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Reality Hunger: A Manifesto

Von David Shields
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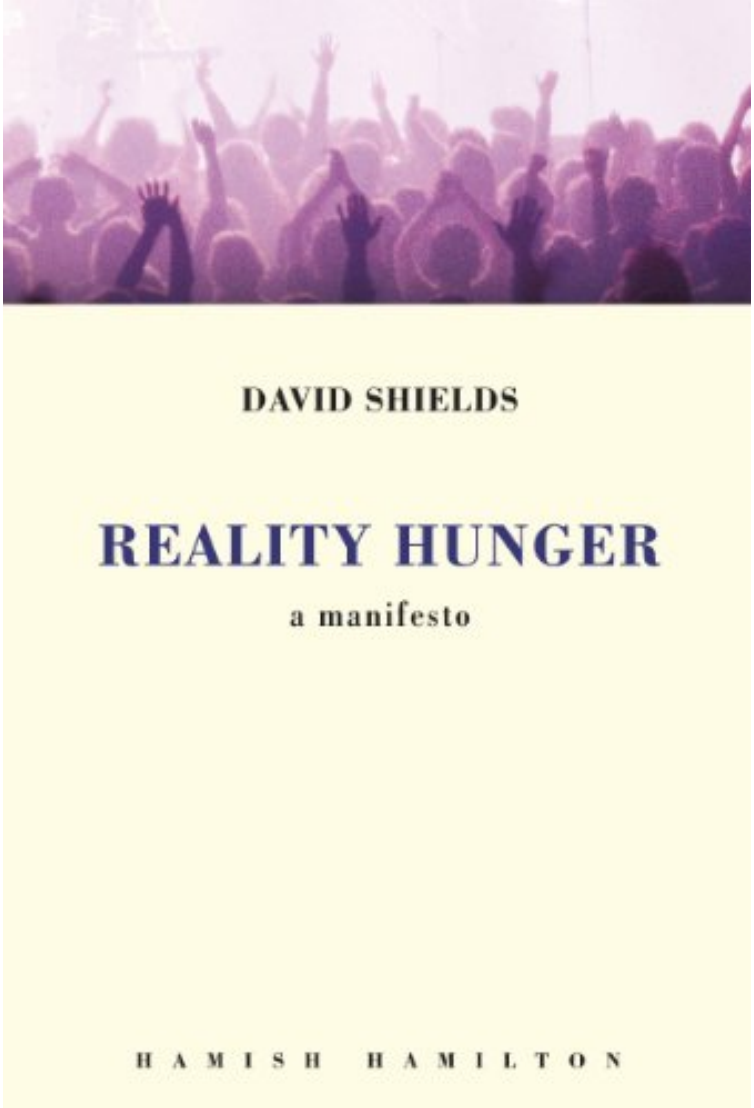

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Von David Shields : Reality Hunger: A Manifesto before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Reality Hunger: A Manifesto:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Really Real or Truly Imagined ?Von D. H. Hinrichs"Reality Hunger: A Manifesto" has been rocking the literary world since it came out last month. Described as the "most provocative, brain-rewiring book of 2010," "the hip-hop album of the year" and "destined to become a classic," "Reality Hunger" explores and challenges the line between fiction and nonfiction, truth and reality. Published within days of the scandal surrounding Helene Hegemann's novel "Axolotl

Roadkill," Shield's book directly addresses this very modern controversy. After being nominated for a prestigious literary prize, Hegemann's novel was discovered to contain long passages lifted word for word from other books. The 17-year-old German author defended her approach as "mixing," or as one character puts it: "I help myself everywhere I find inspiration." In an interview last month with the New York Times, Shields applauded the book, saying it was "straight out of my brainpan"; it supports his belief that the literary world needs to catch up with the other arts by encouraging such borrowing and appropriation.A literary collage made up almost entirely of the words of other writers, historians, musicians, etc., "Reality Hunger" is fascinating, thrilling, inspiring, and thought-provoking. Shields has collected hundreds of different voices and ideas, mixed them up with his own, and assembled them into a comprehensive, entertaining, and funny book. A literary DJ mixing together a symphony of written quotes and utterances, Shields manages to present a unified narrative voice/perspective that solidly supports his theme. It's a stunning achievement. With fascinating historic details about writing and literature, Shields reminds us that no memoir could ever be completely true and many novels are often rooted in reality. I have not been able to stop thinking about its message and its implications. "Reality Hunger" has left me wondering what, in literature, is really real and what is imagined--and ultimately why does it even matter? As Shields quotes near the end of the book: "Once upon a time there will be readers who won't care what imaginative writing is called and will read it for its passion, its force of intellect, and its formal originality." With Reality Hunger, that once upon a time is now.

