

Pervasively vulgar excerpts from

“Fat Kid Rules the World”



28 Pages the Word “Fuck” is used...

1. on Page 8:
“... with ketchup and processed cheese. The world stops while the skinny kid eats. **Fuck** that, I think. But I also think, God I wish I were him....”
2. on Page 11:
“... I’m not dying. I’m not even homeless all the time. No one beats me or **fucks** me without my permission. Got that?” He pauses. ...”
3. on Page 35:
“... a smile, but my chin quivers with the effort. Right, I think, prescription. I knew that. Didn’t I know that? **Fuck**. I’m screwing everything up. ...”
4. on Page 44:
“... The man lurches forward and the woman is smoking a cigarette, digging around in her purse. “**Fuck**,” she says under her breath. ...”
5. on Page 45:
“... I turn and carry my plate into the living room, grabbing the donut on my way out. **Fuck** you, I think, trying to stifle a grin. FAT KID RULES THE WORLD. 45 ...”
6. on Page 47:
“... time, when they laughed, I wouldn’t let them laugh at Dayle, too. I’d say something. I’d defend us.... I’d say, “**Fuck** off, morons.” Or else maybe I’d say, “Get a life.” No, wait. ...”
7. on Page 57:
“... “Who the **fuck** are you? Where’s Curt?” he demands. “You come here to meet that sorry-ass son of a . . .” The ...”
8. on Page 75:
“... little kids who doesn’t know if a voice will really come out of the receiver. “Troy? Are you there? **Fuck** ... I think ... hold on, guys. ...”
9. on Page 76:
“... to me and it comes out as gibberish : “So, whatsa, hey, don’t, okay, be read-**fuck** that ma-shiii, okay, okay, didn’t I say-yeah, good, T, bye. ...”
10. on Page 83:
“... ceiling of the hallway and Piper makes a face. “Did you see that? Piper was toast, man, toast!” “Shut the **fuck** up. ...”
11. on Page 87:
“... the stage door. It isn’t really a door. It’s actually a large swinging structure made of plywood with the words **FUCK OFF** spray-painted in red across the front. ...”
12. on Page 88:
“... “No one answers, so Curt does. “Finding someone, some person, who isn’t a pretentious **fuck** and can hit hard.” He grins at me. “Troy ‘s it.” 88 ...”
13. on Page 91:
“... I look back as the **FUCK OFF** plywood door swings shut above me. There’s no turning back now. When I finally stop I’m two feet from ...”
14. on Page 92:
“... The drums go on forever, torturing us with the prelude. They toy with the crowd, saying “**fuck** you” before the music’s even started. 92 ...”
15. on Page 96:
“... He doesn’t give a **fuck**. He’s into his music and nothing else. There’s no agenda. No moral to the story. No call to arms. Curt’s ...”
16. on Page 119:
“... to find some way to enter the conversation, but by the time I open my mouth, Curt’s packing to leave. “**Fuck** that,” he says, slinging his guitar over his shoulder. ...”
17. on Page 120:
“... Curt kicks at the table leg. “Cough medicine?” I shake my head, and Curt gets grumpier. “**Fuck** that,” he spits. “Doesn’t anyone ever get sick around here? ...”
18. on Page 124:
“... “I was doing exactly what you told me to do,” I say, which elicits a snort of derision. “**Fuck** that,” he answers. “You’re like some chick that’s afraid to make too much noise. ...”
19. on Page 125:
“... eyes are locked on mine the whole time and I want to punch him, but I don’t. “Fine,” I say. “**Fuck** you. ...”
20. on Page 135:
“... He assumes I’ve screwed up, but I don’t care. He’s right, so I just think, **Fuck** him. That’s how it’s going to be. End of story. Except for Curt. ...”
21. on Page 141:
“... Could be kind of funny ... Curt laughs, too, then stops suddenly and looks me straight in the eyes. “She’d **fuck** you if you stay in the band,” he says. ...”
22. on Page 143:
“... He sighs, then crinkles every saltine packet as he empties the crackers into his bowl. “Aw, **fuck**,” he says. Then, “All right. ...”
23. on Page 144:
“... effort into it? Invest in some fucking hair dye.’ And on one level they have a point. I’m the laziest **fuck** in town. ...”
24. on Page 151:
“... “What the **fuck** are you staring at?!” I yell. I don’t think about it. The words just come out. Only later do I ...”
25. on Page 167:
“... “Well, **fuck** off.” He’s never told me to **fuck** off before. Even when he was pissed during practice he never meant it. ...”
26. on Page 168:
“... I never dreamed of. I love listening to him, and at first I let him lead, but then I think, **Fuck** that. ...”
27. on Page 178:
“... I’m expecting him to tell me to **fuck** off again, but he doesn’t. He bites his lip and twists the needle from his IV. His hands clutch the ...”
28. on Page 182:
“... “We’re going to be huge,” I tell him. “**Fuck** the weatherman, we’re going to be huge!” He gives me a weird look, but I don’t have time to explain. ...”

