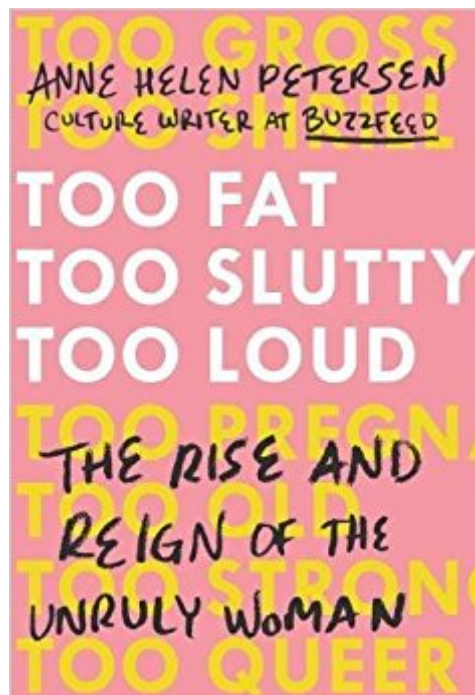




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Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud: The Rise And Reign Of The Unruly Woman



Synopsis

“Petersen’s gloriously bumptious, brash ode to non-conforming women suits the needs of this dark moment. Her careful examination of how we eviscerate the women who confound or threaten is crucial reading if we are ever to be better.” —Rebecca Traister, *New York Times* bestselling author of *All the Single Ladies* From celebrity gossip expert and BuzzFeed culture writer Anne Helen Petersen comes an accessible, analytical look at how female celebrities are pushing boundaries of what it means to be an “acceptable” woman. You know the type: the woman who won’t shut up, who’s too brazen, too opinionated, too much. She’s the unruly woman, and she embodies one of the most provocative and powerful forms of womanhood today. In *Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud*, Anne Helen Petersen uses the lens of “unruliness” to explore the ascension of pop culture powerhouses like Lena Dunham, Nicki Minaj, and Kim Kardashian, exploring why the public loves to love (and hate) these controversial figures. With its brisk, incisive analysis, *Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud* will be a conversation-starting book on what makes and breaks celebrity today. “Must Read List” —*Entertainment Weekly* Named one of *Cosmopolitan*’s “Books You Won’t Be Able to Put Down This Summer” —*Selected one of* ’s “Best Books of the Month” —*A Refinery 29* Editor’s Pick

Book Information

Hardcover: 288 pages

Publisher: Plume (June 20, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399576851

ISBN-13: 978-0399576850

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 0.9 x 8.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 46 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #5,820 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Gender Studies > General #39 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Pop Culture > General #45 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Communication & Media Studies

Customer Reviews

“Supremely thoughtful...snappy and compelling...”[Petersen’s essays] highlight the paradoxical expectations American culture places on women, in particular, the mixed messages it sends: the “you can do anything,” rubbing awkwardly against the “you can’t do everything.” •Megan Garber, *The Atlantic* “A timely and essential read...Petersen’s analytical skills are as vigorous [and] her prose and reporting are entertaining.” •Keziah Weir, *ELLE* “Deeply thoughtful”| after a few chapters of Petersen’s cautious, intelligent optimism, [the subtitle] feels instead like an instruction, a warning, a promise, a threat. Rise and reign. Maybe we could.” •Annalisa Quinn, *NPR* “Petersen writes with equal amounts of rigor and empathy...her point feels like a warning bell: Our cultural lens on celebrity women reflects back on women en masse. We don’t have to love their unruliness, but we need to change the attitudes that so narrowly define them.” •Andi Zeisler, *Bitch* “Anne Helen Petersen’s gloriously bumptious, brash ode to non-conforming women suits the needs of this dark moment. Petersen’s careful examination of how we eviscerate the women who confound or threaten is crucial reading if we are ever to be better.” •Rebecca Traister, *New York Times* “Bestselling author of *All the Single Ladies* “In a time when women are under constant attack, I am so grateful for Anne Helen Petersen’s sharp and topical book. Petersen nails the magnetism of women who break boundaries and the punishment that often comes along with it. All women will see a bit of themselves in the unruly.” •Jessica Valenti, *New York Times* “Bestselling author of *Sex Object* “Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud” could not be coming out at a more perfect time. As society is reacting to and still grappling with the ever-changing understanding of feminism, Petersen’s book holds a mirror up and shows us how we view women and ourselves. It’s equal parts rallying cry and heady examination; and it’s my new best friend, who empowers me to kick butt in life.” •Phoebe Robinson, *New York Times* “Bestselling author of *You Can’t Touch My Hair* “Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud” is an oasis in a sea of hot takes, a set of crisp essays on the provocateurs who fascinate and enrage us. With warmth and wit, Anne Helen Petersen celebrates the power of being just a little too much, seeking the rebel inside the trainwreck.” •Emily Nussbaum, critic at *The New Yorker* “Bold and empowering...an engaging exploration of the women celebrities who are defying stereotypes and redefining what it means to be female.” •*Bustle* “Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud is the best kind of celebrity gossip book: it’s a book that shows us what celebrity gossip says about us. It

