



Everybody Hurts: An Essential Guide to Emo Culture

By Trevor Kelley, Leslie Simon

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What is emo? For starters it's a form of melodic, confessional, or EMOTional punk rock. But emo is more than a genre of music—it's the defining counterculture movement of the '00s. EVERYBODY HURTS is a reference book for emo, tracing its angsty roots all the way from Shakespeare to Holden Caulfield to today's most popular bands.

There's nothing new about that perfect chocolate and peanut butter combination—teenagers and angst. What is new is that emo is the first cultural movement born on the internet. With the development of early social networking sites like Make Out Club (whose mission is to unite "like-minded nerds, loners, indie rockers, record collectors, video gamers, hardcore kids, and artists through friendship, music, and sometimes even love") outcast teens had a place to find each other and share their pain, their opinions, and above all, their music—which wasn't available for sale at the local record store.

Authors Leslie Simon and Trevor Kelley lead the reader through the world of emo including its ideology, music, and fashion, as well as its influences on film, television, and literature. With a healthy dose of snark and sarcasm, EVERYBODY HURTS uses diagrams, illustrations, timelines, and step-by-step instructions to help the reader successfully achieve the ultimate emo lifestyle. Or, alternately, teach him to spot an emo kid across the mall in order to mock him mercilessly.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

For those who equate "emo" with lonely, malnourished rock bands, Alternative Press vets Simon and Kelley provide a vivisection of this deceptively large slice of the American pop culture pie: "it's a state of mind...a place for people who don't fit in-but who long to fit in with other people who don't fit in." With casual prose and unflagging energy, the authors look at a laundry list of emo affairs: fashion, internet, film, literature and music among them. Simon and Kelley know the territory inside and out, profiling ten emo types ("Trustafarian," "Christian," "Ex-Hardcore"), "emo ancestors" (including Emily Dickinson and Cameron Crowe), a detailed timeline and a comparative " 'Emo' vs. 'So Not Emo' " list-and that's just the first chapter. Unexpected resources and sarcastic swipes abound: record store recommendations segue into clever, cutting guidelines for naming your band. Readers will be reminded of Robert Lanham's *The Hipster Handbook* (right down to Rob Dobi's detailed, comic-realist illustrations), but like that title, Simon and Kelley's may not appeal to its subjects (emo fans read books primarily "to brag about them in social situations"). On the other hand, would-be scenesters will pick up plenty of tips-though there's a significant possibility that the info here will be dated in six months.

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From [Booklist](#)

Simon and Kelley describe emo culture slyly in this perky lifestyle guide. Basically, emo is music made by "a bunch of guys barely out of high school" who are concerned "with decidedly high school problems" (heartbreak, friendship, etc.) more than with "approachable hooks." Growing out of and away from increasingly insular punk rock, emo sets lyrics that are very often introspective and achey. Self-centered, whiny songs and introspective posing have been part of rock from the beginning (e.g., "Tell Laura I Love Her," Jim Morrison's tortured-artist act), but with emo they are the center of a packaged subculture pitched to "the preppiest of preps" being "punkish," "lacrosse jocks" who sing along to "weepy acoustic anthems," and "Long Island dudes" who "keep journals, cry in front of girls, and write the word *art* with a capital A." Simon and Kelley list movies, songs, fashions, and even eating habits to reveal what is and isn't emo. There's a hint of satire in all this, which seems right, given the arch irony of the emo mind-set. *Mike Tribby*

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Review

"A smart, funny and revealing book that's pretty much a must read for kids in the scene." (Chris Carrabba, Dashboard Confessional)

"If someone was to ask me, 'What is emo?,' I would hand them a copy of EVERYBODY HURTS." (Matt Rubano, Taking Back Sunday)

"[D]estined to become a staple in any emo music lover's book collection ." (Myspace.com)

"[T]his book is not only hilarious, but absolutely genius." (Jason Tate, Absolutepunk.net)

"[T]he essential book for anyone who fancies themselves emo." (Sarah "Ultragrrrl" Lewitinn, author of The iPod DJ)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Celia Robertson:

This Everybody Hurts: An Essential Guide to Emo Culture book is not really ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is actually information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. This specific Everybody Hurts: An Essential Guide to Emo Culture without we comprehend teach the one who studying it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't always be worry Everybody Hurts: An Essential Guide to Emo Culture can bring whenever you are and not make your carrier space or bookshelves' come to be full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even cellphone. This Everybody Hurts: An Essential Guide to Emo Culture having fine arrangement in word as well as layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

Francine Nott:

Do you among people who can't read pleasurable if the sentence chained in the straightway, hold on guys this aren't like that. This Everybody Hurts: An Essential Guide to Emo Culture book is readable simply by you who hate the straight word style. You will find the information here are arrange for enjoyable looking at experience without leaving perhaps decrease the knowledge that want to provide to you. The writer of Everybody Hurts: An Essential Guide to Emo Culture content conveys prospect easily to understand by many people. The printed and e-book are not different in the articles but it just different as it. So , do you even now thinking Everybody Hurts: An Essential Guide to Emo Culture is not loveable to be your top checklist reading book?

Pandora Rice:

The book untitled Everybody Hurts: An Essential Guide to Emo Culture contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains your ex idea with easy way. The language is very simple to implement all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read this. The book was published by famous author. The author gives you in the new period of time of literary works. It is easy to read this book because you can keep reading your smart phone, or gadget, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can open up their official web-site along with order it. Have a nice go through.

Jessica Palmer:

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