29 Pages the Word “Fucking” is used...

1. on Page 3:
“... He’s the only **fucking** genius guitar player I’ve ever met. And, of course, he’s the only one to get up in the middle of ...”
2. on Page 9:
“... “I want to say, “Open your eyes. I’m a **fucking** three-hundred-pound teenager living in the most unforgiving city on earth. ...”
3. on Page 37:
“... to tell you. Because, see, T, I can tell you don’t believe we can have the most awesome band ever, **fucking** ever, with 37 ...”
4. on Page 38:
“... forward, looking for the answer to what I’m not embracing that will allow Curt and me to form the best **fucking** band ever. ...”
5. on Page 41:
“... and in the back of my mind I’m worrying, truly I am, but I keep thinking, Carpe **Fucking** Diem. I am the Fat Kid and I am having fun. 18. ...”
6. on Page 57:
“... he in the hall? He tell you to come here and steal my food? I swear I’ll tear your goddamn, **fucking** balls off....” My body releases like a spring. I turn and bolt, and hear the man 57 ...”
7. on Page 61:
“... “Oh, man, that was the coolest! That was so **fucking** awesome! Do you know how many trains I could ride for free? We could do this all the time. We ...”
8. on Page 89:
“... Finally, Mike takes a long drag and shakes his head. “**Fucking** psychotic control freak.” Curt grins. ...”
9. on Page 93:
“... A., ain’t got **fucking** much to say, don’t we all want it that way? It’s the most amazing thing I’ve ever seen in my ...”
10. on Page 94:
“... head ready to explode . A woman in black leather winks at me across the room and suddenly I’m a **fucking** sex god. ...”
11. on Page 96:
“... The Puppets sing about fear, but Curt sings about waking up nowhere, when it’s dark out and you’ve got no **fucking** clue where you are. And the whole time he’s singing the guitar is saying everything Curt won’t. It’s so clear ...”
12. on Page 101:
“... to the floor and I wasn’t even looking and then, bam, he’s crashing into me. I was like one huge **fucking** air bag. ...”
13. on Page 125:
“... Now see how we’ll **fucking** practice.” I cross my arms over my chest and for a long time neither of us says anything. Then Curt ...”
14. on Page 130:
“... We’ll open with “Lonely,” then move on to “**Fucking** a Cat” and “NyQuil “ If I feel confident I’m to add something to the conversation ...”
15. on Page 131:
“... SKINNY KID MAKES BIG **FUCKING** MISTAKE. The noise outside increases in volume and the lights dim. The dreadlocked woman sticks her head in. “Time,” she ...”
16. on Page 133:
“... “Don’t bail on me,” he whispers. “I swear to the big **fucking** A, Troy . Don’t bail on me.” I don’t respond. I’m staring into the audience, ...”
17. on Page 134:
“... It wasn’t. It wasn’t **fucking** funny. A cab pulls up, and I rub my eyes, then turn to stare at The Dump one last time ...”
18. on Page 136:
“... “Listen,” he says, “I know you’re embarrassed about the gig, but you shouldn’t be. You’re a **fucking** legend now, man. I’ve been trying to get through to tell you. ...”

