

I spent £6,000 on surgery to keep my toyboy'

Heather Grant, 47, took drastic measures to save her romance with her younger lover

At 45, I knew I didn't really look my age. I'd always taken care of myself by exercising and eating well. But although I got lots of compliments, like many women in their mid-40s I had some hang-ups about my body. Cosmetic surgery was tempting but I couldn't justify its cost – or pain! Until I met Christian.

I was twice-divorced and a mother of four when we met in 2004. A mutual friend introduced us in a local wine bar. He was attractive, intelligent, and 30 – 15 years my junior.

We exchanged numbers and met the following week for a drink. He was more mature than other 30-year-olds I'd met, and when he said he preferred older women, I felt comfortable telling him my age. It was such a confidence boost stepping out with a youthful, handsome man. He made me feel young again.

But I was still nervous the first time we had sex. 'Surely he'd prefer to be with a younger, firmer woman,' I thought. I was shaking as I switched off the lights and undressed for him.

As I lay down, I could feel my boobs flop to the sides. He could sense I was

holding back. 'I love your body,' he told me, as I tried to shake off my insecurities.

They weren't confined to the bedroom. When we walked hand-in-hand down the street, people would stare. Did they think I was his mother? Young women checked him out all the time, and I sometimes caught him looking at them. I tried not to feel threatened, and Christian constantly told me I had a great body – for my age.

Generally, we were happy. But the older I got, the bigger the age gap felt to me. My once-perky breasts had sagged. Breast-feeding four children hadn't helped. Like so many other older women, my push-up bra had become my best friend.

I'd been thinking about cosmetic surgery for a few years. But as a single mum, I knew I couldn't afford it. I'd need a very good reason to do it.

In January this year, that reason came. Christian and I had a small tiff which turned into a row. Tempers flared, and in the heat of the moment he sent me a hurtful text. 'You look great with your clothes on – not so good with your clothes off.'

His words confirmed my fears. I read

My push-up bra was my best friend



Pre-surgery

'At 45 I looked pretty good and Christian said I had a great body – for my age!'



Post-surgery

'The surgery has changed how I feel about myself – I'm so confident now!'

the text over and over again. I was angry, but I knew that he loved me really, and had just played on my insecurities to hurt me. Later, he apologised, but I decided that the time to do something about it was now or never.

'I've booked myself in for a nose and boob job,' I told him. I'd been conscious of the bump in my nose since I was a teenager, and thought I might as well address that issue at the same time.

At first, Christian didn't believe me. I told him it was important for me to keep him happy, but I wanted to do it for me, too. 'If it makes you happy, I'll support you all the way,' he said.

I booked in with Mills and Mills, a cosmetic surgery company based in Marbella, and paid the £6,000 cost of the combined surgeries on my credit card. It was a small price to pay for self-confidence and a chance to keep the man I loved.

After five hours on the operating table, I woke to find two massive 34D mounds where my 34A breasts once were. Drips

The cost of beauty



BEFORE

NOSE JOB

£2,500: Heather had been conscious of her bumpy nose since her teenage years



AFTER

BOOB JOB

£3,800: Breast-feeding four children took its toll on Heather's bust



BEFORE



AFTER

Woman real life

Celebs and their trophy husbands



Guy Ritchie – the world's most famous toyboy?

Madonna, 49, and Guy Ritchie, 39

Madonna met writer/director Guy Ritchie, 10 years her junior, in 1999, and they married a year later. Madonna, a mother of three, has never admitted to having plastic surgery, but some say she looks a little too good for 49. She says: 'I think about plastic surgery, and I don't rule it out. But I won't be holding a press conference if I have it!'

Demi Moore, 44, and Ashton Kutcher, 29



Demi has 15 years on Ashton

Actress and mother-of-three Demi Moore met Ashton Kutcher in 2003 and they married in 2005.

At 15 years older than Ashton, Demi looks amazing for her age, and has reportedly spent more than £250,000 on plastic surgery on her hips, knees, breasts and face.

MY Party Piece

'If you wear a frock with confidence, it says a lot. If you hold your head high, especially if you're single, you look much better than if you're slumped.'

Sina & Briten

