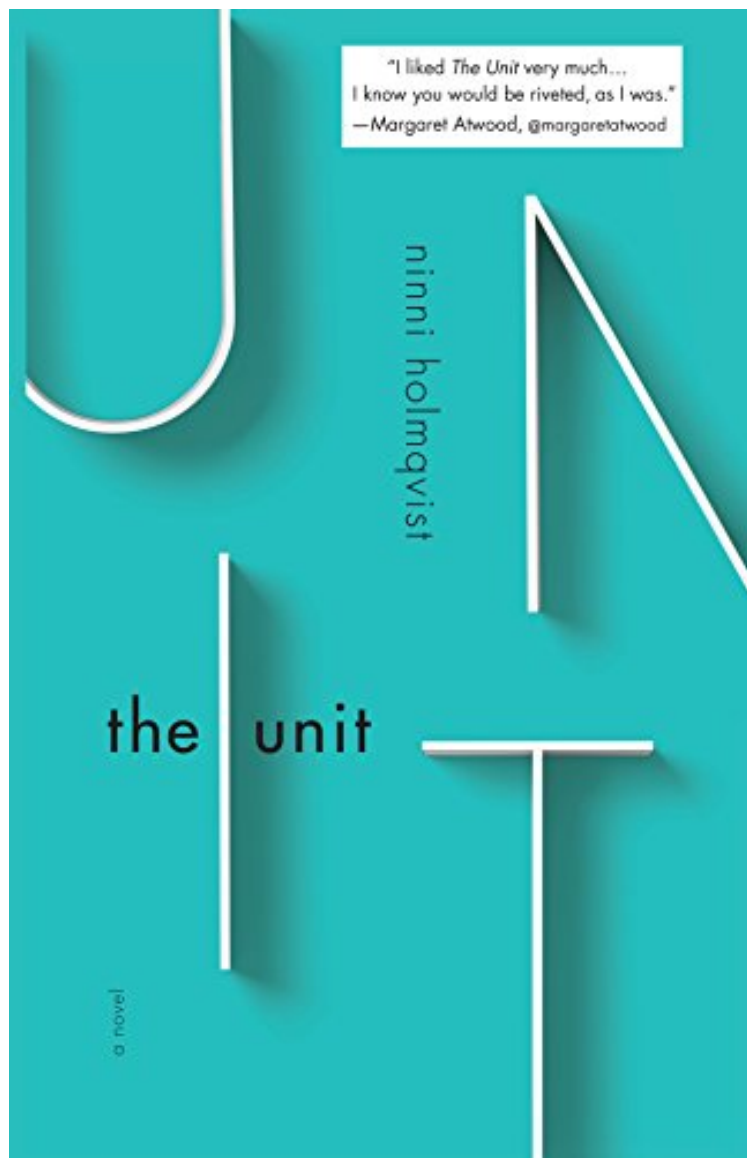


(Mobile ebook) The Unit

## The Unit

Von Ninni Holmqvist  
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**Von Ninni Holmqvist : The Unit** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Unit:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.  
Spannendes Thema, gut erzähltVon Customer'The Unit' spielt in Schweden zu einer Zeit, in der Frauen ber 50 und  
Mnner ber 60, die aus Sicht der Regierung und der Gesellschaft bis dahin ein 'selbstschtiges Leben' gefhrt haben und

