. And, as everyone will tell you, these four years fly by ... Don't take 'em for granted!

Section I: Senior Year



Section I

Senior Year

Senior year of high school is what you have been looking forward to since you were a kid, but it's also the end of everything you've taken for granted.

The end is near, and high school is almost over; everything you have known for the past four years is about to change. It is a time when you should celebrate your accomplishments, but it's also a time when you have to work hard to prepare for your future. You are about to close one chapter of your life, but that doesn't mean the good times are over.

11

Go to the prom. Even if you're just going with friends, you'll have fun dressing up, taking pictures, and dancing the night away.

12

Start thinking about what you love to do, and what classes you like. This could lead you to your major.

13

Ask whomever you've been crushin' on for the past few years to the prom, or at least to coffee.

14

Learn as much as you can about your college, what furnishings the dorms supply, and what you need to buy.

15

Don't get too caught up in thinking of all the "lasts" that are happening around you—just enjoy the moments and memories they create.

16

Take lots of pictures. You can hang them on your dorm walls and, later in life, show your kids how goofy your hair was back in high school.

17

Start writing your college application essays way before they are due.

Section II: Pre-Move



Section II

Pre-Move

The daunting thought of moving away from your home looms over you like some hungry monster. You'll be moving far away from everything you've ever known and experienced. But don't let the unknown get you down. You just need to get organized. You need a plan.

28

Categorize your lists of things to pack to make it easier—clothes, toiletries, electronics, etc.

29

Don't forget to give your dog, cat, or chinchilla a good long pet.

30

Pack flip-flops to wear in the shower. Chances are, you'll probably want them.

31

Partition part of your room/house for things that you've bought for the move. That way, everything will be together when you start packing.

32

Coordinate things you need for your room with your roommate before you get to school.

33

Don't bring everything you own. Dorm rooms aren't that big and never have enough storage.

34

Go into stores with a list.
If you aren't organized while
shopping, it can get overwhelming.

35

Pay attention at orientation and
listen to tips about what to bring to
the dorms. Your orientation leaders
know what they're talking about.

Section III: During the Move



Section III

During the Move

Everything is packed. You're ready to go. Remember to keep calm and stay organized as you begin the long-awaited move. The moment you roll out of the driveway in a car crammed with your belongings, your life will change forever. Don't be scared; this is the beginning of the next big thing.

52

Wear a smile. You will
seem more approachable.

53

Remember that *everyone*
is anxious and nervous
to move in and start school.

54

Leave the house earlier than you think you need to, and stop for coffee on the way. Everyone will be in a better mood.

55

Give your parents big hugs, regardless of who is watching. They'll appreciate it, and chances are it will make you feel good, too.

56

Be friendly to everyone.
You will most likely make some
good friends while moving in.

57

Bring a granola bar or some
other snack. You probably won't
have time to run to the cafeteria
until after you've moved in.

About the Authors



Gabrielle Jasinski is a senior English major from Chicago, Illinois. Her hobbies include traveling, reading, writing, and trying new food. Jasinski spent four months studying abroad in Rome, where she found a passion for travel and learning about new cultures. She has kept a travel blog and a food blog and also enjoys writing fiction and nonfiction stories. Jasinski enjoys spending time with friends and family while watching the Chicago Cubs and the Chicago Blackhawks. She hopes to one day teach English abroad.



Eliza Lamson was born on the East Coast, but now lives in Pleasanton, California. She is a senior English major. Lamson's main passion is traveling, be it just around the Bay Area or to foreign countries. Her hobbies include hiking and camping, reading, photography, exploring new places with friends, and playing with her golden retriever, Mango. Lamson writes for *Metro News*, has kept a blog, and writes nonfiction and fiction short stories. She is a lead tutor at the HUB Writing Center at Santa Clara University and is the scene copy editor for the *Santa Clara*. Lamson has also worked as nonfiction editor of the *Santa Clara Review*.



Elizabeth Wassmann is a senior English and anthropology double major from Glenview, Illinois. She is a writer for the *Santa Clara* and works for the Santa Clara University alumni magazine. Wassmann enjoys reading and playing with her dog, Raisin. She studied abroad in Rome and worked in Indonesia during the summer of 2012.



Hannah Miller was born and raised in Palo Alto, California. Her hobbies include acting and playwriting, traveling, and cheering on her favorite sports teams, the San Francisco Giants and the Boston Red Sox. Miller spent four months studying abroad in London. She has worked for Santa Clara University's literary magazine, the *Santa Clara Review*, doing public relations and marketing. Miller also has event planning experience at Silicon Valley's beloved Churchill Club, as well as teaching and directing for nonprofit organizations ArtsReach and Bay Area Shakespeare Camps.

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#MOVING OUT TWEET BOOK 01

140 Bite-Sized Ideas to Help You
Move to College

"As clever as it is practical, #MOVING OUT tweet is not just useful and candid advice for students, but is also a joy for grads and parents to read. I highly recommend it."

Ron Hansen, Author, *She Loves Me Not: New and Selected Stories*

"As someone not living in the real world yet, I embrace these recommendations wholeheartedly! Remember, high school seniors, as these colleagues warn you, 'the end is near.' But college is groovy, and if you play your cards right, you can become a professor and stay there forever! Lap up the wisdom that bulks large in these fortune cookies."

John Hawley, Department Chair—English, Santa Clara University

"#SMARTSTUFF. Wise and witty advice for making the leap from high school bedroom to college dorm room, from four recent grads who not only survived, but thrived."

Barbara Kelley, Author, *Undecided: How to Ditch the Endless Quest for Perfect and Find the Career—and Life—That's Right for You*

"This tweet book is great. The insight and wisdom offered in this book will be an invaluable resource for any high school senior. The nuggets of information are well organized and address all the major concerns that students have regarding the daunting college process. I think it is a book that every guidance counselor should have as required reading for their seniors."

John Klassen, Counselor, Glenbrook South High School



Gabriella Junttila is a senior from Chicago, Illinois, studying English and communication. She has kept food and travel blogs and also enjoys writing fiction and nonfiction stories. Junttila hopes to teach English abroad.



Elizabeth Weismann is a senior from Glenview, Illinois, studying English and anthropology. She is a writer for the Santa Clara and works for the Santa Clara alumni magazine.



Elyse Lenson is an East Coast native who now lives in Houston, California. She is a senior studying English and history. Lenson writes for *Metro News*, has kept a blog, and writes nonfiction and fiction short stories.



Hanna Miller is a senior, double-majoring in English and communications. She manages public relations and marketing for Santa Clara University's literary magazine, *Santa Clara Review*.

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