

Time to tell
our stories

RAWGIRL

In this Issue :

Rants & Manifestos:
The Importance of
Empowering Assertive
Feminist Linguistics

Beginners Guide to
feminist Literature

Riot Grrl

Zine

Issue 1



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A hand-drawn style lightning bolt graphic, consisting of a thick black horizontal stroke with a green zigzag line branching off it.

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What is Raweya?

Raweya is an independently published zine (short for magazine, but cooler) whose main goal is to give women a voice, to loudly and unapologetically revolt against the patriarchal systems that strive to oppress and silence them.

Raweya is a word derived from Arabic which means “**female storyteller**”, which is exactly what this zine does: it empowers women to tell their own stories and learn about different feminist narratives that exist in literature, art, philosophy, politics, and media.

Raweya is a portal that transports women who are silenced by the society around them to a place where they can discover the multitude of ways they can express their feminine autonomy and identity. Whether you are a student who despises getting mansplained in class, a CEO of a company who hates being called “bossy” when asserting dominance, or even just a woman, who is sick and tired of the patriarchal forces that feed upon her freedom, dignity, and basic human rights...well, this zine is for you!



FOR FAR TOO LONG...

For far too long, third-wave feminism has been delayed.

For far too long, our revolution has been blunted by the patriarchal politics that have rendered us numb and accepting to subjugation.

For far too long, we have been told what to wear, how to fix our hair, how to act, how to speak, how to sit...

For far too long, we have convinced ourselves that we are implementing "feminist ideals" when in reality, we are only applying the fraudulent feminist propaganda issued by men.

For far too long, we have accepted a feminist reality where we claim to fight for our rights, but still beg for inclusion in this "boy club" called the patriarchy.

For far too long we have been bending over backwards, under the male gaze that exploits our bodies, our minds, and our souls- what we like and don't like. The books we read. The movies we watch..

EVERYTHING.

Well, **NO MORE.**

It is time to rise up and bring back **the real feminist revolution**. The feminist revolution that accepts all women, of different races, cultures, and backgrounds. The feminist movement that cherishes individuality and uniqueness, over the superficial acceptance from a constructed, temporary society.

We are here to make feminism cool again. Not this obnoxious and repulsive entity that it has been made to be in our modern day.

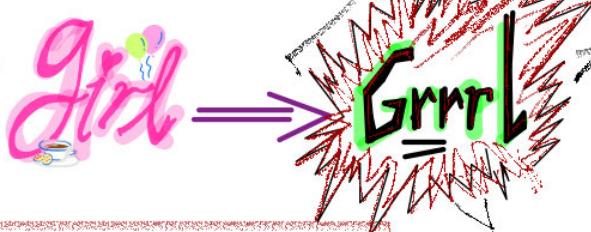
Raweya is here to showcase the hidden prejudices and the crimes committed by the patriarchy against women and to empower resistance for **absolute equality** for all.

The riot grrrl Movement : History

Origins: riot grrrl

the Riot Grrrl movement emerged in the early 1990s in the Pacific Northwest of the United States, in Olympia, Washington, and Washington, D.C.

We know what you're thinking, what's with the misspelling of "Girl"?



the deliberate misspelling of "girl" to imply growling or rebellion

This term came from a 1991 zine created by Jen Smith and others.



JEN SMITH



← Jen Smith's Zine: Red Rover

KEY FIGURES



KATHLEEN HANNA

known for her fierce stage presence and unapologetic feminist lyrics. She co-wrote the Riot Grrrl Manifesto and inspired generations of feminist artists.



TOBI VAIL

she helped shape the ideology and aesthetics of Riot Grrrl. Her zine Jigsaw was foundational in articulating early Riot Grrrl ideas.



ALLISON WOLFE

Known for her bratty, raw vocals and political lyrics, she co-founded Riot Grrrl chapters and promoted feminist punk across college campuses and zine networks.



MOLLY NEUMAN

she helped establish Riot Grrrl as a connected, national movement. Later became a music industry exec promoting women in music.

CORE IDEAS

FEMINISM

Riot Grrrl called attention to issues like sexual violence, body image, racism, and female empowerment.