keine eigenen Kinder zum Wohlergehen des Landes beigetragen haben als 'entbehrlich' angesehen werden. Sie müssen ihr bisheriges Leben aufgeben und in eine geschlossene Wohnanlage bersiedeln. Dort werden medizinische Experimente mit ihnen durchgeführt, so dass sie der Gesellschaft gegenüber nun doch noch ihre Pflicht erfüllen können. Abgeschlossen von der Außenwelt müssen sie an medizinischen Tests teilnehmen, die nicht selten massive Nebenwirkungen bis hin zum Tod haben. Sie spenden den 'wichtigen' Mitgliedern der Gesellschaft (Eltern und Heranwachsenden) Organe bis sie schließlich bei einer letzten Operation all ihre Organe der Gesellschaft zur Verfügung stellen. Dorrit ist gerade 50 geworden, hat ihr Leben als Einzelgängerin verbracht, ist Autorin und muss nun den Rest ihres Lebens in einer 'Einrichtung' verbringen. Dort trifft sie auf Gleichgesinnte, schließt Freundschaften und verliebt sich. Hilflos muss sie mit ansehen, wie die Lieben um sie herum durch Experimente und Organspenden geschwächt werden und sterben. Das Geschichte ist vergleichsweise distanziert und trocken erzählt, durch den bewegenden Inhalt ist der Leser aber doch emotional sehr dicht an den Protagonisten. Gerade die eher sachliche Erzählweise berührt zum Teil sehr. Auch die Auswirkungen dieser Praxis auf die Gesellschaft, wie auf das Selbstwertgefühl des Einzelnen wird sehr gut beschrieben. Eine beruhende und nachdenklich stimmende Dystopie, die ich weiterempfehlen kann! 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Unit Von Dagmar Kamml Ich kenne dieses Buch sehr gut. Es zählt zu einem meiner Favoriten. Ich finde die Story schockierend, zugleich aber auch fesseld. Trotz mehrmaligem Lesens. Leicht zu lesen und trotzdem emotional wenn man in der glücklichen Lage ist, mit dem Inhalt mitzugehen. Wnsche mir mehr von Ninni bei Kindle! 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Zwischen Faszination und Abscheu Von Saskia Pfeil gut zu lesen, relativ einfache Sprache. ich würde das Buch jedem empfehlen, der sich neben Orwell und Huxley eine neue Idee wünscht und kein englischer Muttersprachler ist.

**Kurzbeschreibung** One day in early spring, Dorrit Weger is checked into the Second Reserve Bank Unit for biological material. She is promised a nicely furnished apartment inside the Unit, where she will make new friends, enjoy the state of the art recreation facilities, and live the few remaining days of her life in comfort with people who are just like her. Here, women over the age of fifty and men over sixty single, childless, and without jobs in progressive industries are sequestered for their final few years; they are considered outsiders. In the Unit they are expected to contribute themselves for drug and psychological testing, and ultimately donate their organs, little by little, until the final donation. Despite the ruthless nature of this practice, the ethos of this near-future society and the Unit is to take care of others, and Dorrit finds herself living under very pleasant conditions: well-housed, well-fed, and well-attended. She is resigned to her fate and discovers her days there to be rather consoling and peaceful. But when she meets a man inside the Unit and falls in love, the extraordinary becomes a reality and life suddenly turns unbearable. Dorrit is faced with compliance or escape, and well, then what? THE UNIT is a gripping exploration of a society in the throes of an experiment, in which the dispensable ones are convinced under gentle coercion of the importance of sacrificing for the necessary ones. Ninni Holmqvist has created a debut novel of humor, sorrow, and rage about love, the close bonds of friendship, and about a cynical, utilitarian way of thinking disguised as care. From the Trade Paperback edition. **Pressestimmen** A haunting, deadpan tale set vaguely in the Scandinavian future Holmqvists spare prose interweaves the Units pleasures and cruelties with exquisite matter-of-factness [Holmqvist] turns the screw, presenting a set of events so miraculous and abominable that they literally made me gasp. Washington Post Orwellian horrors in a Xanadu on Xanax creepily profound and most provocative. Kirkus s This haunting first novel imagines a nation in which men and women who haven't had children by a certain age are taken to a reserve bank unit for biological material and subjected to various physical and psychological experiments, while waiting to have their organs harvested for needed citizens in the outside world Holmqvist evocatively details the experiences of a woman who falls in love with another resident, and at least momentarily attempts to escape her fate. New Yorker This is one of the best books Ive read over the past two years Thought-provoking and emotionally-moving, The Unit is a book you'll be discussing with others long after you're done reading it. Orlando Sentinel Like Margaret Atwoods The Handmaids Tale, this novel imagines a chilling dystopia: single, childless, midlife women are considered dispensable. At 50 the narrator, Dorrit, is taken to a facility where non-vital organs will be harvested one by one for people more valued by society; she knows that eventually she'll have to sacrifice something essential like her heart. Dorrit accepts her fate until she falls in love and finds herself breaking the rules. More magazine Holmqvist handles her dystopia with muted, subtle care Neither satirical nor polemical, The Unit manages to express a fair degree of moral outrage without ever moralizing it has enough spooks to make it a feminist, philosophical page-turner. Time Out Chicago The Unit raises issues of love, gender, freedom, and social mores through the perspective of how we assess an individual's contribution to society Holmqvists ability to invest the reader in both the story and the characters is exceptional. It is a book you hesitate to put down The Unit deserves a wide readership. Blogcritics.org Chilling stunning Holmqvists fluid, mesmerizing novel offers unnerving commentary on the way society devalues artistic creation while elevating procreation, and speculation on what it would be like if that was taken to an extreme. For Orwell and Huxley fans. **Booklist** An exploration of female desire, human need, and the purpose of life. Publishers Weekly The message is bold

