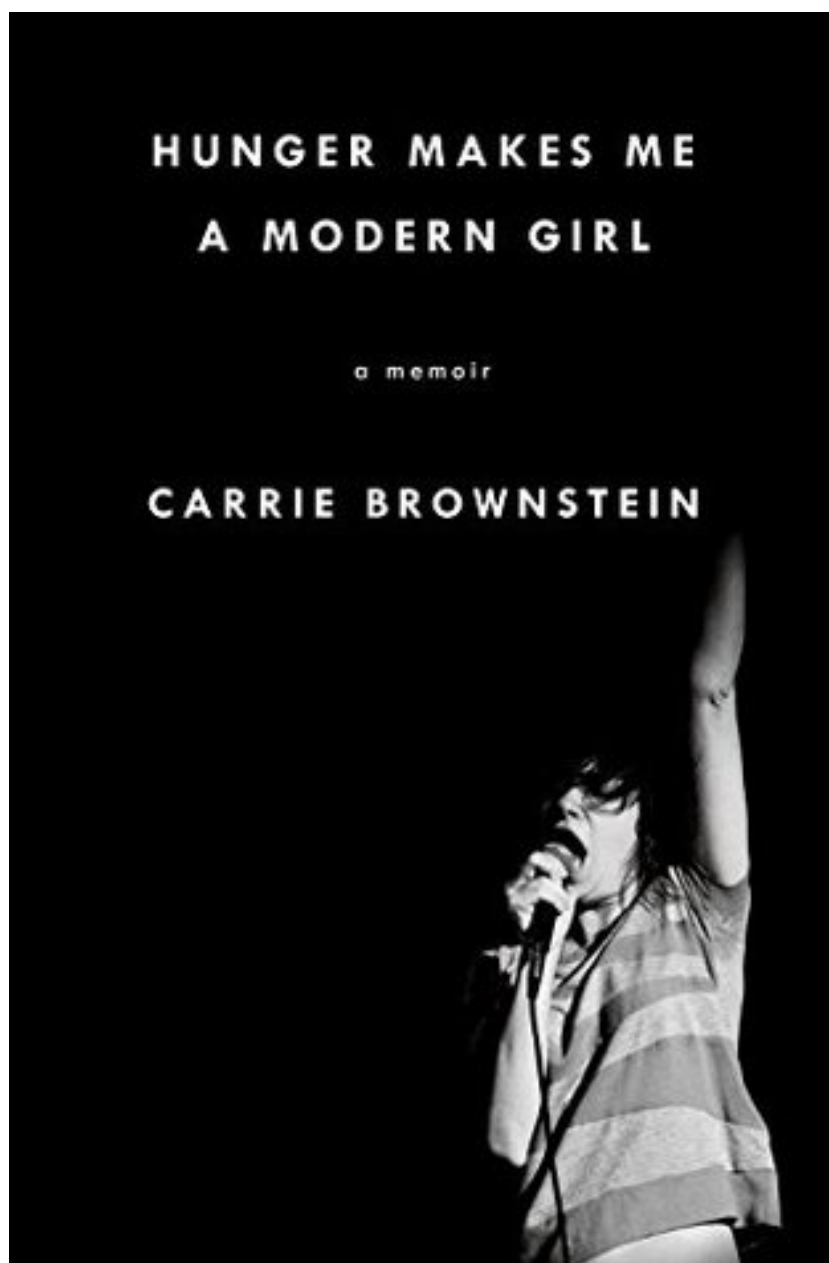


Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl Book PDF Download



By:
Carrie Brownstein

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What people Say:

Diane

What a fantastic music memoir! Carrie Brownstein writes beautifully about her development as an artist and how she became a successful musician.

Carrie grew up in the suburbs of Seattle, Washington, and she started playing the guitar at a young age. She says she was an anxious and melodramatic child, but she loved to perform. In high school she started playing with bands, and eventually formed Sleater-Kinney, which Time magazine once described as America's best rock band. The book covers Carrie's

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One of the most memorable stories is that Carrie was romantically involved with singer Corin Tucker, and there was an awkward phone call from Carrie's father when a national magazine published news of their relationship after they had already broken up.

There were also some good sections on how frustrating it was to be labeled as a "girl band," and on how often reporters would ask about it.

The prose in this memoir is striking, and I was not surprised when Carrie mentioned she had considered getting a Master of Fine Arts degree – she is a lovely writer. The sections that were most moving were when she described her strained relationship with her parents, and her frustrations about her various illnesses on tour (she had severe allergic reactions, and once she even suffered a shingles outbreak).

If you are a Sleater-Kinney fan, or if you like punk rock or riot grrrl music, you will probably enjoy this book. Her stories reminded me of how much fun it was to be a young adult in the 1990s, in part because of the great music we shared.

However, if you picked up this book hoping for some behind-the-scenes stories about the TV show "Portlandia," you will be disappointed because it's barely mentioned. This book is more about Carrie's coming of age and is focused on her musicianship. I listened to this on audio, and at the end there was a bonus interview with Carrie, in which she says that she never could have

successfully collaborated with Fred Armisen on Portlandia if she hadn't first learned how to be a musician and work with other artists.

This was an enjoyable and insightful read, and I highly recommend it to music fans.

Sharon

This isn't a book for readers looking for voyeuristic thrills from their memoirs. It's a passable music memoir, certainly of interest to all the Sleater-Kinney fans out there, but even they will be disappointed (as I was) by a book that feels too thin.

