

Flirt & Flutter Lash Loft

My lush lashes led to one sleepless night. By CIARA WALKER

I DON'T WEAR MAKEUP—putting *stuff* on and washing *stuff* off is a bit much for me—so getting false eyelashes was a leap. But when a sparkling new eyelash salon, Flirt & Flutter Lash Loft, opened on the westside, I thought I'd give it a try.

Although they offer semipermanent (\$40) and permanent (\$350) lash extensions, I chose strip lashes (\$14) that last up to two days.

Owner Shea Evans recommended a pair popular with newbies that offers length and volume but a more natural look. The application process wasn't painful, just a little sticky. After fifteen minutes and a \$14 brow wax to “open” my eyes, I was ready for batting practice—so I thought.

Initially I kept thinking something was in my eyes, and my lids felt sticky when I'd blink. I figured it would cease after a

few hours, but I found myself waking up throughout the night just to make sure my eyelids weren't stuck together. After one restless night, I was not ready to face the day. As lovely as they looked—and my lashes really *did* look fuller and longer—the strips had to go.

I wasn't prepped on how to remove them (maybe they fall off?), and I didn't want to rip them off for fear of damaging my real lashes.

After doing some homework, I learned that a little warm water and Vaseline to loosen the glue would do the trick. Once the lashes were off, I concluded that semipermanent or permanent lashes might be a better choice—just not for me. On a positive note, my eyebrows still looked clean and shapely a week later. 1016 Howell Mill Road, Loft 1208, 404-815-7967, flirtnflutterlashloft.com. ■

