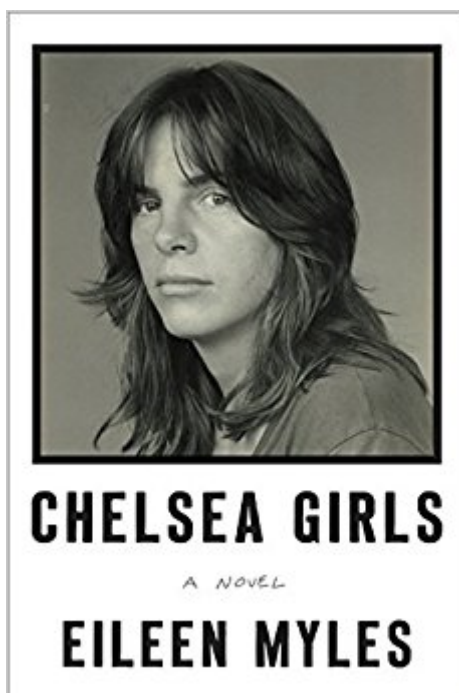


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Chelsea Girls: A Novel



Synopsis

Available once again for a new generation of readers, the groundbreaking and candid coming-of-age novel in-real-time from one of America's most celebrated poets that is considered a cult classic. In this breathtakingly inventive autobiographical novel, Eileen Myles transforms life into a work of art. Told in her audacious voice, made vivid and immediate in her lyrical language, *Chelsea Girls* cobbles together memories of Myles's 1960s Catholic upbringing with an alcoholic father, her volatile adolescence, her unabashed "lesbianity," and her riotous pursuit of survival as a poet in 1970s New York. Suffused with alcohol, drugs, and sex; evocative in its depictions of the hardscrabble realities of a young artist's life; and poignant with stories of love, humor, and discovery, *Chelsea Girls* is a funny, cool, and intimate account of a writer's education, and a modern chronicle of how a young female writer shrugged off the chains of a rigid cultural identity meant to define her.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 29 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

"Eileen Myles is a genius!" -- Dorothy Allison "A cult figure to a generation of post-punk females forming their own literary avant garde." "Chelsea Girls reads, at its best, like the product of a collaboration between Ernest Hemingway and Lynda Barry."

A groundbreaking and candid novel-in-real-time, considered a cult classic, from one of America's most celebrated poets. In this breathtakingly inventive autobiographical novel, Eileen Myles transforms her life into a work of art. Told in her audacious and singular voice made vivid and

immediate in her lyrical language, Chelsea Girls cobbles together memories of Myles's 1960s Catholic upbringing with an alcoholic father, her volatile adolescence, her unabashed "lesbianity," and her riotous pursuit of survival as a poet in 1970s New York. Suffused with alcohol, drugs, and sex; evocative in its depictions of the hardscrabble realities of a young artist's life; with raw, flickering stories of awkward love, humor, and discovery, Chelsea Girls is a funny, cool, and intimate account of a writer's education, and a modern tale of how one young female writer managed to shrug off the chains of the rigid cultural identity meant to define her.

This is not a conventional book in terms of writing style. The story is interesting enough but the run-on sentences and wobbly narrative leave a lot to be desired. I liked it enough to finish it.

Excellent, incisive stories

Had to have my copy! Memories!

Inferno is better. Inferno is written with true introspection and hindsight and distance and detachment and is more artful. All of Inferno is like the strongest piece in Chelsea Girls, which is Chelsea Girls. Inferno deals with the art world in NY, outside of NY, is broad visioned. That said, there is a lot of humor and beauty in Chelsea Girls. But I was glad I read Inferno first. Chelsea Girls was like a dress rehearsal for Inferno. If you are going to read only one, read Inferno.

Sucked me in

Very relatable, before I read this I was very confused about how I feel or don't feel about this but now everything seems to make more sense. Great read!

This book is a series of stories about the author's interesting East-Village life. The stories are NOT told in chronological order, but somehow seem to flow together seamlessly. From her small, working-class town childhood in Massachusetts, to her wild teen years, to multiple rapes, [bad] summer jobs, struggling NYC artists, drug addiction, and un-healthy lesbian relationships.... Myles covers all subjects. This book reads quickly, and is of particular interest to any young artist in NYC (or any major city.) Oh. And, by the way, the hardcover edition is absolutely beautiful - bound in cloth and in wonderful autumn colors!

One of the greatest American writers of our time.

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