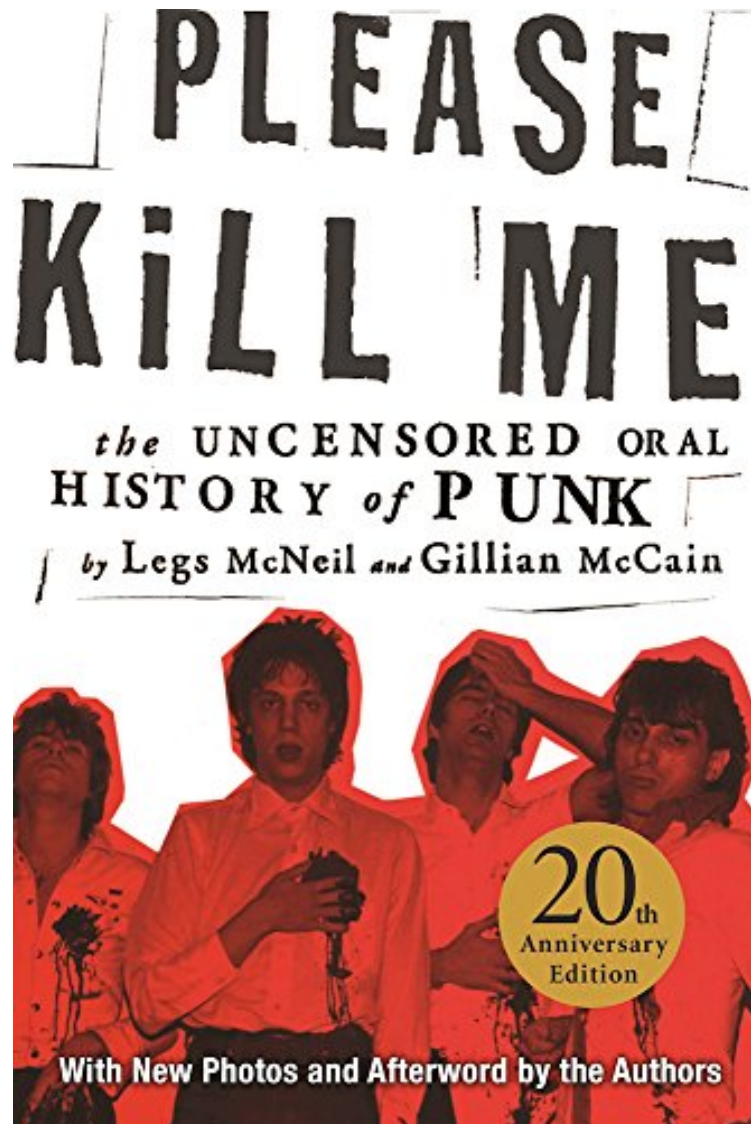


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## Please Kill Me: The Uncensored Oral History of Punk

*Legs McNeil, Gillian McCain*

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#15355 in Books McNeil Legs 2016-08-09Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.20 x 1.30 x 5.40l, .0 #File Name: 0802125360448 pagesPlease Kill Me The Uncensored Oral History of Punk | File size: 33.Mb

**Legs McNeil, Gillian McCain : Please Kill Me: The Uncensored Oral History of Punk** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Please Kill Me: The Uncensored Oral History of Punk:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fun, fun, fun!By Eric McCammondI bought this after hearing the authors' interviewed on Marc Maron's podcast. If you have any interest at all in the history of punk or Patti Smith or Iggy Pop or groupies or glam or the 70s art/culture scene, this book is amazing. The writing style is raw and engaging. It just flows from one story to the next and you start to feel like you know all these crazy characters. And these guys