19. on Page 138:
“... shrug. Curt runs his fingers through his hair and says, “Well, it’s a good thing you’re here because you so **fucking** owe me dinner. ...”
20. on Page 139:
“... “Sorry,” I say, but it’s not what he wants to hear. His head snaps back up. “Don’t be **fucking** sorry,” he says. “Why are you apologizing for my snot? ...”
21. on Page 144:
“... ‘ they say, `why don’t you dress the part? Put a little effort into it? Invest in some **fucking** hair dye.’ And on one level they have a point. I’m the laziest fuck in town. ...”
22. on Page 146:
“... my opinion they should just eat and be done with it. What the hell do they have to worry about? “**Fucking** twigs from hell,” I say, just to be contrary. ...”
23. on Page 165:
“... “Are you **fucking** insane? Of course I won’t be out of here by Saturday . I have pneumonia.” He drags the word out ...”
24. on Page 172:
“... The other half think, You **fucking** moron you’re about to betray your only friend and give up the opportunity of a lifetime. ...”
25. on Page 178:
“... says. “We have our last best shot at a gig, you bail on me again, and you think it’s the **fucking** deal of a lifetime ?”He chokes.“Oh, man, T. ...”
26. on Page 179:
“... and sounds like he can’t get enough air. There’s sweat on his forehead and his nose is running. He’s a **fucking** mess. I hand him a clump of Kleenex, forcing them into his fingers, ...”
27. on Page 180:
“... You don’t get to **fucking** save me. I saved you, remember? That’s how]: want it.” My heart pounds. “Fine,” I say. ...”
28. on Page 182:
“... the top and Curt ditches the chair. He stands before me, trying to pretend he hates my guts. “Your dad **fucking** kidnapped me,” he says at last, glancing over his shoulder. ...”
29. from Front Matter:
“... I’m a **fucking** three- hundred-pound teenager living in the most unforgiving city on earth. I’m ugly and dumb and I make stupid noises ...”

2 Pages the Word “Fucker” is used...

1. on Page 65:
“... “I shake my head. “That **fucker**.” He punches his palm with his fist and I panic. “Listen, you don’t have to ... I mean, I don’t ...”
2. on Page 151:
“... He makes a noise that’s unintelligible , so I shake him again. “You **fucker**,” I yell. My fat cheeks flap. “What did you take? What the hell did you take? ...”

23 Pages the Word “shit” is used...

1. on Page 6:
“... Then, “Yes.” “No” again, then, “Damn, damn, damn, **shit**. Yes. French fries and ketchup. Lots of ketchup. Oh, man.” Curt grins so big I think his face will split ...”
2. on Page 11:
“... “I like to lay things on the line,” he says. “Life ain’t Hollywood .” He curls up tighter. “Life is **shit**.” 6. WANT TO LEAVE, but Curt wants to talk. ...”
3. on Page 12:
“... “Yeah?” he says. “What school?” “W. T. Watson.” “No **shit**?” One eye opens. “That was my school.” “Mmm,” I say, unsure how to respond. “Like it?” he asks. ...”

4. on Page 20:

“... “And vocals,” he adds. “I do awesome vocals.” I nod. “Arid vocals.” My father’s eyes narrow. “**Shit**,” says Dayle. Dad glares at him while I rush to say just one more thing. ...”

5. on Page 24:

“... Holy **shit**, I think, he’s concave. Curt ignores me. He walks to the living room while simultaneously trying to pull a T-shirt ...”

6. on Page 28:

“... My breath tastes like the bottom of someone’s shoe after he’s stepped in clog **shit**. If I have to be fat couldn’t I at least have minty-fresh breath? ...”

7. on Page 38:

“... see ... she taught me to love music. So I was three and Dad would be all giving me this **shit**, like, practice, practice, practice, ...”

8. on Page 40:

“... He’s on his knees leaning backward, making crazy punk rock faces and I swear he doesn’t give a **shit** what he looks like. I know without a doubt that Curt would play this guitar part in the same way ...”

