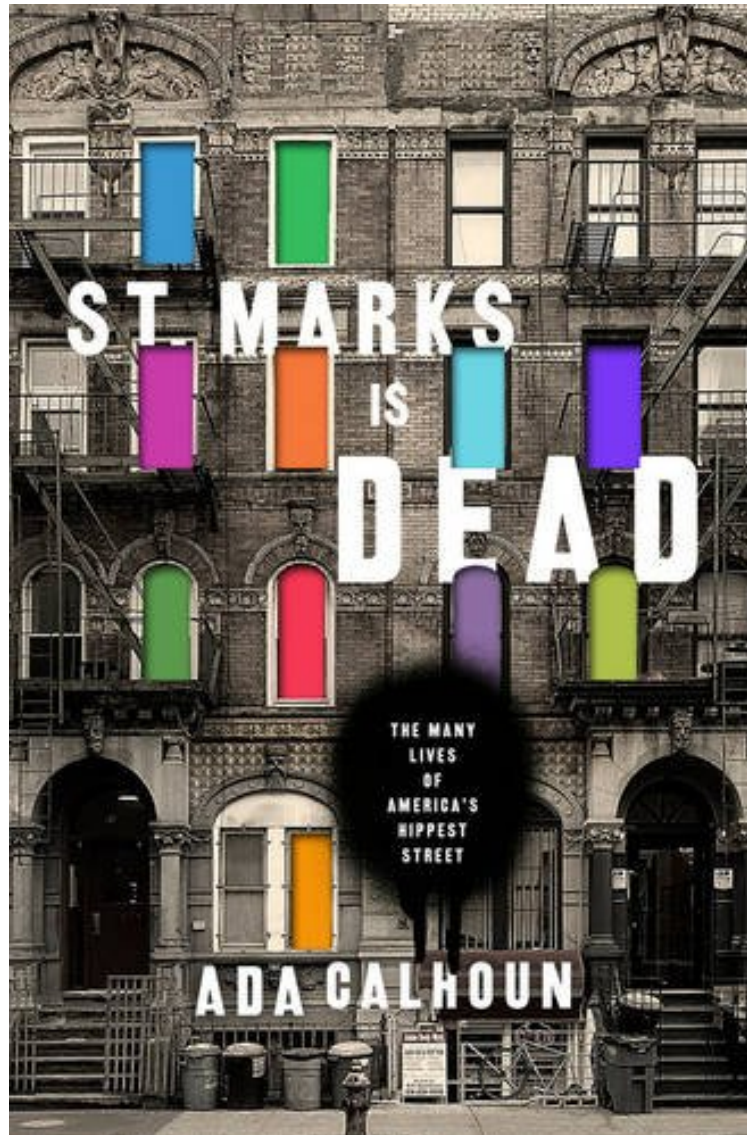


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## St. Marks Is Dead: The Many Lives of America's Hippest Street

Ada Calhoun

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**Ada Calhoun : St. Marks Is Dead: The Many Lives of America's Hippest Street** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised St. Marks Is Dead: The Many Lives of America's Hippest Street:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Spectacular Read....By Dale S. BauerSMID chronicles the rich and varied history of one of America's iconic streets. Ada Calhoun's has penned a gem. She couples her real life recollections as a youth on St. Mark's with exhaustive research about a neighborhood transformed again and again by

those who came seeking new beginnings and new adventures. It's a story of villains, heroes, radicals and characters of all stripes. The book is a delight. Please support it. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. *St Marks Is Alive....* By Larry CI have a collection of books about New York history, so I'm always on the lookout for new titles. I lived in the East Village area from 1978 - 1983 so I was immediately drawn to peeling back the historical layers of a place where I had spent so much time. *St. Marks is Dead* is extremely well researched and was a very entertaining read. Being a big music fan I was particularly drawn to tales of all the musicians who either lived or performed in the area. Traveling seamlessly from one time period to another, I consumed the book in just three nights before bed. A must read for lovers of New York history and history in general. Very enjoyable!!! 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. *All the Street's a Stage* By DogLover This author strings together generation after generation of quirky, interesting and laugh-out-loud funny stories, with *St. Marks* serving as the constant stage for all the characters. You never know any of them well, but you like them just the same. A fun and fast read that makes you want to go to the East Village and start knocking on doors, just to see whom you might meet next.

