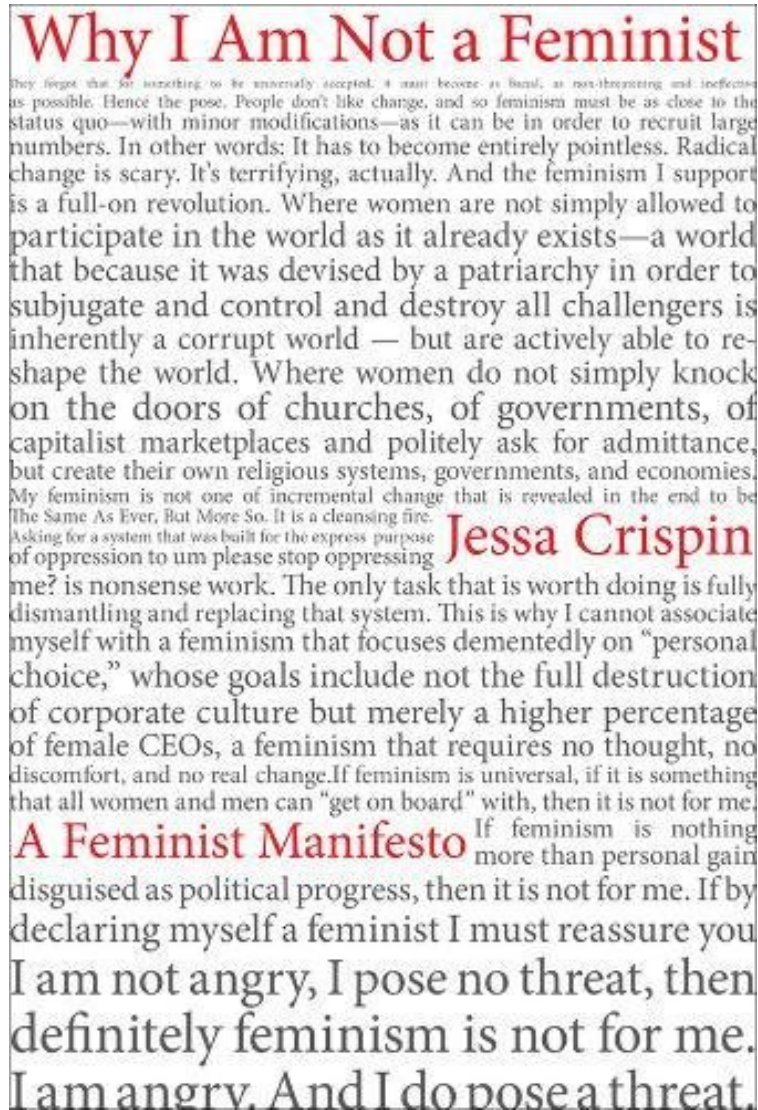


# Why I Am Not A Feminist: A Feminist Manifesto

Jessa Crispin

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**Jessa Crispin : Why I Am Not A Feminist: A Feminist Manifesto** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Why I Am Not A Feminist: A Feminist Manifesto:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A bracing, challenging dissection of modern feminism By Steve A righteous rage against incrementalism, centrism, universalism, and many other -isms, "Why I Am Not A Feminist" is fairly scathing, and as the author admits part way through, the book raises far more questions than it answers. While anyone dissatisfied with the failures of pink hats and breathless declarations that a woman's every breath is subversive will be fired up reading this, a central tenet of the book is that true radicals and Beyonce-celebrators alike need to

rigorously self-examine whether they're really doing anything to move the chains. (Hint: Probably not.) As much as I'm tired of reading about and mentioning Hillary Clinton, the book is especially resonant given her latest defeat. It clearly draws connections between economic policy, consumer behavior, and lasting feminist progress. Despite mainstream feminism being created by and for white, middle-class women, they turned around and voted for Trump. It's hard to think of any greater indictment of the hollow feminism practiced by the Amandas Marcotte of the world that this book takes to task. Also notable is Crispin's nuanced take on men's role in feminism. In what must be a fairly unpopular passage among Twitter feminists, she calls for men's humanity to be acknowledged and reinforced, and for the outrage culture that gets men fired for saying one Bad Thing to die. (Then again, maybe she's not that nuanced, since she repeatedly tells men that they are not her f\*\*\*\*\* problem!) Strangely, I almost found myself having sympathy for those "not all men" guys, which I'm absolutely sure was not her intent. At