if not on the nose: If you don't fall into a classic nuclear family, then your value as a human are the spare parts you can give those who do contribute to traditional family structures. The book's main character, a writer named Dorrit, is forced to think about the meaning of her life. She had a lover, but he wouldn't leave his wife; she birthed art, but never a child. Holmqvist's writing is clear and precise; the clinical tone contributes to the Unit's eeriness. The Unit itself is a place of luxury; amenities include a library, a cafe, immaculately manicured gardens, but it feels as much like home to Dorrit as the promotional photos of an upscale condo. Holmqvist's is a book of quiet cruelty, and perhaps the most harrowing twist of all is that the world outside the walls of the Unit, one with married couples, one with children, seems even worse. In that way, the Unit's strength is uncovering beauty in bleakness.

GQ.com Ninni Holmqvist's *The Unit*, originally published in 2006, offers a shrewd, timely exploration of gender. The novel has been compared to *The Handmaid's Tale*, but where Margaret Atwood's classic focuses on procreation, Holmqvist's novel feels broader, holding both capitalism and traditional gender roles under a harsh light. Dorrit is honest about her life, and she wonders whether the freedom she had in her youth was worth the price she pays now. Any woman young or old will relate to her plight. *Washington Post* "Ninni Holmqvist's 2009 book *The Unit*, newly reissued, imagines a world in which people who haven't procreated are forced to make a different ultimate contribution to society... The Unit feels like an inversion of Margaret Atwood's *Gilead*, where fertile women are forcibly impregnated under biblical sanction. Here, the justification for horror—the extraction of human tissue from the child-free—is secular, a capitalist democracy demanding its toll... The Unit contains elements that echo a number of different speculative and dystopian works. The domed environment and omnipresent cameras seem to predict Suzanne Collins's *Hunger Games* trilogy; the prospect of forcible organ donation brings to mind Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go*... Holmqvist's intention isn't realism; it's to unravel and critique assumptions about the meaning of life. Is it criminal, she wonders, to live a quiet life dedicated only to self-actualization? Do artists who never achieve greatness have value? Does every citizen have a responsibility to contribute to their society? In exploring such questions, Holmqvist takes liberal assumptions about Scandinavian paternalism versus American individualism and flips them upside down... Holmqvist's writing is spare in style, elegantly succinct, but the layers of the world she's created are manifold. Other dystopian stories like *The Handmaid's Tale* might seem particularly chilling in a moment when democracy feels like it's under threat, but *The Unit* is haunting in its assertion that democracy itself isn't enough. The tyranny of popular sentiment can be just as dangerous, Holmqvist argues, presenting scene after scene of intelligent, compassionate citizens indoctrinated into doubting their own worth.

THEATLANTIC.COM Kurzbeschreibung One day in early spring, Dorrit Weger is checked into the Second Reserve Bank Unit for biological material. She is promised a nicely furnished apartment inside the Unit, where she will make new friends, enjoy the state-of-the-art recreation facilities, and live the few remaining days of her life in comfort with people who are just like her. Here, women over the age of fifty and men over sixty—single, childless, and without jobs in progressive industries—are sequestered for their final few years; they are considered outsiders. In the Unit they are expected to contribute themselves for drug and psychological testing, and ultimately donate their organs, little by little, until the final donation. Despite the ruthless nature of this practice, the ethos of this near-future society and the Unit is to take care of others, and Dorrit finds herself living under very pleasant conditions: well-housed, well-fed, and well-attended. She is resigned to her fate and discovers her days there to be rather consoling and peaceful. But when she meets a man inside the Unit and falls in love, the extraordinary becomes a reality and life suddenly turns unbearable. Dorrit is faced with compliance or escape, and well, then what?

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