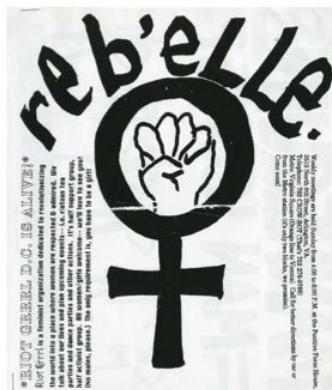
SAGE SPACES

Show and meetings were organized to be inclusive and supportive environments for women and marginalized groups.

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DIY CULTURE

Participants created zines, music, and art, rejecting corporate media and patriarchal cultural systems.



ORIGINAL RIOT GRRRL MANIFESTO

WARNING:
! (some words have been censored, due to their triggering nature)!

WHAT IS RIOT GRRRL?



riot grrrl
is...
- - - - -

BECAUSE we will never meet the hierarchical BOY standards of talented, or cool, or smart. They are created to keep us out, and if we ever meet them they will change, or we will become tokens.

BECAUSE I need laughter and I need girl love. We need to build lines of communication so we can be more open and accessible to each other.

BECAUSE we are being divided by our labels and philosophies, and we need to accept and support each other as girls; acknowledging our different approaches to life and accepting all of them as valid.

BECAUSE in every form of media I see us/myself slapped, decapitated, laughed at, objectified, ~~and~~, trivialized, pushed, ignored, stereotyped, kicked, scorned, ~~murdered~~, silenced, ~~stabbed, knifed, shot, choked, and killed~~.

BECAUSE I see the connectedness of all forms of oppression and I believe we need to fight them with this awareness.

BECAUSE a safe space needs to be created for girls where we can open our eyes and reach out to each other without being threatened by this sexist society and our day to day ~~behavior~~.

BECAUSE we need to acknowledge that our blood is being spilt; that right now a girl is being ~~murdered~~ battered and it might be me or you or your mom or the girl you sat next to on the bus last Tuesday, and she might be dead by the time you finish reading this. I am not making this up.

BECAUSE I can't smile when my girlfriends are dying inside. We are dying inside and we never even touch each other; we are supposed to hate each other.

BECAUSE I am still ~~fucked~~ up, I am still dealing with internalized racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, etc., and I don't want to do it alone. BECAUSE we need to talk to each other. Communication/inclusion is key. We will never know if we don't break the code of silence.

BECAUSE we girls want to create mediums that speak to US. We are tired of boy band after boy band, boy zine after boy zine, boy punk after boy punk after boy.

BECAUSE I am tired of these things happening to me; I'm not a ~~bitch~~ tov. I'm not a punching bag, I'm not a joke.

BECAUSE every time we pick up a pen, or an instrument, or get anything done, we are creating the revolution. We ARE THE revolution

No we are not paranoid.

No we are not manhaters.

No we are not worrying too much.

No we are not taking it too seriously.

Riot Grrrl
P.O. Box 11002
Washington, D.C.
20008 (please no checks)

FOR MORE info →
Send \$1 to
start a ♥ Fuckin' HELP ME



!Sensored
due to
violent
language!



No we are not paranoid.

No we are not manhaters.

No we are not worrying too much.

No we are not taking it too seriously.

This piece contains some censored words that



rebel rhythms: riot grrrl music to revolutionize your playlist



Bikini Kill
Rebel Girl
Bikini Kill

THIS SONG IS THE RIOT GRRRL ANTHEM.
Loved by many generations of Riot Grrrl enthusiasts.
Kathleen Hanna is an icon of the Riot Grrrl movement, and Rebel Girl is about the unbreakable sisterhood of feminism.



Bikini Kill



Jennifer's Body
Hole



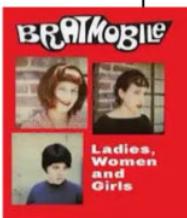
This song is about the objectification and violent exploitation of the female body. Courtney Love's raw vocals paired with the grungy, dragging melody of this song , perfectly captures the excruciating experiences women face everyday as their bodies get picked on at every angle and detail.



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Cool Schmool
Bratmobile



**Bratmobile is one of the pioneering bands of the Riot Grrrl genre.
Cool Schmool a catchy song about the rejection of the subjugation of women under the male gaze.**

I don't wanna wonder if you're gonna say hello
I don't wanna wonder if you're gonna walk away
I don't wanna hear how many friends you have >>

This song teaches us how being assertive as women is not rude or bratty, it is **LIBERATING**. It frees us of the male gaze that controls what we do and care about.