Outspoken critic Jessa Crispin delivers a searing rejection of contemporary feminism . . . and a bracing manifesto for revolution. Are you a feminist? Do you believe women are human beings and that they deserve to be treated as such? That women deserve all the same rights and liberties bestowed upon men? If so, then you are a feminist . . . or so the feminists keep insisting. But somewhere along the way, the movement for female liberation sacrificed meaning for acceptance, and left us with a banal, polite, ineffectual pose that barely challenges the status quo. In this bracing, fiercely intelligent manifesto, Jessa Crispin demands more. *Why I Am Not A Feminist* is a radical, fearless call for revolution. It accuses the feminist movement of obliviousness, irrelevance, and cowardice and demands nothing less than the total dismantling of a system of oppression. Praise for Jessa Crispin, and *The Dead Ladies Project* "I'd follow Jessa Crispin to the ends of the earth." --Kathryn Davis, author of *Duplex* "Read with caution . . . Crispin is funny, sexy, self-lacerating, and politically attuned, with unique slants on literary criticism, travel writing, and female journeys. No one crosses genres, borders, and proprieties with more panache." --Laura Kipnis, author of *Men: Notes from an Ongoing Investigation* "Very, very funny. . . . The whole book is packed with delightfully offbeat prose . . . as raw as it is sophisticated, as quirky as it is intense." --The Chicago Tribune

"The point of 'Why I Am Not a Feminist' isn't really that Crispin is not a feminist; it's that she has no interest in being a part of a club that has opened its doors and lost sight of its politics a club that would, if she weren't so busy disavowing it, invite Kellyanne Conway in. . . . Crispin's argument is bracing, and a rare counterbalance; where feminism is concerned, broad acceptability is almost always framed as an unquestioned good. *The New Yorker* Small but mighty, a bracing, contradictory volume full of fury. It's a rousing call for unity that's not afraid to alienate, at once breezy and foreboding. It's a radical text written in accessible, entertaining prose, slipped nonchalantly into the mainstream. A blueprint for women who care about equal rights for all women, and really, all humans. Flavorwire Perceptive and impassioned There's something decidedly appealing, even romantic, about this vision of a radical movement that will, in Crispin's words, set about fully dismantling the system. *New Republic* "Argues against the current brand of feminism that equates progress with buying into the status quo, and calls for a reinvestment in radical, even revolutionary thinking about what feminism can mean, and do. *Elle* A searing critique a necessary contribution to the effort to push contemporary social justice movements further to the left and to weave an understanding of class politics into modern identity-based movements in order to build a radical politics of solidarity. *Jacobin* Brief, bellicose, and bracing A call for an examination of conscience. *Chicago Tribune* "The author's ferocious critique effectively reframes the terms of any serious discussion of feminism. You'll never trust a you-go-girl just-lean-in bromide again. Forget busting glass ceilings. Crispin has taken a wrecking ball to the whole structure. *Kirkus* starred review "Feminists have, in fact, become polite insiders, and Crispin is here to show them how to punch their way out. A rallying manifesto; start swinging. *Library Journal* "Laser-like insight into feminism's strengths and weaknesses. . . . Rhetoric that soars and sears. . . . Through insights that provoke discussion and dissension, Crispin rallies the kind of radical verve that once vitalized a revolution in the hope that it will do so once again. *Booklist* About the Author Jessa Crispin is the editor and founder of the on-line magazines *Bookslut* -- one of America's very first book blogs -- and the on-line literary journal *Spolia*. She is the author of *The Dead Ladies Project* and *The Creative Tarot*, and has written for the *New York Times*, *Guardian*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles of Books*, *NPR.org*, *Chicago Sun-Times*, and *Architect Magazine*, among other publications. She has lived in Lincoln, Kansas; Austin, Texas; Dublin, Ireland; Chicago, Illinois; Berlin, Germany, and elsewhere, and currently resides in New York City.