9. on Page 41:

“... Life gives, life takes away. Everything changes when Curt looks at the clock. “**Shit, shit, shit, shit**. We’ve got to get out of here. ...”

10. on Page 43:

“... something that feels like a severed head. Holy **shit**, I think, it’s all over. I’m going to hurl. I leap backward, crashing into the dresser, and a thousand perfume ...”

11. on Page 44:

“... I pass them and the man turns around to stare. “Holy **shit**, Hazel. You see that kid? That kid was, like, three hundred pounds. ...”

12. on Page 54:

“... He smells like **shit** and we all know he’s a junkie.” He turns to me. “What, are you on drugs now? That’s all I ...”

13. on Page 58:

“... He’s calling me a “fat ass, tub of lard, **shit**-brained motherfucker” but I don’t stop to argue. He’s prob- ably right, but at least I’ve got my balls. ...”

14. on Page 101:

“... I am completely high. Then the panic hits. If Dad finds out ... “Holy **shit**.” The thought is sobering. Ollie laughs. “You’re not that high,” he says, his voice cracking on “that. ...”

15. on Page 113:

“... ~ ~ ~ I’M A SWEATING FAT KID practicing the drums. I come home from school and my day’s been **shit**, but do I turn on the television ? ...”

16. on Page 118:

“... too late. I don’t hit the drums hard enough. He hates me. Curt flops down on my bed. “Life is **shit**,” he says. 118 ...”

17. on Page 119:

“... Who needs to listen to goddamn gimmicky bastards from the suburbs who don’t know **shit**? They shouldn’t be allowed on stage, and, furthermore , maybe someone should steal from them. That’s what I think. ...”

18. on Page 120:

“... Maybe life is **shit**, I think. All I want is for Curt to come back. ~h. I’ IT’S WEDNESDAY AND CURT’S BACK. ...”

19. on Page 124:

“... do you want from me? The neighbors keep complain- ing and my father’s in the other-” Curt cuts me off. “**Shit**. ...”

20. on Page 126:

“... call me “fatty” and “lard ass” and “blubber.” I’ll think, You unoriginal mental midgits with brains the size of rabbit **shit**, but I won’t say that. ...”

21. on Page 131:

“... voice, but instead of making me hot it makes me want to puke. Curt watches me and shakes his head. “**Shit**,” he says. I can see the caption above his head. ...”

22. on Page 133:

“... Someone is laughing. It’s Curt. He stares, wide- eyed, grinning like he’s just seen the best show on earth. “Holy **shit**,” he says. ...”

23. on Page 134:

“... It’s overflowing and smells like **shit**. I puke again onto the sidewalk, then wipe my mouth with my T-shirt. A rat crawls by and I shoo ...”

20 Pages the Word “ass” is used...

1. on Page 11:

“... “This isn’t some after-school special where you learn to love yourself by saving my sorry **ass**. I saved you, remember? Let’s keep that straight. ...”

2. on Page 38:

“... time. Yeah ... and my dad, my father I mean, taught me to play guitar, because he was a real kick-**ass** guitar player. ...”

3. on Page 57:

“... “Who the fuck are you? Where’s Curt?” he demands. “You come here to meet that sorry-**ass** son of a . . .” The line of epithets continues while my brain screams, Get out, get out, get ...”

4. on Page 58:

“... He’s calling me a “fat **ass**, tub of lard, shit-brained motherfucker” but I don’t stop to argue. He’s prob- ably right, but at least I’ve got ...”

5. on Page 60:

“... then running in a half circle to play the role of terrified stepfather watching my huge **ass** descend. I stop twitching and chuckle despite myself. ...”

6. on Page 91:

“... “Better find your way down front, stage right,” he says. “This is going to be a kick-**ass** show.” With those magic words the bewitched whale, who is really a punk rock drummer cursed by the wicked sorcerer ...”