demands to know why we are so obsessed with the ways in which these unruly women perform their femininity and what it finds is not flattering to a society that likes to insist that sexism is over. Constance Grady, Vox “[Petersen’s] research and observations are eye-opening...but the best part of the book is Petersen’s devotion to intersectionality, which is all too often missing from discussions about feminism. For anyone who considers themselves a feminist, this book is a must-read. Meghan DeMaria, Refinery 29 “[A] trenchant and intersectional analysis of the celebrity narratives we create around famous women who, in some way, defy the cultural scripts of classed and raced femininity [Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud] will be appreciated by anyone seeking to understand the vicious social judgement that women—particularly high-profile, successful women—continue to face in our era. Anna J. Clutterbuck-Cook, Library Journal “[Petersen] analyzes how modern female celebrities are pushing boundaries and challenging expectations, provoking an important discussion. If you’re a feminist with a capital F, Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud: The Rise and Reign of the Unruly Woman will make you cheer from the inside out. Elizabeth Enteman, HelloGiggles “Anne Helen Petersen’s Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud is a sharp analysis of how contemporary female celebrities are pushing the boundaries of acceptable behavior for women as defined by our society. Jarry Lee, BuzzFeed “Thought-provoking...Through incisive analysis of the ways in which contemporary society polices femininity, Petersen reveals the fraught relationship between women and celebrity. A sharp, compelling collection of social and cultural criticism. Kirkus Select praise for the author’s previous book, Scandals of Classic Hollywood: “Engaging...Petersen is an author for our age. The Boston Globe “Clear and convincing...intelligent analysis [written] with the verve of an enthusiast. LA Times “Terrific and thoughtful and fascinating. NPR’s Pop Culture Happy Hour “Smart, relevant, and fun...think TMZ with a PhD. Bitch “Compulsively readable. The Rumpus “Insightful. TIME Magazine

ANNE HELEN PETERSEN received her PhD in media studies from the University of Texas, where she studied the industrial history of the gossip industry. Today, she writes about culture, celebrity, and feminism for BuzzFeed News. Her first book, Scandals of Classic Hollywood, was featured in The Boston Globe, Time, NPR’s Pop Culture Happy Hour, Bitch, the

New York Post, and The Rumpus. She lives in Brooklyn.

Anne Helen Petersen gave us a gem of a book in *Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud*. It's incredibly readable, thoughtful, and insightful. The book felt like a conversation about pop culture with a good friend. There were times when I wanted to stand with Petersen and say, "Yes, me too!", times when she challenged me to go beyond my own beliefs, and times when I wanted to push her a bit further. We need more concise, readable books like Petersen's to delve into the "unruly" among us — those who challenge our conceptions of norms and push us to rethink our assumptions.

I felt both hot holy anger and prickly discomfort with reading these great chapters on women who chose to break the mold. The author did a great job of background info on the current ladies who were profiled for "too____", each one as interesting as the last one. Great read.

The author is extremely talented - I'll read anything she writes for BuzzFeed and now this book. The examples of unruly women have made me think about how I have felt the need to conform and the times I have not - and the example and encouragement I need to give to my daughter.

Anne Helen Petersen is an amazing academic and writer who makes very sophisticated ideas very easy to understand without dumbing them down. She makes it seem so easy to write so persuasively about how gender and celebrity functions in the US. This book flows super quick, and you don't have to read the chapters in order. Great nighttime reading. My favorites were the Kim Kardashian (*Too Pregnant*), and Nicky Minaj (*Too Slutty*) chapters.

Loved the book's introduction, and the book entertained and informed throughout. I'm going to be looking for more of Anne's writings.

One need only look at the 2016 US Presidential Election to see that American society HATES unruly women. Petersen, an author grounded in academics while extremely well-versed in pop culture, explores the myriad reasons why women face such strict scrutiny from all sides of the gender spectrum. I recommend this to anyone interested in an intersectional perspective on pop culture and feminism.

Genuinely enjoyed every chapter of this book! I have been enamored, repulsed, and exhausted by the women in this book. Petersen digs deep into what shapes our responses to these women and details what that says about our values as a society. This book is incredibly accessible and doesn't rely too heavily on academic jargon. I appreciate the intersectional lens, and highly recommend it.

Fabulous as always, Anne Helen Petersen is one of the best writers on women, pop culture, and celebrity. While I wanted a little more about unruliness (the academic/cultural theorist in me), this is a fun and insightful read. And it would make an excellent gift for newly "woke" parents and older relatives.

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