A vibrant narrative history of three hallowed Manhattan blocks the epicenter of American cool. *St. Marks Place* in New York City has spawned countless artistic and political movements. Here Frank O'Hara caroused, Emma Goldman plotted, and the Velvet Underground wailed. But every generation of miscreant denizens believes that their era, and no other, marked the streets apex. This idiosyncratic work of reportage tells the many layered history of the street from its beginnings as Colonial Dutch Director-General Peter Stuyvesant's pear orchard to today's hipster playground organized around those pivotal moments when critics declared *St. Marks is dead*. In a narrative enriched by hundreds of interviews and dozens of rare images, *St. Marks* native Ada Calhoun profiles iconic characters from W. H. Auden to Abbie Hoffman, from Keith Haring to the Beastie Boys, among many others. She argues that *St. Marks* has variously been an elite address, an immigrants haven, a mafia warzone, a hippie paradise, and a backdrop to the film *Kids* but it has always been a place that outsiders call home. 70 illustrations

.com An Best Book of November 2015: In this - sometimes history book, sometimes tour guide - Ada Calhoun crafts an account of New York's *St. Marks Place* in the most wonderful way - through the stories of the people who lived there. Journalist and local native, Calhoun knits together stories, essays, photos, and personal accounts to document a 400 year history of what is considered one of the most culturally significant streets in the United States. Whether you are a native of New York or a dreamer, this book will have you yearning for the streets of the city and the unique spirit of *St. Marks*. Penny Mann Fascinating through exhaustive research and vivid storytelling, Calhoun recounts the happenings and personalities that dotted both the literal and metaphorical landscape of the iconic East Village Street. - Jay Ruttenberg, *Village Voice* A timely, provocative, and stylishly written book. - John McMillian, *The Atlantic* What an entertaining and exhilarating read. Deeply researched and thought-provoking, this book is a joyride through the history of New York. - Jami Attenberg, author of *The Middlesteins* *St. Marks Is Dead* is a rich, gorgeously woven tapestry of capitalism, anarchy, riots, organized crime, literary feuds, con artists, hippies, hipsters, beatniks, deadbeats, punks, revolutionaries, drag queens, chaos, and thrilling, only-in-New York adventure. With a reporter's eye for detail and a poet's flair for language, Ada Calhoun has crafted a lush love letter to America's most fascinating street. - Karen Abbott, author of *Sin in the Second City* *The New York Dolls*, the Ramones, the Velvet Underground, Teenage Jesus and the Jerks, and a million other bands (including mine) spent time on *St. Marks Place*. Ada Calhoun's wonderful book tells punk's story in a totally new and exciting way. Plus, it has more sex-per-page than any cultural history I've ever read. - Kathleen Hanna As a teenager I skateboarded, wrote music, and drank malt liquor on *St. Marks Place*. After the early 80s, I thought the street was dead. But in this terrific book Ada Calhoun proves that every generation had its moment. - Adam Horowitz I love this funny, sad, amazing book. *St. Marks Place* is the most interesting street in the world, because it doesn't try to be; it's abnormal and impossible and ugly and sexy and annoying and inspiring. And the story was written by a *St. Marks* child, which is probably the only way it could've been told. - Colin Quinn Ada Calhoun's spellbinding book contains so much riveting history that was heretofore unknown to me, and her portrayal of the characters brings the history alive as vividly as an epic TV drama. For me, *St. Marks Place Is Dead* rivals Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*. - Tim Gunn Roll up. Roll up for the *St. Marks Place* tour! Ada Calhoun will take you on a hilarious and poignant ride through the history of one of the world's most storied streets. At once an archaeologist, detective, and charismatic tour guide, Ada unearths the hidden historical gems that give the street its richness and depth. - Lili Taylor A nuanced, captivating, and thoroughly fun ride through *St. Marks*'s lineage, celebrating the radical and downright weird nature that has drawn people to it for generations. - Emily Colucci, *Los Angeles of Books* About the Author Ada Calhoun has written for the *New York Times*, *New York* magazine, and the *New York Post*. Her book *St. Marks Is Dead* was named a *New York Times* Editors Choice and a *Boston Globe* Best Book of the Year.