



## Courtney Love: Queen of Noise

*Melissa Rossi*

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"I am not a woman. I'm a force of nature." Courtney Love knows exactly what she is. She created herself: demon diva, goddess of grunge, media super-icon, wife of the late rock megastar Kurt Cobain. Lead singer of the band Hole, her persona is larger than life -- bellowing, ranting, riling up the masses. She was made for the spotlight, and she rules it like a dark angel, her on- and offstage presence seething with such power, venom, and raw sexual fury that she obliterates everyone else on the music scene today.

"I want to be the girl with the most cake."

Courtney Love may have achieved her goal of becoming a self-made celebrity, but her hungry climb to fame wasn't easy. It took her from a troubled childhood to the sleazy underworld of strip joints to the hardcore drug scene. She was institutionalized as a juvenile delinquent, tormented as a rock groupie, and driven to near suicide as a grieving widow. Then there was her tumultuous relationship with Kurt Cobain -- a sweet-and-sour marriage of twisted passion that ended tragically with a shotgun blast.

Here at last the true Courtney Love is revealed...the headstrong hellraiser in a baby-doll dress...the raucous performer ripping up the airwaves, at war with her public image and herself...the unstoppable survivor forever rising from the ashes only to burn more brightly....

## Courtney Love: Queen of Noise Details

Date : Published May 1st 1996 by Pocket Books (first published 1996)

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Author : Melissa Rossi

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## **From Reader Review Courtney Love: Queen of Noise for online ebook**

### **Laverne says**

Ok but didn't like it

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### **Scarlett says**

A fan or foe, a good inspiring and emotionally turbulent read.

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### **Ren says**

In this trashy bio Courtney burns down people's houses, takes pills, does hard drugs, lies, cheats, steals, strips, name drops, fights, sleeps with everyone and then marries Kurt Cobain.

What's not to like?

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### **Kathy says**

provocative, inspiring, and sometimes close to home.

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### **Tatiana Jimenez says**

This was a pretty quick read. The author's writing style is very "magazine copy." I am a big fan of Courtney Love. I have always known that she stepped on a lot of people to get where she is, but I feel like she is a symbol of power for women, yet at the same time, she isn't. This bio was altogether interesting and depressing. I was crying when I read the chapter about Kurt Cobain's suicide. So incredibly sad. Courtney is hyperemotional and the author does a good job telling her story.

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### **East Bay J says**

I've never heard anything good about Courtney Love from anyone who's met her. Of course, I've only met a handful of people who have been acquainted with her but it has always struck me that eyewitness testimony backs up every despicable, mean spirited, ugly aspect of this woman's character. Delusional. Narcissistic. Selfish. Self absorbed. Manipulative. That's the picture that is painted.

The only three Hole songs I really like are "Dicknail," "Burnblack," and "Rock Star." I've never been much

of a fan. When I read this bio in '96, I was out of college and still trying to figure out how I felt about Kurt Cobain killing himself. I can't remember what I thought at that time about this book but, having read it again, I'm not too impressed.

I remember reading the first book on Jeffrey Dahmer that came out after his story hit the news. I remember how horribly tacked together that thing was, the amateurish, magazine style writing, the sense that this thing had been cobbled together as quickly as possible. I remember thinking I finally had mastered the concept of the "hack."

This book is about as far from a traditional bio as you can get. This is straight up tabloid fodder disguised as investigative journalism. It's not that Melissa Rossi *can't* write, not at all. It's that it seems she's chosen not to.

The language and tone are very lowest common denominator. It's gossipy, bitchy, simplistic and shallow. There are snarky statements throughout the book that would be better placed in a magazine article from a mainstream publication rather than a biography. It's no puff piece, by any means, but it is aimed at what I can't help but think of as an adolescent reading level, conceptually and emotionally.

It's also full of errors. Bikini Kill was not an "all girl" band as Rossi claims. Fugazi was not one of the "original punk bands." There are only two Vaselines covers on *Incesticide*, not three. Robert Johnson did not write "Where Did You Sleep Last Night." This stuff drives me crazy. It's just completely lazy journalism and most folks, sadly, take what they read as gospel. I mean, what the heck, why don't you just go ahead and make it all up?

I also have a problem with biographers inserting themselves into their biographies. There are several chapters detailing Rossi's involvement with Love and it's just comes off as, "Look at me! Courtney Love asked me to write an article then dissed me!" I seriously didn't need an entire chapter about Rossi being dragged along on a shopping trip with Love. I've said it before and I'll say it again; the biographer should be INVISIBLE. The biographer is not IMPORTANT. It's not the same as when a long time acquaintance writes a memoir about a famous person they know. It's just shameless self promotion that isn't that interesting and isn't at all important to the big picture.

The book definitely did not change my mind about Courtney Love. If anything, it reinforces every negative impression I have of her. I've never bought this argument about her being a strong woman. A *strong* woman would have the strength to be *kind*. Courtney is an insecure mess who takes out her insecurities on others. That ain't strength, that's *weakness*.

No idea why I bothered reading this, except my mom just sent me a box of my old books and this one was in there. Next...

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### **Coleen says**

a story about a girl

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### **CJ Scurria says**

This book I read during my teenage years where I was crazy about rebellious music, rock stars that just went wild, and just pretty much almost everything emo.

I have grown up since then but I do remember enjoying this book though the writing at times seemed at times varied from being garbled to coherent and fun to read.

This is the story about the infamous Courtney Love. If you liked that sentence then this book is perfect for you.

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### **Less\_cunning says**

the prose is very 'magazine copy' & gossipy but i did learn a lot & i thought it was an okay book.

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### **Bonnie Morse says**

Courtney's been telling us in no uncertain terms who she is--a raging pile of garbage--since day one. Woe that I did not simply believe her and pass up this poorly written book. Still, I did manage to finish it. Mostly to see her explain how she could spend the better part of a year in "the white slave trade" in Japan as a frail teenager who didn't even speak the language and then suddenly get home safely without having lost her virginity. However she does not. Imagine my disappointment.

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### **Claudia says**

I read this in college...it's official she's insane but has lead a really interesting/crazy life! An inside look of the Rock star life.

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### **dearlittleddeer says**

i'd already read poppy z. brite's courtney love biography (the real story) so i couldn't wait to compare it to this one. the author thanks rozz rezzabek (courtney's lame ex) and hank harrison (biodad) in the acknowledgements, so i could tell it wouldn't be totally pro-c.lo. funny how certain incidents (court versus k. hanna at lollapalooza, for instance) can be told from totally different perspectives. it's important to take anything you read about courtney with a grain of salt. but man, her alleged life story makes for such great reading. props to melissa rossi for the "who's who/what's what" section in the front, and making me feel all cool when she mentions certain seattle hangouts where i've actually hung out.

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## **Mentai says**

I'm revising my stars to three in light of the Portland-based autobiography by Storm someone that I dipped into, which was trying to out-Courtney Courtney in the most terrible way.

Rossi promised moments of insight but they never went anywhere. This was like reading a string of gossip columns and it got progressively worse as the book went on. However, as this is the first unauthorized biography of anyone I've ever read, I have nothing to compare it to. there were certainly times that played on my need for a narrative about drugs and music ! Very inconsistent.

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