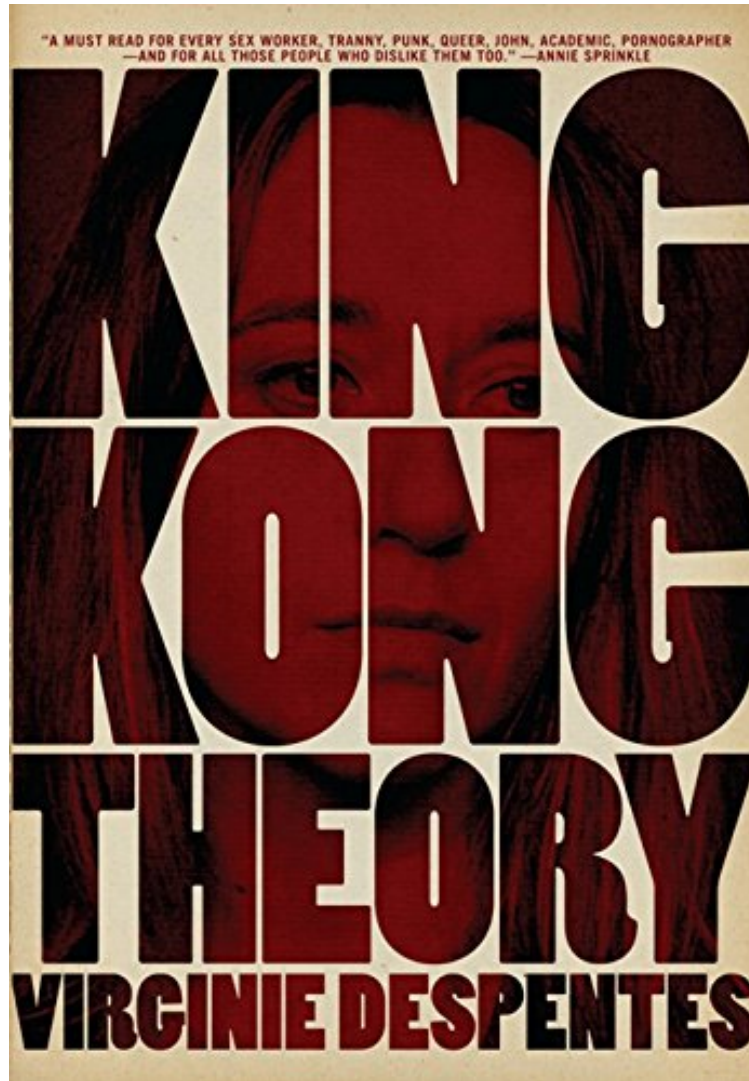


King Kong Theory

Virginie Despentes

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#144807 in Books The Feminist Press at CUNY 2010-04-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .40 x 5.50l, .30 #File Name: 1558616578160 pages | File size: 22.Mb

Virginie Despentes : King Kong Theory before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised King Kong Theory:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Despentes, who refers to herself as more King Kong than Kate Moss, offers a risky, though engrossing, read. By Tanisha Miles King Kong Theory is Despentes' candid account of how she became notorious: reviled and admired in equal measure for her rape-revenge novel turned film, Baise-Moi, she is the poster girl for modern female rebellion. Powerful, provocative and personal, King Kong Theory describes the ways her ideas have been shaped by her experiences of rape, prostitution and working in the porn industry. Feminist theory sheds its fusty image and takes on a punk mentality as Despentes claims that sisterhood

explodes our belief in feminine perfection and creates a space for all those who can't or won't obey the rules. Woolf and de Beauvoir are revived and updated by the loudest, most fiercely unapologetic misfit writing in France today. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Raw and powerful. By LeeBotDefiant, raw, powerful, insightful. A calling of women to the depths of innermost strength and independence. An exploration of identity and resilience. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fiery, impassioned and necessary. By Karine Johannes An assault on any of my remaining delicate sensibilities. I absolutely love, admire and appreciate her contribution towards elevating collective consciousness.

With humor, rage, and confessional detail, Virginie Despentes in her own words more King Kong than Kate Moss delivers a highly charged account of women's lives today. She explodes common attitudes about sex and gender, and shows how modern beauty myths are ripe for rebelling against. Using her own experiences of rape, prostitution, and working in the porn industry as a jumping-off point, she creates a new space for all those who can't or won't obey the rules.

From Publishers Weekly In the newest from Despentes, author of the controversial 1991 novel *Baise-Moi* (and co-director of the controversial movie adaptation), the feminist provocateur examines key questions of sexuality, male and female roles, and her own awakening to action. Having been raped at 17, and served as unwilling confidante to many women since *Baise-Moi*'s publication, Despentes struggles mightily with a society that taught her, as a woman, not to fight back against a man attempting to rape her "when that same society has taught me that this is a crime from which I will never recover." She also, thankfully, finds some measure of relief; three years after being attacked, she discovered feminist writer Camille Paglia, whose words first inflamed and then emancipated her. Elsewhere in this short book, Despentes discusses sex, pornography, and prostitution. That she spent several years as a prostitute isn't notable, Despentes says; what's notable is that she's willing to speak about it. While Despentes wades boldly into some murky waters ("who is the victim in porn?"), she ultimately settles on a single, low note: "femininity is the same as boot-licking-the act of servility." Coming nearly 20 years after *Baise-Moi*, Despentes's manifesto feels flat and a bit in thrall to her earlier work. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "King Kong Theory is essential reading!" Dorothy Allison, author of *Bastard Out of Carolina* "King Kong Theory brings to mind Solanass SCUM Manifesto, Muscios Cunt, and Plaths The Bell Jar feminist eloquence without restraint. You will love it." Susie Bright, author of *Big Sex Little Death* "Finally someone has done it! The feminist movement needs King Kong Theory now more than ever. A must read for every sex worker, tranny, punk, queer, john, academic, pornographer and for all those people who dislike them too." Annie Sprinkle "The part that isn't sassily justifying her art, vision, and situated mode of thinking is half theoretical expansion and half memoir fusing it all into one book that's accessible, entertaining and chock full of analysis of the type of -isms that can make the heart of this feminist melt. Don't get me wrong, there are plenty of pop culture moments for those of us who need that fix, but right alongside them is the nitty-gritty analysis that most commercially successful pop-feminism books tend to leave out. . . a risky, though engrossing, read." Bitch Media