KurzbeschreibungReality Hunger is a manifesto for a burgeoning group of interrelated but unconnected artists who, living in an unbearably artificial world, are breaking ever larger chunks of 'reality' into their work. The questions Shields explores - the bending of form and genre, the lure and blur of the real - play out constantly around us, and Reality Hunger is a radical reframing of how we might think about this 'truthiness': about literary licence, quotation, and appropriation in television, film, performance art, rap, and graffiti, in lyric essays, prose poems, and collage novels.Drawing on myriad sources, Shields takes an audacious stance on issues that are being fought over now and will be fought over far into the future. Converts will see Reality Hunger as a call to arms; detractors will view it as an occasion to defend the status quo. It is certain to be one of the most controversial and talked about books of the season.Pressestimmen"In his new book, Reality Hunger, David Shields makes a case that a new literary form has arrived. [He] challenges our most basic literary assumptions about originality, authenticity, and creativity. Reality Hunger has caused a stir in literary circles. [The book] has struck a nerve." --Andrew Richard Albanese, Publishers Weekly (cover article) "Reality Hunger is an exhilarating smash-up. . . . a work of virtuoso banditry that promises to become, like Lewis Hydes The Gift for earlier generations, the book that artists in all media turn to for inspiration, vindication, and altercation as they struggle to reinvent themselves against the headwinds of our time." --Rob Nixon, Chronicle of Higher Education" Maybe hes simply ahead of the rest of us, mapping out the literary future of the next generation." --Susan H. Greenberg, Newsweek"The driving force behind this entertaining and highly persuasive polemic is a frustration with the contemporary mainstream novel. . . . I cant stop recommending it to my friends. There is no more effective description (and example) of the aesthetic concerns of the internet age than this." --Edward King, The Times of London"Shields has a point. He gives a damn. He's trying to make a difference. He's using the best of his formidable talents to do that." --Wayne Alan Brenner, The Austin Chronicle"I love this book and am amused to see some of the hysterical reactions its provokedproof, I think, of its radical truthfulness. Shields is utterly uninterested in providing intellectual comfort; he bravely, uncompromisingly delivers the news." Walter KirnOn the one hand: Who does this guy think he is? On the other: Its about time someone said something this honest in print. . . . [I am] grateful for this beautiful (yes, raw and gorgeous) book. Susan Salter Reynolds, Los Angeles TimesDavid Shieldss radical intellectual manifesto, Reality Hunger (Knopf), is a rousing call to arms for all artists to reject the laws governing appropriation, obliterate the boundaries between fiction and nonfiction, and give rise to a new modern form.Vanity FairThis is the most provocative, brain-rewiring book of 2010. Its a book that feels at least five years ahead of its time and teaches you how to read it as you go.Alex Pappademas, GQIve just finished reading Reality Hunger: A Manifesto, and Im lit up by itastonished, intoxicated, ecstatic, overwhelmed. Jonathan LethemFor those of us who have been thinking about these issues for a long time, Reality Hunger is an orgy of geekiness, and Shields is the one responsible for everyone getting laid. Much like Dave Eggers, Shields will be repaid for hooking his friends up by becoming a bona fide tastemaker and culture-shaper. Actually, I dont think it would be too strong to say that Shieldss book will be a sort of bible for the next generation of culture-makers. . . David Griffith, BookslutThis dudes book is the hip-hop album of the year. Peter Macia, FaderGood manifestos propagate. Their seeds cling to journals and blogs and conversations, soon enough sprawling sub-manifestoes of acclamation or rebuttal. After the opening call to action, a variety of minds turn their attention to the same problem. Its the humanist ideal of a dialectic writ large: ideas compete and survive by fitness, not fiat. David Shieldss Reality Hunger has just the immodest ambition and exhorters zeal to bring about this happy scenario. Sam Sacks, The Wall Street JournalReality Hunger, by David Shields, might be the most intense, thought-accelerating book of the last 10 years.Chuck Klosterman (on Twitter)Entertaining, insightful,

and impressively broad. . . . brings to mind an amped-up Nicholson Baker. . . . Most important, its a guidebook for where literary writing could go in the future. . . . You might not agree with Shieldss broadside or his hardheaded conclusions, but its difficult not to fall under the sway of this voracious and elegantly structured book. Reality Hunger is ultimately an invigorating shakedown of the literary status quo: recommended for readers, essential for writers. Scott Indrisek, Time Out New YorkThe subtitle of David Shieldss Reality Hunger categorizes it as a manifesto, which is a little like calling a nuclear bomb a weapon. Don McLesse, Kirkus sThrilling to read, even if you disagree with much of it. Zadie Smith, The GuardianI find Shieldss book absorbing, even inspiring. The ideas he raises are so important, his ideas are so compelling, that I raved about this book the whole time I was reading it and have regularly quoted it to friends in the weeks since. Jami Attenberg, BookforumA collection of wisdoms and aphorisms, some borrowed/stolen/appropriated from others, some written by Shields himselfwhich layer one upon the other to shimmer with an insistence on a literature that reflects moderns lifes many complexities and contradictions. Debra Gwartney, Portland OregonianThis is the book our sick-at-heart moment needslike a sock in the jaw or an electric jolt in the solar plexusto wake it up. Wayne KoestenbaumIts already become required reading in university spheres, galleys passed from one student to the next like an illicit hit of crack cocaine. I came away from Reality Hunger excited about writing my own fiction, and impatient about books that dont offer these same thrills. Sarah Weinman, FlavorwireDavid Shields has put a bullet in the brain of our ridiculously oversimplified compulsion to think of everything as a narrative. Paul Constant, The Stranger One of the most provocative books Ive ever read. . . . I think its destined to become a classic. Charles DAmbrosioKurzbeschreibungReality Hunger is a manifesto for a burgeoning group of interrelated but unconnected artists who, living in an unbearably artificial world, are breaking ever larger chunks of 'reality' into their work. The questions Shields explores - the bending of form and genre, the lure and blur of the real - play out constantly around us, and Reality Hunger is a radical reframing of how we might think about this 'truthiness': about literary licence, quotation, and appropriation in television, film, performance art, rap, and graffiti, in lyric essays, prose poems, and collage novels.Drawing on myriad sources, Shields takes an audacious stance on issues that are being fought over now and will be fought over far into the future. Converts will see Reality Hunger as a call to arms; detractors will view it as an occasion to defend the status quo. It is certain to be one of the most controversial and talked about books of the season.