



Tori Amos: Piece by Piece

By Tori Amos, Ann Powers

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From her critically acclaimed 1992 debut, *Little Earthquakes*, to the recent hit, *Scarlet's Walk*, Tori Amos has been a formidable force in contemporary music, with one of the most dedicated fan bases in the industry. In *Tori Amos: Piece by Piece*, the singer herself takes readers beyond the mere facts, explaining the specifics of her creative process—how her songs go from ideas and melodies to recordings and passionately performed concert pieces.

Written with acclaimed music journalist Ann Powers, *Tori Amos: Piece by Piece* is a firsthand account of the most intricate and intimate details of Amos's life as both a private individual and a very public performing musician. In passionate and informative prose, Amos explains how her songs come to her and how she records and then performs them for audiences everywhere, all the while connecting with listeners across the world and maintaining her own family life (which includes raising a young daughter). But it is also much more, a verbal collage made by two strong female voices – and the voices of those closest to Amos—that calls upon genealogy, myth, and folklore to express Amos's unique and fascinating personal history. In short, we see the pieces that make up – as Amos herself puts it—“the woman we call Tori.”

With photos taken especially for this book by the photographer Loren Haynes, *Tori Amos: Piece by Piece* is a rare treat for both Tori listeners and newcomers alike, a look into the heart and mind of an extraordinary musician.

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Tori Amos: Piece by Piece By Tori Amos, Ann Powers Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

After over a decade of making big-selling albums, but also being pigeonholed as an eccentric New Age princess, singer/songwriter Amos redefines her image in this appealing mishmash (coauthored with critic and Experience Music Project curator Powers) of her essays, quotes from her conversations with Powers and oral history observations from her band mates, husband, managers and friends. Readers may still find a few sprinklings of fairy dust in the proceedings, but Amos comes across as thoughtful, likable and witty, fully aware of her role as a female musician in the mainstream pop world yet determined to keep her work true to her spiritual and feminist perspectives. The book's structure lets Amos and Powers retain elements of a traditional biography--they candidly detail Amos's family history, her shaky entry into the music business, her relationships with formal religion and her multiple miscarriages before giving birth to her daughter--but it sidesteps a straightforward "this is my life" story line and lets Amos focus on how her experiences have shaped her songs. Powers and Amos also discuss practical issues about the music business and the roles female artists can take--or sometimes can't take--in controlling their public personae. With undoubted appeal to Amos's legion of fans, the book could offer additional interest to artists of all stripes, who may find reflections of their own experiences in hers. *Illus. Agents, the Bridge Entertainment Group and Sarah Lazin. (Feb.)*

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Amos' music is the stuff of legend, literally: haunting music paired with lyrics that often mix mythology with the deeply personal. Her first book is a series of conversations between herself and journalist Ann Powers, with contributions from the people closest to her, such as her husband and the members of her band. The conversations run the gamut: Amos muses on everything from mythology and religion to songwriting to the hardships and joys of touring. But what really makes the book brilliant is Amos' interest in examining the roots of creativity and femininity. Her ruminations on creativity will resonate with any artist who has ever felt a kind of divine inspiration. Her observations about the challenge of the reconciling of the sexual and the sacred in women are equally astute. Amos also reveals a great deal about her personal history and family influences, from the maternal grandfather who shared rich Cherokee stories with her to the paternal grandmother who sought to control Amos' behavior through religion. Amos frankly discusses finding her own space and power in a world full of mixed messages and judgmental attitudes. Fans will also particularly enjoy the sections in which Amos analyzes the specific inspirations for several of her songs. Not just utterly engrossing, Amos' book is inspiring. *Kristine Huntley*

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Review

"Fascinating." —*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

"Amos comes across as thoughtful, likable, and witty . . . With undoubted appeal to Amos's legion of fans, [*Piece by Piece*] could offer additional interest to artists of all stripes, who may find reflections of their own experiences in hers." —*Publishers Weekly*

"No mere star memoir . . . it's more like a soul-map of Amos's stride from pop tart to poet provocateur." —*Blender*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ana Steadman:

The book *Tori Amos: Piece by Piece* gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable much more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem with your subject. If you can make reading a book *Tori Amos: Piece by Piece* to be your habit, you can get considerably more advantages, like add your personal capable, increase your knowledge about a number of or all subjects. You are able to know everything if you like available and read a guide *Tori Amos: Piece by Piece*. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science e-book or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this guide?

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