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Clothes, Clothes, Clothes. Music, Music, Music. Boys, Boys, Boys.



Synopsis

Viv Albertine is one of a handful of original punks who changed music, and the discourse around it, forever. In *Clothes ... Music ... Boys* a story hitherto dominated by male voices is recast through the eyes of one of the most glamorous, uncompromising and iconic figures of the time. After forming The Flowers of Romance with Sid Vicious in 1976, Viv joined The Slits and made musical history as one of the first generation of punk bands. Here is the story of what it was like to be a girl at the height of punk: the sex, the drugs, the guys, the tours, the hard lessons learnt and those not considered. From Madonna to Lady Gaga, fashion to feminims, Viv Albertine has influenced a range of exceptional artists. Here, before and beyond the break-up of The Slits in 1982, is the full story of a life lived unscripted, with foolishness, bravery and great emotional honesty. A memoir full of raw and uncompromising anecdote and opinion, *Clothes, Clothes, Clothes. Music, Music, Music. Boys, Boys, Boys* is an unflinching account of a life lived on the frontiers of experience, by a true pioneer.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In the non-stop stream of celebrity autobiographies available, Viv Albertine's *Clothes, Clothes, Clothes, Music, Music, Music, Boys, Boys, Boys* is in a class by itself. Eschewing the standard form

of chronicling events in long, wistful chapters of excess, Albertine goes for short entries of brilliance. The woman knows how to write, crafting observant and blunt bits of streetwise prose to describe the many mini-moments that make up this great book. The gangs all here; sex, drugs, rock and roll, but that's only a part of it. After the days of punk, The Slits, and notoriety had faded, Albertine tackled the next stage of her life, one in which she tried to have something approaching normalcy, only to find herself beset by a host of physical maladies which left her an empty and depressed shell of the renegade she once was. It's in this second half of the book that the reader is jettisoned from appreciative fan to empathetic confidant, a powerful transformation to be certain. Throughout her tale, the author is relentlessly, brutally, and heartbreakingly honest. It's easily the most intimate autobiography I've read, one in which the reader isn't just consuming the sterile recounting of actions, but rather becoming enmeshed in a spellbinding, painful, and wry confessional. It's essentially linear, but has some disjointed chapters that seem to have no purpose save to give you one more anecdote or life observation. I can best compare it to a long conversation with someone wherein the drinks or drugs flow, the talk rambles, and nobody is bored. Hers is a story as unique as she, but it's her ability to unflinchingly express the raw innermost thoughts she was experiencing during those moments that make this book so special, so personal, and so endearing.

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