For more Riot Grrrl songs, check out the ever evolving Riot Grrrl playlist at this QR code.



[https://music.youtube.com/playlist?
list=PLXni4vD39xD3BiEl7W0GIKIS-
dDbuThGU&si=XnTNEfSughVb6ow
Z](https://music.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXni4vD39xD3BiEl7W0GIKIS-dDbuThGU&si=XnTNEfSughVb6owZ)

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On Unladylike Speech: The Importance of Assertive Feminist Linguistics

Now it's time we talk about LANGUAGE.

Here's a little wake up call for you : OUR LANGUAGE IS SUBJECTED TO THE MALE GAZE.

Our language as women, has been softened and turned into a passive entity, silenced by the patriarchy.

Have you ever noticed these feminine speech patterns?



According to Lakoff's deficit model, women's language reflects subordination in society.

THIS IS PROOF TO HOW US WOMEN HAVE CHANGED OURSELVES AND OUR WAYS OF COMMUNICATION UNDER CENTURIES OF MALE OPPRESSION

Still not convinced?

Let's look at his real life case study:

Hillary Clinton VS Donald Trump's campaign speeches, and NOTE THE DIFFERENCES

Let's rewind to the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign—a case study in power, performance, and the politics of voice. On one stage, Hillary Clinton: measured, policy-heavy, strategic, and somewhat restrained.

On the other, Donald Trump: loud, blunt, off-script. Both wanted to win. But only one was punished for how they spoke.

Clinton was noted to use a lot of passive elements in her speech. She used hedges such as "like...", 80 times.

Clinton's speeches leaned into logic more than assertiveness. She used inclusive language like "we" and "our," cited statistics, and built arguments.



P

If a man were to conduct such speeches, it would be labeled as classic statesmanship—however when she did it, it was called "cold," "scripted," or "shrill."

This is what feminist linguists commonly define as a double bind: speak too forcefully, and you're "bossy" and "unlikeable", speak too softly, and you're "weak."

Women especially those in politics are expected to walk a razor-thin line—powerful but not aggressive, knowledgeable but not commanding.

Trump, however, shamelessly smashed through that balance.

He recited catchphrases ("Make America Great Again"), used superlatives ("tremendous," "disaster"), and spoke in short, rather unorganized fragments. His tone was direct and confrontational—everything Clinton was avoiding to be. But for him, it worked. Because male aggression is viewed as strength, while female authority is often seen as unnatural and threatening.

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C

Here are some examples of the passivity of Clinton's speech patterns as opposed to Trump's.



"Every day, my administration is fighting to deliver the change America needs, to bring a future that America deserves, and we're doing it. This is a time for big dreams and bold action." Confidence
Assertive sense of identity
ambitious and certain language.

"I believe that when we have millions of hardworking immigrants contributing to our economy, it would be self-defeating and inhumane to try to kick them out." The use of "it would be" instead of "is" shows passivity.
Hedge

This isn't just about two opposing politicians. This is about the linguistic cage women are forced into. Assertive feminist language dictates we smash that cage. It asks: Why is emotional restraint considered presidential only when it comes from a man? Why is bluntness "strong" in one voice, and "bossy" in another?

Clinton played by the rules, and the rules were rigged against her.

Trump burned the rulebook and got away with it.

So what do we do?

We rewrite the rules.

We teach girls that speaking clearly isn't the same as being cold. That fire and facts aren't mutually exclusive. That "likability" is a scam, and that language—when owned, not filtered—can be a revolutionary act.

Assertive feminist linguistics doesn't just reclaim power. It builds a new language of it.

Let them call us obnoxious. Let them call us loud. We're not here to sound soft and ladylike. We're here to be heard.

DO I MAKE YOU UNCOMFORTABLE? IS IT ME
WHO YOU SEE?



DOES MY VOICE
SCARE YOU?

AM I ATTRACTIVE
ENOUGH FOR YOU?

YOU CAN'T
STOP STARING
AT ME.
YOU DON'T
STOP. STOP.

DO I REPULSE YOU?

DO YOU NOT
SEE HOW

THEY
GAIN
WHILE
WE
SUFFER?

AM I NOT
THE PERFECT
VICTIM
DEFINED
BY YOU?

