

# PHDoubled

Features editor Bethany Fisher talks boobs, brains and Botox with the mother who has written and published five novels and her shameless daughter who showcased THAT tattoo on TV

Upon meeting the pair of glamorous starlets, Bonnie Blossman, 43, and Whitney Whatley, 24, from the new reality show, *Big Rich Texas*, I was very worried about what I was getting myself into. From the first few episodes that have aired on ITV2 this month, the two 'outcasts' of the series seem to be in the middle of every argument and at the front of every cosmetic surgeon's waiting list in Dallas. However, I was pleasantly surprised to find how real and down to earth they were – despite all the plastic and silicone.

They greet me with Hollywood white smiles and bat their thick false eyelashes that hide under their veils of voluminous platinum hair. I immediately compliment them on how glamorous they look, and Bonnie grins as much as her Botox would let her and in a high-pitched Texan accent replies "Why thank you, that is so nice! I spend an hour getting ready, but mostly for a hot bath!" Whitney, who is dolled up to the nines declares that most of the time she doesn't wear makeup because she

thinks it's bad for her face, and never uses foundation or powder products. Though, after spotting the amount of heavy makeup she is wearing I realise she has the exact same dry sense of humour as the *Guilty Pleasures* team.

I am not shy about asking them to dish the dirt on who they love and who they hate out of their cast mates on the show. Bonnie admits she loves fashionista Connie and ex-model Melissa as they "have the best hearts and are good people to the core." She says, "By the end of season two and definitely in season three, you

"I want porn star boobs!"

can watch the transformation of our relationships. I don't get along with any of the others, enough said." Whitney nods and adds, "I'm with my mum – we get along with the same people and have the same that we don't care for".

Before the women agreed to do the show, Whitney's mother Bonnie, was going to go on the 10th series of *American Big Brother*, but she was cut at the last minute. "I was even flown to Los Angeles, but I think I was cut because I wasn't nerdy enough to be on the nerd team!" Bonnie laughs. She adds "however their casting producer called me about *Big Rich Texas* since I have a daughter, and when I told Whitney about it, she was in!" Whitney says "When my mum called me about it, I was like, hell yes! Let's do it!"

If you are in the minority of people who hasn't yet seen the show, we are introduced to the girls in a scene where Bonnie is making a deal with Whitney to get

the c-bomb she had tattooed on her foot removed in exchange for lip fillers. I ask them if they always make deals like this, and they both laugh, and admit they love a bit of surgery here and there. "I love Botox!" Bonnie declares. "I would have lines on my forehead if I didn't get it, and who wants lines? Not me!" Whitney tells me that she is also pro-plastic surgery, "I have done Botox once, but it didn't even do anything for me" I'm not surprised, she is only 24! I ask if

"I don't get along with any of the others, enough said"

she had anything else done and she says that she has only got the lip fillers that they showed her getting on the episode. Tension seems to flare up between the mum and daughter when Whitney admits she wants more surgery – "I want porn star boobs!" she laughs, while looking down at her already-large pair. Bonnie tells me that she has also had a nose job, and a CO2 laser procedure on her face, which she describes, was "fabulous". "That's all I've done, but I will fight aging every step along the way – I'm just not going to age gracefully, no way!" Bonnie pauses and then blurts out "Oh, wait, no, I also had my boobs done after I had kids. Ok, that's all I've done."

For two women who spend lots of money



Bonnie studying for her PHD, proving she has brains and beauty



and effort on their appearance, you would assume they wouldn't have much to offer in the academic department.

"There are a ton of stereotypes about being educated and what you should look and act like and even more stereotypes about blonde hair and big boobs. I seek to break both of these stereotypes", Bonnie tells me.

She adds "it doesn't matter what you look like, you are capable of anything", and she's right, as she goes on to tell me that she has a PhD in Biology and she has published five journals, along with a whole load of murder mystery novels.



**Left: Whitney before surgery with young Bonnie, Right: Whitney and Bonnie today**