7. on Page 103:

“... Hot air inside the club, crowded bodies, a girl’s **ass** rubbing against my thigh, violent thrashing, something uncontained”

8. on Page 106:

“... “You won’t skip?” he says at last. “I can’t,” I say, then hurry to cover my **ass**. “But I still want to practice. The concert was incredible. ...”

9. on Page 112:

“... trying to say is that if you and Ollie think I can be a good drummer , I’ll work my **ass** off. ...”

10. on Page 113:

“... while I’m thinking, This is not funny and anyone who says it is can go to hell. I’m working my **ass** off, just like I said I would. ...”

11. on Page 116:

“... I wish I’d tried harder because my pants make my **ass** look enormous. I have the Empire State Building of asses. Some people have a bad hair day-I have a bad ...”

12. on Page 126:

“... more. They’ll call me “fatty” and “lard **ass**” and “blubber.” I’ll think, You unoriginal mental midgits with brains the size of rabbit shit, but I won’t say that. ...”

13. on Page 130:

“... I can’t remember how I ever allowed myself to get to this point-- forced into making an **ass** out of myself in front of a potentially violent crowd. ...”

14. on Page 131:

“... is the essence of punk rock, see, and once he gets out there he’s going to kick some serious skinny **ass**.” He smiles, and 131 ...”

15. on Page 134:

“... It was funny for Curt, right? Curt laughed right away. The audience laughed once he did. He saved my **ass**, there’s no denying that, but I hate that he laughed. Why did he think it was funny? ...”

16. on Page 137:

“... “Now, I’m not telling you what to do, but if I were you I’d get my **ass** up and find him. I think he’s moved to one of the subway stations now...” He pauses again, waiting for ...”

17. on Page 160:

“... “What do you mean she’s not coming? Did you speak to her? Not the **ass**-not his stepfather, but her? Did you tell her he’s in the freaking hospital?” 160 ...”

18. on Page 165:

“... let a little thing like me being hospitalized stand in the way of our second big debut. We’re gonna kick **ass**. Oh,” he adds, “and I’ve invited all the nurses. ...”

19. on Page 171:

“... Walk around bare **ass** and no one cares. Sweet.” I still haven’t said anything. I’m picturing Curt, half his ass hanging out, picking the ...”

20. on Page 182:

“... Curt. “Let’s have this conversation.” This time I lead. I slide in behind the drum set and let my huge ass sprawl over the chair. ...”

6 Pages the Word “asshole” is used...

1. on Page 13:

“... “Except she married this **asshole** who”-he coughs-“is a wife beater hypocrite asshole, so really it’s more like I used to live with her, but now ...”

2. on Page 26:

“... are, we’ll make plans to pick up my guitar from my mom’s place and start jamming when she and the **asshole** are at work. When I think you’ve got it, it being the technical drumming part of course, we’ll pick up ...”

3. on Page 47:

“... Before he turned into a self-centered **asshole**. We don’t talk about it, ever, but when Mom was dying and Dad had to spend all his time at ...”

4. on Page 59:

“... .. this guy there, and. ..” Curt looks up, interested for the first time. “The **asshole**?” I nod, catch my breath, and force my cheeks not to puff. ...”

5. on Page 147:

“... He’s talking to the woman and he looks like the same pompous **asshole** I’ve been watching for the last hour. Truly. Then he moves the fork and a piece of pasta falls off. ...”

6. on Page 160:

“... about his mom as if she’s the decent one. Maybe when she hears he’s in the hospital she’ll kick the **asshole** out and let Curt back in. ...”

2 Pages the Word “motherfucker” is used...

1. on Page 58:

“... He’s calling me a “fat ass, tub of lard, shit-brained **motherfucker**” but I don’t stop to argue. He’s prob- ably right, but at least I’ve got my balls. ...”

2. on Page 91:

“... There’s a guy with kinky orange hair standing beside me. He’s screaming, “Come on, **motherfuckers**,” over and over again even though there’s no one on stage yet. ...”

Illinois Family Institute
Strongly Urges
School District 126
To Protect Its Students From
Pervasively Vulgar Material
Found In
“Fat Kid Rules The World.”

