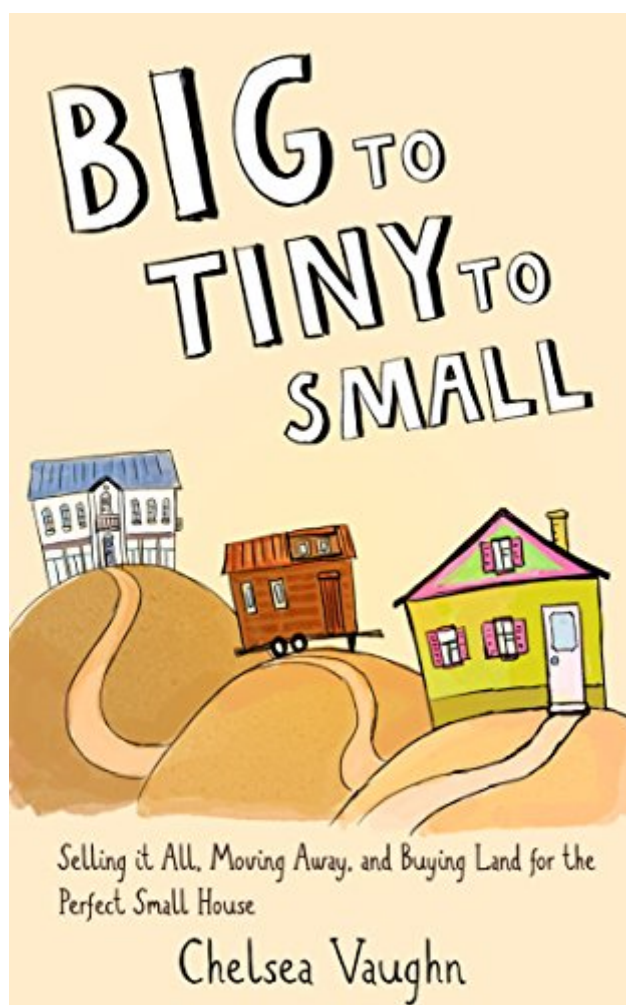


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# Big To Tiny To Small: Selling It All, Moving Away And Buying Land For The Perfect Small House



## Synopsis

How one couple radically changed their lives to enjoy more freedom and debt-free living in a zero-compromise, custom-built small house. Eager for a lifestyle change and curious about the hype around tiny houses, Brian and Chelsea decided to explore the financial feasibility and physical constraints to leaving their big house behind and transitioning to tiny living. With an unconventional family—two humans, two dogs, a parrot and a piano—they eliminated tiny as an option but went on to explore building a smart design, energy-efficient small house. From 1500 square feet to less than 500, they take us on a journey that starts with the sale of nearly everything they own in Connecticut and ends with them beginning the excavation in New Mexico for the ideal small home building pad. Part memoir, part how-to, their story shares what they learned about downsizing, buying land, getting ready to build a small house and much more. Planning to build the house themselves, they cover a lot of research territory, including: Small house design Customizing simple, small house floor plans to suit their needs and multiple pets How they downsized and sold most of their belongings Questions to ask when purchasing land to build your small house Budgeting and saving money Building without debt or a mortgage The hidden costs in developing raw land for small house living In their pursuit for more freedom and adventure, they move cross country and embark on a journey to build the perfect small house. This book is the first in a two-part series and presents a third alternative in the battle between big traditional houses and tiny trailer homes: The customized, small house on a foundation. Categories: Home Design House Plans Reference How to and home improvements Cleaning, caretaking and relocating Do it yourself home improvement Self-help - happiness Personal finance Small Homes & Cottages

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## Customer Reviews

I appreciated the insight into this couple's thought processes as they methodically figured out to make their shared dream a reality. They are truly walking the talk. Clearly and entertainingly written and thorough, without being bogged down in detail.

This was such an enjoyable book. My husband and I have been considering if a tiny house is for us and this was just the book to help us decide! There are helpful tips for every step of the downsizing and building process! Along with the tips, the author describes her own experience going through each step- I found this not only helpful but also entertaining. The author has a great sense of humor which makes it an enjoyable read. the length is great as well- it is thorough but not too drawn out.

I can't believe how awesome this book is. I have always dreamed of trying to do something like this, and this book might be the best inspiration I have found out there. How does a girl in her twenties do so much? I see a comment here that shreds the book and the author, but surely they haven't handled and mastered the many things this young lady has. If she isn't a builder, she still built her own house. There are hundreds of millions of people walking around our country who will never even try it. READ THIS BOOK! I am close to selling all my stuff and trying this! What a lady! Chelsea Vaughn, I look forward to all of your books. Nice start!

Big to Tiny to Small is an essential read for anyone considering "downsizing" their life (i.e. the footprint of their home and their universe of "things") in order to become more financially independent and get out of the prison that often comes with the standard American dream. In the book, the author gets down to brass tacks of the personal journey that she and her husband shared and the events that led to finally breaking away from "the system" that says "graduate from college, get a high paying job, buy a large house, have 2.5 kids, and a white

picket fence, and you'll be happy. Chelsea charts the course they went through in deciding their goals, the process of selecting a new city, locating a property, and determining what size home to build. This page-turner is a practical guide filled with humorous smilies, analogies, and metaphors. Those who are uncertain about their next steps will certainly find it an inspiring and informative story.

Everything has a process, even going through one's possessions to decide if the possessions are needed or just wanted. As we move closer to downsizing, I found this book helpful in making those decisions. I look forward to book two to follow the actual construction of the small house.

Thorough research regarding different housing options and on purchasing land. I never knew what could be available via a land auction. It was also really cool to see the evolution of their floor plans. I'm looking forward to the build book.

I could relate to the author's thought process in downsizing and moving although I feel that she took a better structured approach than I did. If I had read this before my move there are many pointers that would have benefited me. Good read!

Loved it! Very insightful, funny. More pictures would have been nice. Overall, it's a great, quick read  
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