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Live Through This: On Creativity And Self-Destruction



Synopsis

“The 21 artists, who share their stories of madness, trauma, addiction, abuse and self-destruction, and their relationship to art, leave no vulnerable detail unwritten.” ShamelessA visceral look at the bizarre entanglement of destructive and creative forces, Live Through This is a collection of original stories, essays, artwork, and photography. It explores the use of art to survive abuse, incest, madness and depression, and the often deep-seated impulse toward self-destruction including cutting, eating disorders, and addiction. Here, some of our most compelling cartoonists, novelists, poets, dancers, playwrights, and burlesque performers traverse the pains and passions that can both motivate and destroy women artists, and mark a path for survival. Taken together, these artful reflections offer an honest and hopeful journey through a woman’s silent rage, through the power inherent in struggles with destruction, and the ensuing possibilities of transforming that burning force into the external release of art. With contributions by Nan Goldin, bell hooks, Patricia Smith, Cristy C. Road, Carol Queen, Annie Sprinkle, Elizabeth Stephens, Carolyn Gage, Eileen Myles, Fly, Diane DiMassa, Bonfire Madigan Shive, Inga Muscio, Kate Bornstein, Toni Blackman, Nicole Blackman, Silas Howard, Daphne Gottlieb, and Stephanie Howell.

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Customer Reviews

“The 21 artists, who share their stories of madness, trauma, addiction, abuse and self-destruction, and their relationship to art, leave no vulnerable detail unwritten.” Shameless

SABRINA CHAPADJIEV is a playwright, spoken word artist, and a singer-songwriter originally from the suburbs of Chicago. She is founder of the all-woman songwriter series Chicks that Kick, and editor of the zine Cliterature: 18 Interviews with Women Writers. Her plays, including perhaps merely quiet, have been produced in the United States and Europe.

Such an amazing book! It's a must to get through depressions. Resilience-enhancing! My friend bought it for me, I bought it for my friends! Great resource list inside. Very inspiring. Like "Chicken Noodle Soup for the Soul" for art-making, creative, neurotic young feminists. This book really helped me through my depression. A great grieving companion.

These women are heroes. A great and inspiring read. Only thing is - the glue of the book spine fell apart completely. Bummer! Poorly made batch of books perhaps?

A great read from a variety of artists who have written about their creative and destructive impulses. Worth the price for anyone interested in Expressive Therapy.

Absolutely LOVE this book & seller!

I'm giving this a middle rating because I haven't read it yet- it's required reading for a class I'm in. But I see this as a book which promotes limiting thinking- thinking which limits our true capabilities. During the times we are in now, anything that detracts from finding our power rather than our weaknesses is not as worthwhile.

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