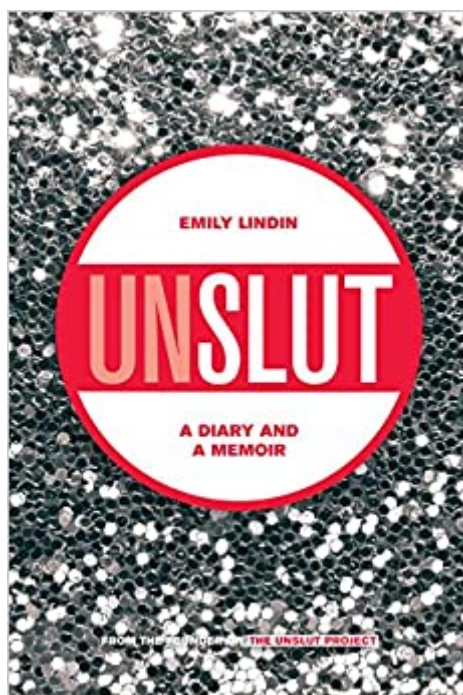


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# UnSlut: A Diary And A Memoir



## Synopsis

When Emily Lindin was eleven years old, she was branded a "slut" by the rest of her classmates. For the next few years of her life, she was bullied incessantly at school, after school, and online. At the time, Emily didn't feel comfortable confiding in her parents or in the other adults in her life. But she did keep a diary. *Slut/UnSlut* is adapted from Emily's much-acclaimed blog "The UnSlut Project" presenting unaltered excerpts from that diary alongside split-page commentary to provide context and perspective.

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #656,920 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in Books > Teens > Social Issues > Bullying #118 in Books > Teens > Biographies > Women #126 in Books > Teens > Social Issues > Dating & Intimacy

## Customer Reviews

Gr 8 Up — In 2013, Lindin created The UnSlut Project, an online community in which she posted entries from the diary she kept between sixth and eighth grade detailing her experiences being bullied because of untrue rumors about her sexual conduct. As a result of the positive feedback she received, she published her diary entries in book form. The adult Lindin adds commentary throughout. She reminds readers that her diary was written from her perspective only and admits that others may have had different perceptions of the events in question. The journal describes the girl's interactions with her peers, with only brief mentions of parents, family, teachers, or school work. Readers learn how as an 11-year-old, Lindin saw her peers drinking, using inappropriate sexual language, and engaging in sexual activities, which often made her uncomfortable. Because she wanted to be popular, she took part in activities that she found awkward or unpleasant. Often books of this ilk end unhappily in order to drive home a message, but the author makes it clear that in high school she was able to make a new start. Though Lindin was

between the ages of 11 and 13 when she wrote her diary, the book deals with some mature sexual themes and situations. VERDICT The eye-opening revelations in this work may help to boost readers' self-confidence by illustrating that our destinies are not determined by others. —Elizabeth Kahn, Patrick F. Taylor Science & Technology Academy, Jefferson, LA

"Raw, illuminating, and frequently painful" —Refinery 29 "It's crucial to see present-day Lindin speak out for her past self and, in turn, speak up for young people reading her book." —Bitch Magazine "[B]oth heart-wrenching and '90s-nostalgic" —Bustle "UnSlut can be found in the young adult section, where it belongs not because the book isn't a worthwhile read for adults (it is) but because preteens and teens need to be educated on the reality of social, emotional, and sexual trauma while they're in the thick of it." —Baltimore City Paper "[A] powerful and timely study for adults and their daughters or for counselors to use in groups." —VOYA "[A] sometimes tender, sometimes painful look at the stigmas that surround girls growing up in modern society." —Booklist "The founder of an advocacy program The UnSlut Project, Lindin's analysis of her younger self definitely adds valuable context, levity, and keen insight into a number of different issues." —Kirkus Reviews "UnSlut takes a stand against sexual bullying." —Publishers Weekly "Every young person and everyone who works with young people, I think this should be required reading for them. I think it's going to be a game changer." —Emily Crowe Odyssey books shop on WAMC's the Roundtable "Lindin shared her story to reassure other girls suffering from sexual bullying that they're not alone and this time will pass and their lives will get better. Definitely a message that needs to be heard." —Write On Sisters "Powerful" —Viva La Feminista "An absolute must-read for any young girl, parent of a teen, or school counselor." —NY Journal of Books "...sometimes tender, sometimes look at the stigmas that surround girls growing up in modern society." —Booklist "The founder of an advocacy program The UnSlut Project, Lindin's analysis of her younger self definitely adds valuable context, levity, and keen insight into a number of different issues." —Kirkus Reviews "[A] powerful and timely book study for adults and their daughters or for counselors to use in groups." —VOYA "UnSlut takes a stand against sexual bullying." —Publishers Weekly "Raw, illuminating, and frequently painful" —Refinery 29 "It's crucial to see present-day Lindin speak out for her past self and, in turn, speak up for young people reading her book." —Bitch Magazine "UnSlut

can be found in the young adult section, where it belongs – not because the book isn't a worthwhile read for adults (it is) but because preteens and teens need to be educated on the reality of social, emotional, and sexual trauma while they're in the thick of it.

