

# Shout Your Abortion

**Editors: Amelia Bonow and Emily Nokes**

**Foreword: Lindy West**

Following the U.S. Congress's attempts to defund Planned Parenthood, the hashtag #ShoutYourAbortion became a viral conduit for abortion storytelling, receiving extensive media coverage and positioning real human experiences at the center of America's abortion debate for the very first time. The online momentum sparked a grassroots movement that has subsequently inspired countless individuals to share their abortion stories in art, media, and community events all over the country, and to begin building platforms for others to do the same.

*Shout Your Abortion* is a collection of photos, essays, and creative work inspired by the movement of the same name, a template for building new communities of healing, and a call to action. Since SYA's inception, people all over the country have shared stories and begun organizing in a range of ways: making art, hosting comedy shows, creating abortion-positive clothing, altering billboards, starting conversations that had never happened before. This book documents some of these projects and illuminates the individuals who have breathed life into this movement, illustrating the profound liberatory and political power of defying shame and claiming sole authorship of our experiences. With *Roe vs. Wade* on the brink of reversal, the act of shouting one's abortion has become explicitly radical, and *Shout Your Abortion* is needed more urgently than ever before.

## ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

Following the U.S. Congress's initial efforts to defund Planned Parenthood, **Amelia Bonow's** unapologetic abortion disclosure catalyzed a viral outpouring of abortion stories on social media via the hashtag #ShoutYourAbortion and received extensive media attention including front page coverage from the *New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Times*. Bonow has subsequently developed *Shout Your Abortion* (SYA) into a nationwide movement working to create places for people to discuss their abortions, online, in art and media, and in real life events all over the country. Bonow proudly serves on the Board of Directors of the Abortion Care Network and her writing has appeared in *BUST*, the *Huffington Post*, the *New York Daily News*, *Salon*, and the *Stranger*.

**Emily Nokes** is a musician, writer, graphic designer, illustrator, *Libra*, candy enthusiast, and the singer/tambourinist in the glittery, feminist punk-pop band, *Tacocat*. Her hobbies include giving pretty good home bang trims, puffy painting, stoned shopping, and taking photos of her son Tinsel, who is a perfect gray kitten. Her work has appeared in Seattle's alternative weekly the *Stranger*, where she previously worked as music editor before accepting her current job as music editor at *BUST* magazine.

**Lindy West** is a contributing opinion writer for the *New York Times*. Her work has also appeared in *This American Life*, the *Guardian*, *Cosmopolitan*, *GQ*, *Vulture*, *Jezebel*, the *Stranger*, and others. She is the founder of *I Believe You, It's Not Your Fault*, an advice blog for teens, cofounder of #ShoutYourAbortion, and author of *Shrill: Notes from a Loud Woman*.

## ACCOLADES

"Shout Your Abortion reflects what makes me most hopeful for this next century, that there's a whole new generation of young people who refuse to be judged and shamed about who they are, whether it's their gender identity, their sexual orientation, or what they do with their body."

—Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America



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FOREWORD BY LINDY WEST

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