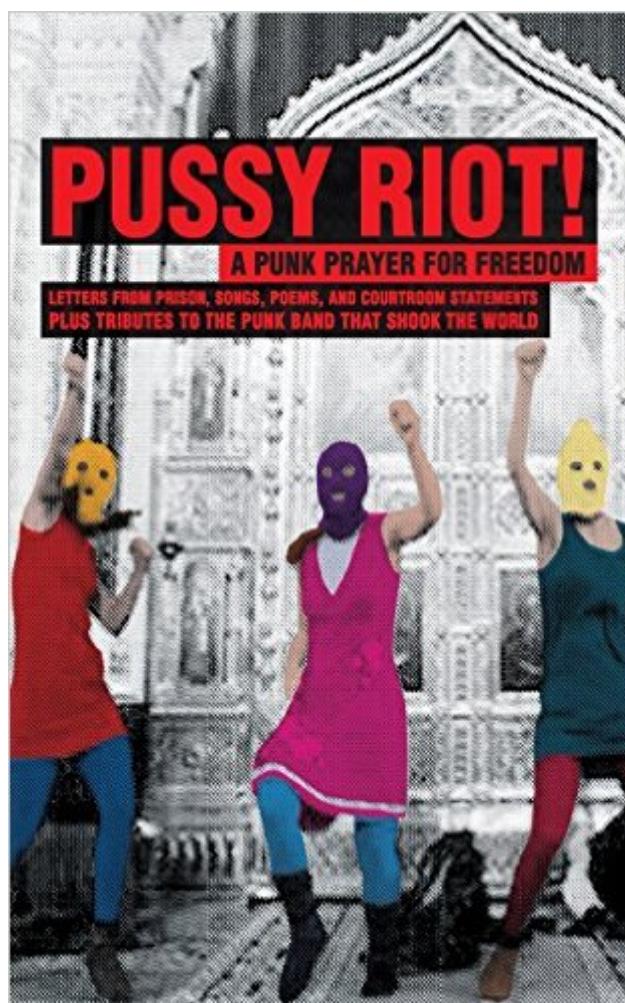


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# Pussy Riot!: A Punk Prayer For Freedom



## Synopsis

**SPECIAL TO THE PRINT EDITION:** New courtroom statements from October 10 appeal, and tributes by Bianca Jagger, Peaches & Simonne Jones, Tobi Vail, Barbara Browning, Vivien Goldman. On February 21, 2012, five members of a Russian feminist punk collective Pussy Riot staged a performance in the Cathedral of Christ the Savior in Moscow. Dressed in brightly colored tights and balaclavas, they performed their punk prayer, asking the Virgin Mary to drive out Russian president Vladimir Putin from the church. After just forty seconds, they were chased out by security. Three members of the collective, Maria Alyokhina, Nadezhda Tolokonnikova, and Yekaterina Samutsevich, known as Masha, Nadya, and Katya, were later arrested and charged with felony hooliganism motivated by religious hatred. As their trial unfolded, these young women became global feminist icons, garnering the attention and support of activists and artists around the world. *Pussy Riot!* is an essential document of this galvanizing historical moment. It includes letters from prison, courtroom statements, defense attorney closing arguments, poems, the infamous punk prayer, and tributes by Yoko Ono, Johanna Fateman, Karen Finley, Justin Vivian Bond, Eileen Myles, and JD Samson.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Folks, below is what this retired clergyman had to go to his computer about at 3:52 AM this morning. I felt compelled to see if I could articulate this "strangeness" I'd just heard in mostly two small portions of a BookTV program--American women sharing what they'd written and said in this

book. Decades ago, I was on the first Commission on the Status and Role of Women in the SW Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church and, then, succeeding ones. My eyes were opened in pain many times. Most people don't know how very much women have been denied their dignity and equality--and how abused and unfairly treated and maligned they have been--ever since the three patriarchal Sky God religions took over from virtually universal Earth Mother religions. Nor do most young people know, even now, that for a majority of the years that there has been a United States of America, married women could not own property or vote, and single women who had been deeded property lost all legal right to it and control over it to her husband when she married. Legally, she was completely dependent. She could not even sue her husband for rape. Women were often "put on a pedestal" and treated like children. Sometimes they were just treated like children or worse, and with little recourse. Teaching and nursing were virtually the only professions open to women. Thanks to Lilly Ledbetter, under President Obama women finally got the legal right to sue for equal pay for equal work when they discover they've been cheated. Only in 1922, over 230 years after only "white" men could vote, and over 150 years after African American men could vote, were women finally given the right to "suffrage" by an Amendment to the Constitution.

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