were CRAZY! A fun, entertaining, and engaging book. I was born in 1975 so I missed this era. But I found myself streaming old punk albums and diving into an extraordinary world. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. ... must read for anyone interested in hearing about the dirty details of the budding punk scene in NYC in ...By Rich AndrewA must read for anyone interested in hearing about the dirty details of the budding punk scene in NYC in the early to mid 70s. I'd never read an "oral history" style of book before, so it took some time before I got used to it, but once I did it was an engrossing read. Tip for any of you reading this on an e-reader - make sure you bookmark the end of the book ("Cast of Characters") so that you can refer back to it when new folks are introduced. I failed to realize that until I finished the book. Whoops. Awesome book! 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Not all-inclusive, but entertainingBy Bill HorvathCompletely entertaining and filled with great interviews and anecdotes. The book doesn't go back nearly far enough to uncover the true roots of punk, and is a bit heavy on MC5 and Iggy. Those are the only complaints I've got, and they didn't prevent me from enjoying the book.

Ranks up there with the great rock roll books of all time. Time Out New York Lurid, insolent, disorderly, funny, sometimes gross, sometimes mean and occasionally touching . . . Resounds with authenticity. The New York Times No volume serves juicier dish on punks New York birth . . . Tales of sex, drugs and music that will make you wish you'd been there. Rolling Stone A contemporary classic, Please Kill Me is the definitive oral history of the most nihilistic of all pop movements. Iggy Pop, Richard Hell, the Ramones, and scores of other punk figures lend their voices to this decisive account of that explosive era. This 20th anniversary edition features new photos and an afterword by the authors. Utterly and shamelessly sensational. Newsday

.com Though Britain's notorious Sex Pistols shoved punk rock into the face of mainstream America, the movement was already brewing in the U.S. in the 1960s with bands like the Velvet Underground and Iggy and the Stooges. Through hundreds of interviews with forgotten bands as well as the ones that made names for themselves--including Blondie and the Ramones--Legs McNeil and Gillian McCain chronicle punk rock history through the people who really lived it. Please Kill Me is a thrash down memory lane for those hip to punk's early years and an enlightening history lesson for youngsters interested in the origins of modern "alternative" music. From Publishers Weekly As its sensationalist title suggests, this stresses the sex, drugs, morbidity and celebrity culture of punk at the expense of the music. Starting out with the electroshock therapy Lou Reed received as a teenager, working through such watersheds as the untimely deaths by overdose or mishap of Sid Vicious, Johnny Thunders and Nico, as well as the complicated sexual escapades of the likes of Dee Dee Ramone, the portrayal here of the birth of an alternative culture is intermittently entertaining and often depressing. McNeil, one of the founding writers of the original 'zine, Punk, in 1975, is certainly qualified to tell this tale. But the book's take on punk rock as "doing anything that's gonna offend a grown-up" overemphasizes the self-destructive side of the movement. Details of Iggy Pop's drug abuse and seedy sex with groupies receive more attention than important bands such as Television and Blondie, which had comparatively puritan lifestyles. Constructed as an oral history, the book weaves together personal accounts by the crucial players in the scene, many of whom seem to have been so drugged out most of the time that their reliability is questionable. McNeil and McCain (Tilt) provide a vivid look at the volatile and needy personalities who created punk, if they do not offer perceptive musical or cultural analysis. Photos. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Imagine one of those on-line "chat rooms" filled with the aging movers and shakers of American punk rock? former members of the Velvet Underground, the Stooges, the New York Dolls, the Ramones, and others? as well as assorted hangers-on, all reminiscing about the glory days of punk. Denizens remember when downtown Manhattan was the epicenter of a musical and cultural earthquake whose aftershocks are still felt long after its initial impact. The stories told by these musicians and scenesters trace the history of punk from its earliest incarnations in the late Sixties, through its appropriation by British imitators in the Seventies, and ending just before its stylistic balkanization and quick decline in the early Eighties. Unfortunately, this oral history depends almost entirely on voices from Detroit and a small core of New York bands, ignoring the important scenes in Los Angeles, Boston, and Cleveland. Numerous behind-the-scenes anecdotes make this book undeniably fun reading. But the lack of any index, bibliography, discography, or overarching narrative context keeps it from being much more than that. Not an essential purchase, but worth considering for larger collections. (Photos not seen.)? Rick Anderson, Penacook, N.H. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.