



The New Fuck You: Adventures In Lesbian Reading

Eileen Myles (Editor) , Liz Kotz (Editor) , Shannon Ebner , Laura Flanders , Eliza Galaher , Marilyn Hacker , Lisa Kron , Joan Larkin , more... Myra Mniewski , Honor Moore , Cynthia Nelson , Madeline Olnek , Nancy Redwine , Julie Regan , Annie Reid , Danine Ricereto , Camille Roy , Sapphire , Joan Schenkar , Kathy Lou Schultz , Lucy Sexton , Tanya Barfield , Linda Smukler , Pamela Sneed , Christina Sunley , Carmelita Tropicana , Laurie Weeks , Joe Westmoreland , Millie Wilson , Linda Yablonsky , Dodie Bellamy , Adele Bertei , Lisa Beskin , Rebecca Brown , Kelly Cogswell , Dominique Dibbell , Holly Hughes ...less

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Borrowing its name from the notorious '60s Ed Sanders magazine, *Fuck You: A Magazine of the Arts*, the editors have figured a way to rehone its countercultural and frictional stance with style and aplomb. A unique and provocative anthology of lesbian writing, guaranteed to soothe the soulful and savage the soulless.

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ncn nothing says

if you read this book a long time ago, for example when you were in highschool, i recommend reading it again because that is what i am doing, somewhat accidentally, and it is making me so so so so happy

Danger Kallisti says

I haven't read anything I loved this much in a very long time. Mostly stream-of-consciousness and poetry, but with a few really amazing stories mixed in, it spans the entire range of lesbian experience, defying convention in every way possible. I loved the story with Kathleen Hanna in it. I loved the girl who talks to Jesus in dolphin form. I especially loved the odd gender-neutral girl growing up into the classy dyke in pinstriped suits. In fact, I'm not really sure what I didn't love. Everyone should find a copy of this book and read it. It's really that good.

HeavyReader says

I bought this book from the Crescent Wrench Bookstore & Infoshop when I was involved with that collective. I didn't like it much, I remember that. I think that's all I remember about this book.

Johnny Potsmoker says

sexy

Javier says

As I read this book I had to keep reminding myself that it was published in the mid-90s and not yesterday. The writing is not explicitly by and for lesbians, per se--if this book were published in 2011 it would be subtitled _New Adventures in Queer Fiction_, but for the time period "Lesbian" will do. The authors are incredibly varied in style, origination, experience, age, and language. This is probably some of the most diverse queer lit I've read in...I can't even remember how long. And for that, I'm grateful.

And for the rest? Holy shit. Poems, plays, essays, short stories, excerpts from memoirs/novels/???!!

Semiotext(e) is well-known amongst anarchist (esp. queer anarchist) circles for publishing some of the best of the avant garde and, per their reputation, they do so here, as well. I can't imagine another publisher who would even touch most of this subject matter (heroin, fucking men, the deaths of loved but homophobic family members, self-love, violent sex, and...).

So fucking good. And a plus: the straight dudes on the bus who usually bug me were banished from bothering me while I read something that clearly depicted two women fucking on the back cover. <3

Daphne says

When it comes to anthologies, there are bound to be parts of the whole that one doesn't quite like as much as the others. Such is the same for *The New Fuck You*. Perhaps its age is showing – it was after all, first printed in 1995.

That being said, I loved individually some of the work found in here. I loved especially *Forgiveness* and *Without Easter*. They made my heart ache.

Yes of course there were other bits and bobs I liked in the book, but even if there wasn't, the presence of the two pieces written by Rebecca Brown and Kelly Cogswell respectively would have made the entirely experience worth it.

Sometimes I felt lost as to what the guiding principle, the rule of thumb for the anthology is.

In any case, adventures in lesbian reading, as it says in its subtitle, and so perhaps the adventure lies precisely in that you won't really know what you'll find every time you turn the page.

kot says

Nice packaging, poor writing.

Marcus says

Lots of goodies in here. Gritty (sometimes) sad (sometimes) erotic (sometimes) real (all the time). It's a lot like life!

Lucie says

i give up. you win, the new fuck you, for being so unbearably bad that i can't even finish you. this book is terrible! such a good title & promise...but then upon sifting through the stories, some so embarrassingly awkward & bad you can feel your cheeks flush with shame for the writers...i had to let it go. bye bye, you are off to the thrift store, i can not bear your presence any longer.

Sarah says

Not as good as I was hoping. The submissions vary but are generally weak. I agree with the reviewer who said 'great packaging, disappointing content.'

Brook says

There was a lot of good stuff in this collection, and some stories and poems that didn't do much for me. I enjoyed the 90s queerness- the "I don't know what to do about my gender feels and preferences" are interesting in retrospect. The closing story was pretty great, if sad.

Aly says

One story, entitled 'Forgiveness' by Rebecca Brown, is the parable that got me to finally leave my ex. So just finding that one story made the whole book worth it to me.

Liza says

this is probably my very favorite book as an artifact. like, i would like to display it prominently on my coffee table as a message to anyone who enters my home. i wish they would make a new edition.
