



Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music

By Marisa Meltzer



Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music By Marisa Meltzer

In the early nineties, riot grrrl exploded onto the underground music scene, inspiring girls to pick up an instrument, create fanzines, and become politically active. Rejecting both traditional gender roles and their parents' brand of feminism, riot grrrls celebrated and deconstructed femininity. The media went into a titillated frenzy covering followers who wrote "slut" on their bodies, wore frilly dresses with combat boots, and talked openly about sexual politics.

The movement's message of "revolution girl-style now" soon filtered into the mainstream as "girl power," popularized by the Spice Girls and transformed into merchandising gold as shrunken T-shirts, lip glosses, and posable dolls. Though many criticized girl power as at best frivolous and at worst soulless and hypersexualized, Marisa Meltzer argues that it paved the way for today's generation of confident girls who are playing instruments and joining bands in record numbers.

Girl Power examines the role of women in rock since the riot grrrl revolution, weaving Meltzer's personal anecdotes with interviews with key players such as Tobi Vail from Bikini Kill and Amy Ray of the Indigo Girls. Chronicling the legacy of artists such as Bratmobile, Sleater-Kinney, Alanis Morissette, Britney Spears, and, yes, the Spice Girls, *Girl Power* points the way for the future of women in rock.

 [Download Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music ...pdf](#)

Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music

By Marisa Meltzer

Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music By Marisa Meltzer

In the early nineties, riot grrrl exploded onto the underground music scene, inspiring girls to pick up an instrument, create fanzines, and become politically active. Rejecting both traditional gender roles and their parents' brand of feminism, riot grrrls celebrated and deconstructed femininity. The media went into a titillated frenzy covering followers who wrote "slut" on their bodies, wore frilly dresses with combat boots, and talked openly about sexual politics.

The movement's message of "revolution girl-style now" soon filtered into the mainstream as "girl power," popularized by the Spice Girls and transformed into merchandising gold as shrunken T-shirts, lip glosses, and posable dolls. Though many criticized girl power as at best frivolous and at worst soulless and hypersexualized, Marisa Meltzer argues that it paved the way for today's generation of confident girls who are playing instruments and joining bands in record numbers.

Girl Power examines the role of women in rock since the riot grrrl revolution, weaving Meltzer's personal anecdotes with interviews with key players such as Tobi Vail from Bikini Kill and Amy Ray of the Indigo Girls. Chronicling the legacy of artists such as Bratmobile, Sleater-Kinney, Alanis Morissette, Britney Spears, and, yes, the Spice Girls, *Girl Power* points the way for the future of women in rock.

Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music By Marisa Meltzer Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #432639 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Faber n Faber
- Published on: 2010-02-02
- Released on: 2010-02-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.50" h x .41" w x 5.50" l, .35 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 176 pages

 [Download Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music* By Marisa Meltzer

Editorial Review

Review

“There are probably at least a thousand ways to write about popular music, and the vast majority of them are fucking awful . . . All that makes it even more gratifying when a relatively new writer takes on pop music and does it flawlessly. Marisa Meltzer . . . manages to avoid every single music-writing pitfall in her fascinating new book, *Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music*. It's a remarkably well-written book, and it doesn't seek to be comprehensive, indier-than-thou, or preachy --it's a brief history, written with a keen eye for both social and musical context, and it captures the spirit of popular music in the '90s better than anything I've read. . . I'm dying to see what she writes about next. *Girl Power* deserves an immediate place in the canon of popular music writing--Meltzer's accomplishment is remarkable, and her talent is undeniable.”
Michael Schaub, Bookslut

“We love Marisa Meltzer's *Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music*, not only for its examination of music, feminism, and their subsequent catchphrases ('Riot Grrrl,' 'She-Rebels,' 'Pop Tarts,' and 'Girl Power!') but also for lines like this: "Music is often most important to you when you're really young or really pissed off. Luckily, in the nineties I was both.” *Elle*

“Remember the time before the phrase girl power was more than just a ghettoizing, marketing tool to get tweens to buy stuff? Author (and *NYLON* contributor) Marisa Meltzer does, and she's written a damn good book about it. *Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music* chronicles the trajectory of women in rock throughout that decade and beyond. Starting with the emergence of the groundbreaking, feminist riot grrrl movement, she examines how bands like Bikini Kill and Bratmobile fused a political, in-your-face ideology with angry punk songs that changed the industry landscape. From there, Meltzer offers smart analysis through the lens of third-wave feminism of lady musicians that followed--including Courtney Love, Liz Phair, and the Spice Girls, right up to the Britneys of the world. But for all the success of strong femmes like Beyoncé, Lady Gaga, and Rihanna today, Meltzer thinks we have a long way to go. 'We're nowhere near 'there.' Women have to rely on their looks just as much as their talent,' she says, adding that 'all-girl bands are still going to have to address their gender as if it's a novelty.' But Meltzer remains optimistic. 'I hope that with all the young girls learning drums and guitar at young ages, like at rock camps, this will change in the next generation.” *Stephanie Trong, NYLON*

“A quick read at under 200 pages, Marisa Meltzer's *Girl Power* serves as a great introduction to third-wave feminism's development into a viable force within contemporary music. The book examines the permeation of the “girl power” brand of feminism into mainstream culture. Naturally it touches upon things such as riot grrrl and other bygone movements that scenesters today love to name drop. But to Meltzer's credit, she resists the temptation to ferment in those street-cred scenes and instead expands her examination into the most pop-oriented, mainstream corners of music culture, thereby giving her book a comprehensive legitimacy.

