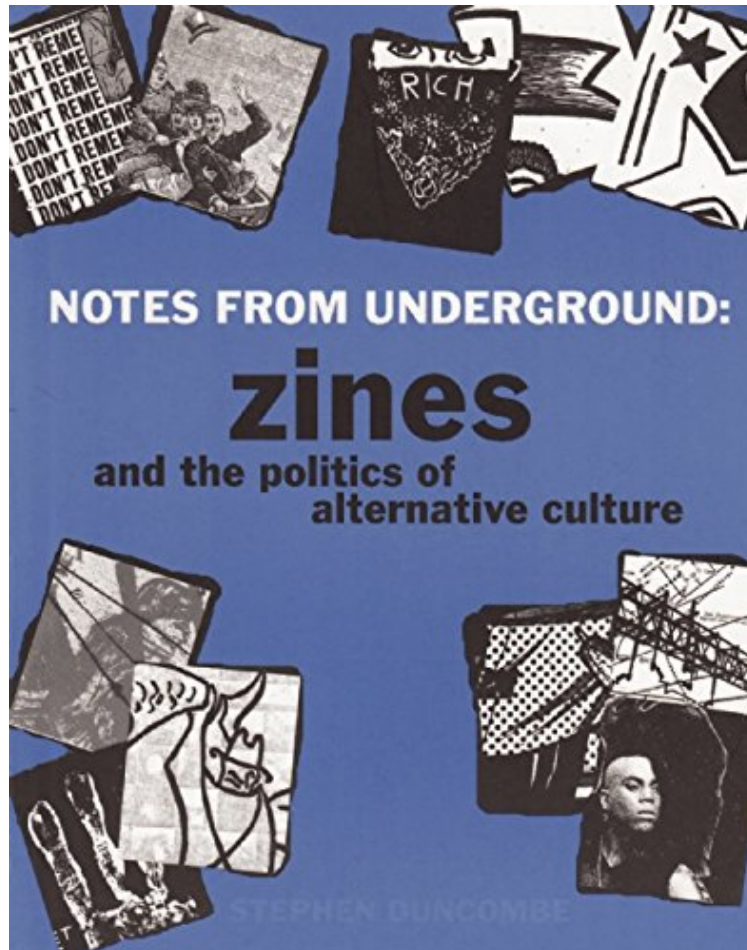


Notes from Underground: Zines and the Politics of Alternative Culture

Stephen Duncombe

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Stephen Duncombe : Notes from Underground: Zines and the Politics of Alternative Culture before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Notes from Underground: Zines and the Politics of Alternative Culture:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great Overview of Zines and DIY Culture! :-{D}By Jokie X Wilson This book is a must-read for all art students and should also prove helpful to students of journalism and other fields. It offers an excellent insight into the whys and hows of zines while also maintaining a critical perspective. If you don't know what a zine is, you will find out. If you do know, you will get a deeper understanding of the history of zines and what they have morphed into since their heyday. Zines reflect what happens when anyone can publish. Much as we might like to believe that this is the answer to corporate news and other canned information, zines turn out to be more personal expression and less a matter of getting you better news than the big agencies. But, that said, they offer

just about every perspective conceivable. And, for those self-publishers who stick with them, they can be the beginnings of projects that allow them to find a productive, creative place in society. Of course, some will keep doing zines forever and a day. Whether zines or a "real job" become one's destiny, zines still serve as a forum for dissent and dissemination. And they and the people behind them are worth knowing about.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Low-key changed my life. I was dimly aware of ...By JimbrieLow-key changed my life. I was dimly aware of zines before but after reading this I'm obsessed with collecting zines and I've created a couple of my own. Opened my eyes to the rhetoric of participatory culture and celebrated amateurism. Real pivotal thing for me.5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A political approach towards the underground sceneBy Elif Ozgen

underground culture born out of opposition to the mainstream media of the consumer culture and the alienation caused by the whole capitalist culture is analysed in Duncombe's book in great detail. The making of it, the meaning of it and the paradoxes and drawbacks it has are all introduced. pros and cons well defined. Duncombe also draw the limits of the underground scene. I agree with his pessimism about fanzine writers doing nothing more than just being politics by themselves. [what i mean is fanzine writers dont need to take political action as making a fanzine is keeping them busy (mind and time)] What is most successful about this book is he didnt just write about the world of fanzines but explored through the social/economic/political structure of the USA. As a political science student and a fanzine writer i share his views concerning the new world order as an everchanging, imposing and even assimilating fact. (is it new?) Well, i really liked the book even though at times i felt like he is repeating all again well i guess this happens when explaining such complex things (as economic, political things not fanzines) Elif Ozgen

Much history and theory is uncovered here in the first comprehensive study of zine publishing. From their origins in early 20th century science fiction cults, their more proximate roots in 60s counter-culture and their rapid proliferation in the wake of punk rock, Stephen Duncombe pays full due to the political importance of zines as a vital network of popular culture. He also analyzes how zines measure up to their utopian and escapist outlook in achieving fundamental social change. Packed with extracts and illustrations, he provides a useful overview of the contemporary underground in all its splendor and misery.