### THE CRAVING & MOOD FIX

NATURAL STRATEGIES TO CALM THE ROLLERCOASTER OF PERIMENOPAUSE



BY COACH SHANNON WADE, CERTIFIED INTEGRATIVE HEALTH COACH FOUNDER OF THAT MENOPAUSE MENTOR™

### Welcome, Beautiful Midlife Woman

If you've ever found yourself elbow-deep in the snack drawer or crying over a commercial—then felt totally confused about where it all came from —know this: You are not alone, and you are definitely not crazy.

You're likely in perimenopause, and your hormones are throwing your mood, your cravings, and your energy into a whirlwind.

This guide is your gentle, judgment-free roadmap to calming the chaos—naturally.

We're going to talk about food, stress, mindset, and a few tools that can help you feel like YOU again.

Let's dive in.

### Part 1: Why You Crave Sugar Like a Teenager

Hormonal changes in perimenopause affect the way your body processes insulin, handles stress, and regulates mood. The result?

- Sudden, intense sugar cravings
- Feeling hangry even when you just ate
- Emotional rollercoasters that leave you drained

### Here's why it happens:

- Estrogen + progesterone fluctuations mess with blood sugar balance.
- Cortisol (your stress hormone) ramps up sugar cravings.
- Lower serotonin = more emotional eating.

The key is not to eliminate sugar completely overnight—but to support your body so the cravings naturally quiet down.

## Part 2: 5 Foods That Naturally Balance Blood Sugar and Mood

These real, whole foods help keep your mood more stable and reduce those crash-and-burn cravings:

#### 1. Avocados

Rich in healthy fats that keep you full and stabilize blood sugar.

#### 2. Salmon or Sardines

Packed with omega-3s that nourish the brain and reduce inflammation.

#### 3. Sweet Potatoes

A slow-digesting carb that satisfies comfort cravings without the crash.

### 4. Chia Seeds

Loaded with fiber and plant-based protein to slow sugar absorption.

### 5. Berries

Low in sugar but high in antioxidants—great for energy and brain clarity.

**Pro Tip:** Try building your meals with the "Fab Four" approach—protein, healthy fat, fiber, and greens.

## Part 3: Track Your Triggers with the Mood Map

Often, cravings and mood swings come in predictable patterns—but most of us are too busy to notice.

Use this simple "Mood Map" for 3-5 days and start connecting the dots.

TIME	WHAT I ATE	ENERGY LEVEL	MOOD	CRAVINGS	STRESS LEVEL (1-10)

Reflection Questions: (make room for responses)

- When are your cravings strongest?
- Are they physical or emotional?
- Is there a connection between what you eat and how you feel?

# Part 4: Calming Emotional Overwhelm Naturally

Perimenopause mood swings can feel intense—but the fix isn't always found in a prescription.

Try these supportive practices:

- Morning sunlight: Boosts cortisol rhythm and serotonin naturally.
- Adaptogens: Herbs like ashwagandha and rhodiola help regulate cortisol.
- Deep belly breathing: Signals your nervous system to calm the heck down.

Grounding practices: Nature walks, journaling, or even hugging your dog (hi, Ruby! \*\scrip\*)



### Part 5: A Sample One-Day Hormone-Friendly Menu

Here's a real-food day that supports your blood sugar, stress response, and sanity:

#### **Breakfast:**

Hormone-balancing smoothie:

- Unsweetened almond milk
- ½ avocado
- Handful of spinach
- ½ banana
- 1 scoop clean protein
- Chia seeds + cinnamon



### Lunch:

Big salad with mixed greens, grilled salmon, walnuts, roasted sweet potato chunks, and olive oil + apple cider vinegar dressing

### Snack:

Handful of almonds + green tea with lemon

#### **Dinner:**

Grilled chicken thighs, sautéed greens in coconut oil, wild rice

Optional: glass of tart cherry juice for sleep support

### **Evening:**

1 square of 85% dark chocolate + magnesium glycinate supplement



## Part 6: My #1 Supplement for Cravings and Mood

After years of struggling with my own menopausal symptoms, I finally found something that supports both my gut health and mental wellness—because the two are 100% connected.

It's called Happy Juice, and it helps support:

- Stable mood
- Less brain fog
- Fewer cravings
- More energy and resilience

Want to learn more? Shoot me a message or visit <a href="https://www.amare.com/et/rtdihd/161470">https://www.amare.com/et/rtdihd/161470</a>

### Let's Keep This Conversation Going

Perimenopause is messy, beautiful, wild, and powerful. You don't have to do it alone.

Want personalized support or a plan that fits your lifestyle and schedule?

Book a free discovery call with mehttps://wix.to/WQW4vOc

Take my Menopause Archetype

Quiz:https://www.thatmenopausementor.com/quiz

Or just shoot me a message on IG:

<u>@ThatMenopauseMentor</u>

You're not broken. Your body is just asking for something different. And I'm here to help you listen.

With so much love,

Coach Shannon Wade

Certified Integrative Health Coach
ThatMenopauseMentor.com