Meltzer's book should appeal beyond music aficionados to include those who are fascinated by the ways in which small nascent underground cultural concepts can persist and morph until they finally impact even the most benign and innocuous beginnings in the 1990s. The book is not mired in the heady academic concepts that may go over the head of a 13-year-old girl simply trying to understand the forces that shaped current tastes in fashion and music, yet still maintains enough sophistication and insight to engage a 30-year-old woman who actually lived through much of the subject matter. Taken as an introductory work, *Girl Power* is

a useful springboard to examine feminism's entry into first music and later nearly all aspects of today's society." *?Under the Radar*

"Meltzer's book should appeal beyond music aficionados to include those who are fascinated by the ways in which small nascent underground cultural concepts can persist and morph until they finally impact even the most benign and innocuous beginnings in the 1990s. The book is not mired in the heady academic concepts that may go over the head of a 13-year-old girl simply trying to understand the forces that shaped current tastes in fashion and music, yet still maintains enough sophistication and insight to engage a 30-year-old woman who actually lived through much of the subject matter. Taken as an introductory work, *Girl Power* is a useful springboard to examine feminism's entry into first music and later nearly all aspects of today's society." *?Under the Radar*

"Writing from personal and journalistic perspectives, Meltzer packs plenty of solid information into this innovative popular history . . . Meltzer's in-depth research and interviews blend into a tightly woven yet flowing narrative as she offers incisive commentary on the culture, criticisms, and far-reaching impact of the riot grrrl and her music, with a special focus on the historical lineage of performers, from Bikini Kill to Alanis Morissette to the Spice Girls. VERDICT: Women who grew up during this time period and students of comparative feminist history, psychology, and modern musical genres will find this absorbing. It provides a personal frame of reference for those who lack their own but have an interest in the music and the era." *?Library Journal*

"An excellent chronicle of an important time and movement--the spirit of which we may not see again for some time." *?Blake Nelson, author of Girl and Paranoid Park*

"If it wasn't outright obvious at the time, it's become totally clear in hindsight that during the Nineties the girls were pretty much creaming the boys on the rock & roll playground. Marisa Meltzer's *Girl Power* chronicles that fascinating phase in pop history, expertly guiding us along the beguiling parabola that leads from riot grrrls and Liz Phair to the Spice Girls and Britney Spears. This book is a lot like the music it covers: provocative, whip-smart, and invigoratingly fun." *?Jeff Gordinier, author of X Saves the World and the editor-at-large of Details magazine*

"Marisa Meltzer's incisive and awesome *Girl Power* proves that riot grrrls, womyn's musicians, Courtney Love, Queen Latifah, Ani, Liz Phair, Spice Girls, and MIA are all dancing in the same (feminist) revolution." *?Jennifer Baumgardner, author of Look Both Ways, Manifesta, and Abortion & Life*

About the Author

Marisa Meltzer is the coauthor of *How Sassy Changed My Life* (Faber, 2007). Her work has appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Slate*, *Elle*, and *Teen Vogue*. She attended Evergreen State College and currently lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Olga Noone:

What do you in relation to book? It is not important to you? Or just adding material when you want something to explain what yours problem? How about your time? Or are you busy particular person? If you

don't have spare time to perform others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They should answer that question mainly because just their can do which. It said that about publication. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is right. Because start from on kindergarten until university need this specific Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music to read.

Jerome Chisolm:

Reading a e-book tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Together with book everyone in this world can certainly share their idea. Ebooks can also inspire a lot of people. Lots of author can inspire their own reader with their story or their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the ebooks. But also they write about advantage about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your children, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors in this world always try to improve their expertise in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write on their book. One of them is this Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music.

Cheryl Ruiz:

Why? Because this Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will jolt you with the secret that inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who write the book in such incredible way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book have such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

Sean Rusin:

Reserve is one of source of know-how. We can add our information from it. Not only for students but additionally native or citizen will need book to know the revise information of year to be able to year. As we know those ebooks have many advantages. Beside many of us add our knowledge, can also bring us to around the world. By the book Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music we can have more advantage. Don't you to be creative people? For being creative person must love to read a book. Only choose the best book that acceptable with your aim. Don't possibly be doubt to change your life at this time book Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music. You can more inviting than now.

Download and Read Online Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music By Marisa Meltzer #NZK8M2A40YP

Read Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music By Marisa Meltzer for online ebook

Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music By Marisa Meltzer Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music By Marisa Meltzer books to read online.

Online Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music By Marisa Meltzer ebook PDF download

Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music By Marisa Meltzer Doc

Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music By Marisa Meltzer Mobipocket

Girl Power: The Nineties Revolution in Music By Marisa Meltzer EPub