AN I TOO
NOT HUMAN?

I AM JUST
A TOY

OUR
OPPRESSION IS NOT A TOOL.

REVOLUTIONARY

READS

Feminism and the causes of the Riot Grrrl movement, from fighting for the rights of women's ownership of their bodies to empowering assertive feminist linguistics, are conducted through thorough analysis of texts, papers, books and social critiques.

ONE MUST UNDERSTAND THE REVOLUTION IN ORDER TO BE PART OF IT.

Hence here is a list of books and papers to add to your reading list, in order to fully comprehend why we raise our voices against our oppressors and fight for our rights to exist:

ONCE AGAIN, I ARRIVED AT MY USUAL CONCLUSION:
ONE MUST EDUCATE ONESELF.

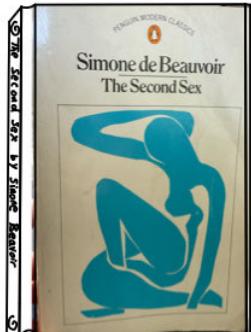


from *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi

the second sex

By Simone De Beauvoir

The A to Z book of feminist literature. It discusses the social, biological, historical, philosophical, and psychological aspects of women's oppression. First published in 1949, the book analyzes how women have been defined as the "Other" in relation to men, rather than as autonomous beings. De Beauvoir analyzes philosophy, history, biology, literature, and psychoanalysis to prove that gender is not a natural destiny but a social construct.

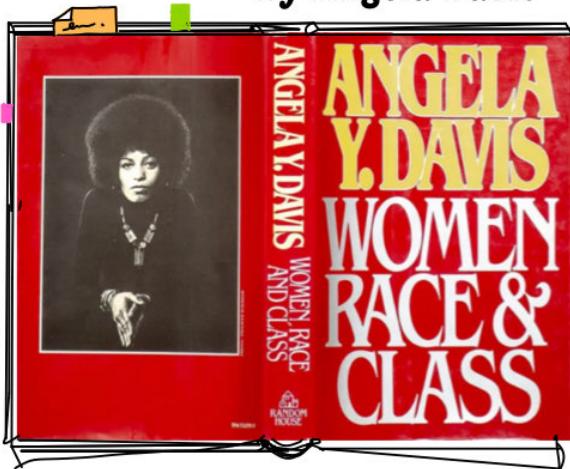


WOMAN, RACE AND CLASS

By Angela Davis

This book is a powerful analysis of the intersections between gender, race, and class in the history of the American feminist movement.

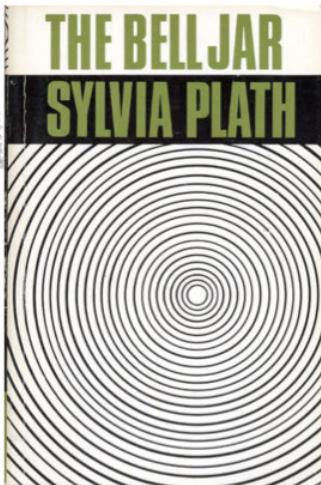
Published in 1981, the book challenges the mainstream feminist narratives and how they often exclude Black women and women of the working-class. Davis analyzes the roles of abolitionists, labor organizers, and civil rights activists, showing how struggles for women's rights cannot be separated from fights against racism and economic inequality.



Some feminist Novels . . .

THE BELL JAR

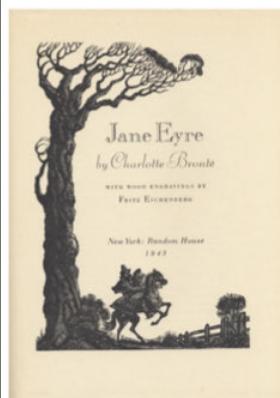
By Sylvia Plath



This novel sheds light on the complexity and chaos of the feminine identity, and contains examinations of traditional feminine roles and their effects on women's psychological wellbeing feminist classic.

JANE EYRE

By Charlotte Brontë



A feminist classic that portrays a woman's fight for independence, dignity, and equality in a patriarchal society. Jane defies gender roles by insisting on self-respect, moral integrity, and emotional autonomy, making her a powerful symbol of early feminist ideals.

“When she
talks, I hear the
revolution”

—“Rebel Girl”
Bikini Kill

No we are not paranoid.
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