• Baltimore City Paper "[A] powerful and timely study for adults and their daughters or for counselors to use in groups."

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"Lindin shared her story to reassure other girls suffering from sexual bullying that they're not alone and this time will pass and their lives will get better. Definitely a message that needs to be heard."

• Write On Sisters Emily Lindin was named one of Glamour Magazine UK's "Heroes of the Week," alongside Malalai Yousafzai and Janet Yellen. She was named one of Reddit's "best of" female leaders on AMAs (Ask Me Anything sections) by Fortune.com, along with Temple Grandin, Judy Blume and Nina Totenberg, in November 2014. Emily Lindin was named one of Glamour Magazine UK's "Heroes of the Week" in October 2013, alongside Malalai Yousafzai and Janet Yellen.

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"[I]t's crucial to see present-day Lindin speak out for her past self and, in turn, speak up for young people reading her book."

• Bitch Magazine

It was very enlightening. Emily writes with a talent that shows that all her days are ahead of her

concerning books. A must read!

I'm slightly speechless at how deeply this book is speaking to my soul, and my lived experience as a sexual person. It's touching, heartbreaking and hits so very close to home. I love this memoir and recommend it to everyone.

The kindle version of this book has terrible formatting. Random letters are missing from words making it very difficult to read. Also, occasionally lines appear in extra large print covering other lines of text.

UnSlut: A Diary and a Memoir by Emily Lindin is part of The UnSlut Project which not only features this book but a film as well. It also has a website dedicated to the project that advocates the making aware and stopping of 'Slut Shaming'. The definition of 'Slut Shaming' is "Slut shaming is the act of criticising a woman for her real or presumed sexual activity, or for behaving in ways that someone thinks are associated with her real or presumed sexual activity." (gotten from Google) The intentions of this book and the films and the project are very important and I highly support the effort that Lindin is putting forth towards this issue. That being said, this book is very tough to follow. It is written in diary form 'word for word' from her experiences in school in the late 90s. It has no narrative and at times becomes hard to follow. Also characters are not formed well so as they seem to change from friends to enemies with no explanations. There are foot notes at the bottom of each page which you must read, as it is the author as an adult clarifying and adding some information to the free form writings that make up the book. Reading the diary of an 11-13 year old is at best a rough thing to follow as a coherent story. The author does at time point out some very important points and observations. The book DOES in the end work well as a companion piece to the larger project. This is a hard book to follow at times and even confusing, but in the end the author does make a sadly accurate portrayal of how young people do the things they do, and how little parental or school administrative help there was at the time she experienced these things. Her goal to help others to not suffer from this all too real and very serious problem of 'slut shaming' is an important one. This book however might be difficult for some people. Again, the lack of actual narrative and revolving characters make it hard to follow. But in the end the message does get through. And the message is worth hearing. This is for sure a book that some will NOT like due to the format, but I am hoping people look beyond the admittedly difficult writing format to get through it and learn. I learned new things from this book. That for me makes me appreciate it.

I kind of dread leaving this review because I know that this book is intensely personal to the author. But the fact is that I didn't finish this. I couldn't. It was just too painful to read. It was painful in two ways. First there's the important and valid way - I think it's kind of both amazing and horrendous to read about this kind of bullying and shaming directly from the point of view of the kid going through it. It's rare that we get this kind of intimate look into the mind of a victim. The problem lies in the other reason that the book is painful - and the reason I simply couldn't read it any further - the writing. The story is told in two ways. We have the diary entry from the very immature little girl going through all the bullying. And we have the commentary from the now adult, giving her opinions on why things happened as well as random commentary. The immature girl was just too immature for me to stick with. I'm sorry, but I just don't want a book length manuscript from an eleven year old. It's full of inanities. I love him. I don't love him. I hate him. Does he love me? I love him. I really do. If he's pretending we had sex he must really love me. Wait...he loves Amanda? I hate him. Oh, he loves me. Wait, he was hugging her? I hate him. I love him. Argh! God save me from the mental processes of an eleven year old. A paragraph or two I can take? Book length? I couldn't hack it. And the author's adult self was snarky and light which was a very odd contrast to a serious rendering of pain and bullying. I haven't read the author's blog, but I can imagine that it works quite well in short bursts - an update here or there - but I just couldn't continue to read this. Apologies to the author. I hate that she went through this and I so felt for her younger self. I think the story is important, but this may not have been the way to tell it.

I think this is a very, very worthy topic to write on and for that, I applaud the author. I also appreciate her vulnerability and sharing her private journal writings. However, the way this book is organized makes it extremely difficult to get into any type of flow.. Every asterisk has you referencing notes at the bottom of the pages. I would've preferred the author make her modern day notes alongside her journal entry. I found this book difficult to stick with which was unfortunate given my enthusiasm and personal connection to the topic at hand. Again though, props for bringing light and lifting the stigma. This book has introduced me to the documentary and also tons of enlightening and interesting articles and pieces via the Unslut project Facebook page. I look forward to more from this project and appreciate the author's focus.

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