It takes a while for this work to hit its stride. The first third is spent recounting Brownstein's early years. This is the least compelling section of the memoir, poorly paced and thin. There's little depth to the content, and it is horrifically o

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It takes a while for this work to hit its stride. The first third is spent recounting Brownstein's early years. This is the least compelling section of the memoir, poorly paced and thin. There's little depth to the content, and it is horrifically overwritten. Throughout this memoir, its evident that Brownstein has a thesaurus-like knowledge of the English language without any real mastery of it. The book is riddled with big words that lack any real punch because they're the norm, and this is most evident as Brownstein talks about her childhood.

Things get better once SK comes into the picture, as that's really what this book is--not the memoir of Carrie Brownstein, but the memoir of Sleater-Kinney. Even then, it feels more like biography than memoir. Sure, we have a somewhat self-deprecating account of Brownstein's struggles with depression and anxiety, but those feel almost rote. You're not going to learn much new about SK in this book. At times, I felt like I was reading the SK wikipedia page with minor edits to show Brownstein's perspective.

There is some insight into the artistic workings of SK, but not a lot. Each album has its own chapter, where we learn about the songwriting and recording process, along with a few anecdotes about the associated tours. Sometimes individual songs are mentioned--notably missing is 'Modern Girl', a song whose lyrics gave this book their title, but somehow didn't warrant a single sentence in the meat of the book itself.

There is little detail of Brownstein's life after SK broke up and before they got back together. There's a single mention of Portlandia, and a chapter detailing her work with Portland's animal shelters. The book closes with a brief discussion about SK's most recent tour and album.

I'm a fan of Carrie Brownstein and of Sleater-Kinney, and I was disappointed. It's a quick, at times interesting read, but it doesn't feel rewarding. If you're into Brownstein's work, stick to her music and work on Portlandia. She's a much better musician and comedian than she is a memoirist

Eve

I've been floundering in my reading pool, trying to stay afloat and not sink into a reading slump. I can usually tell I'm headed that way when it takes me days to decide what to read next. I'm an unapologetic mood reader, and a very recent bout of

I've been floundering in my reading pool, trying to stay afloat and not sink into a reading slump. I can usually tell I'm headed that way when it takes me days to decide what to read next. I'm an unapologetic mood reader, and a very recent bout of shingles has made me super impatient and fastidious about reading material.

I had no intention of inflicting my bad mood on this book that I've been looking forward to for so long. When I got an email from my library that the audiobook was finally available to download, I balked! I had two weeks to either read it or get on the long waiting list again. The first paragraph instantly hooked me though, and I just couldn't stop listening.

Boy could I empathize! I haven't been gardening, cleaning house or otherwise occupying my hands while listening. I've been lying in bed (on my side) staring at the wall. It's so good that it's like watching an enthralling, well-written movie. Carrie has such an articulate way of expressing herself both in interviews and not surprisingly in the written word. Though I've never listened to Sleater-Kinney, the band that put her on the map, I still found this book transportive and an iconic tribute to an important era.

Her constant struggle to find a place and meaning in life really touched me; it made me feel like I wasn't alone. Her personal account of her family life was also touching; who'd have thought? This was already a 4-star read, but the final part of the book shot it into 5-star status, especially the chapter about her pets and their significance in her life. This audio edition had a brief

interview with the author at the end, and it only endeared her to me all the more. She is a voracious reader, and there were a few authors she mentioned both in the book and interview that I seriously need to get to sooner than later. FYI, she's mostly into fiction. That's kind of refreshing. So if you're planning on reading this, you won't be disappointed! If you think it may not be for you, you'd be surprised. Give it a go; it's hard not to be charmed by Carrie.

Elizabeth

First, I LOVE SLEATER-KINNEY.

I was so excited to read this and what an excellent read! Some might be disappointed- this is not a typical memoir. Carrie Brownstein is one cerebral lady. She tells a story that supports the idea that art saves lives. She does not dish. Not even once. Instead she explains how Sleater-Kinney saved her. She explains about tour. She shows us her regard for Corin Tucker & Janet Weiss. And she tells us how she broke up the band.

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The feminist punk scene & riot grrrl music was such a great time to live here in the Pacific Northwest. This book pays homage to that time.

LOVED.

Maxwell

At once an honest depiction of otherness and an interesting examination of the 1990's music scene--especially punk rock in the PNW.

, the title coming from a Sleater-Kinney track, covers Brownstein's youth and emergence into a career in music. She's genuine, indulgent and witty. Though I know very little about the Riot grrrl scene, and I'll be honest,

very little about it, her writing was superb and infused the narrative with something quite special. I mostly kn

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very little about it, her writing was superb and infused the narrative with something quite special. I mostly know Brownstein from her hit comedy show

, which she never talks about in the memoir (and that's not a complaint). Instead she focuses on her music, her true passion, and all the experiences that come along with finding yourself as you find your place in the industry. Her examination of fandoms and the feeling of home that can bring were exceptionally resonant in my own experiences. And I appreciated her honesty and grit. She didn't shy away from telling it like it is while maintaining a gentleness and respect for the topics she dives into. I think if you're a particular fan of the 90's punk scene you'd be even more inspired and interested in this book. I found it to be wonderfully written, insightful and pleasant to read, but didn't take away much from it.