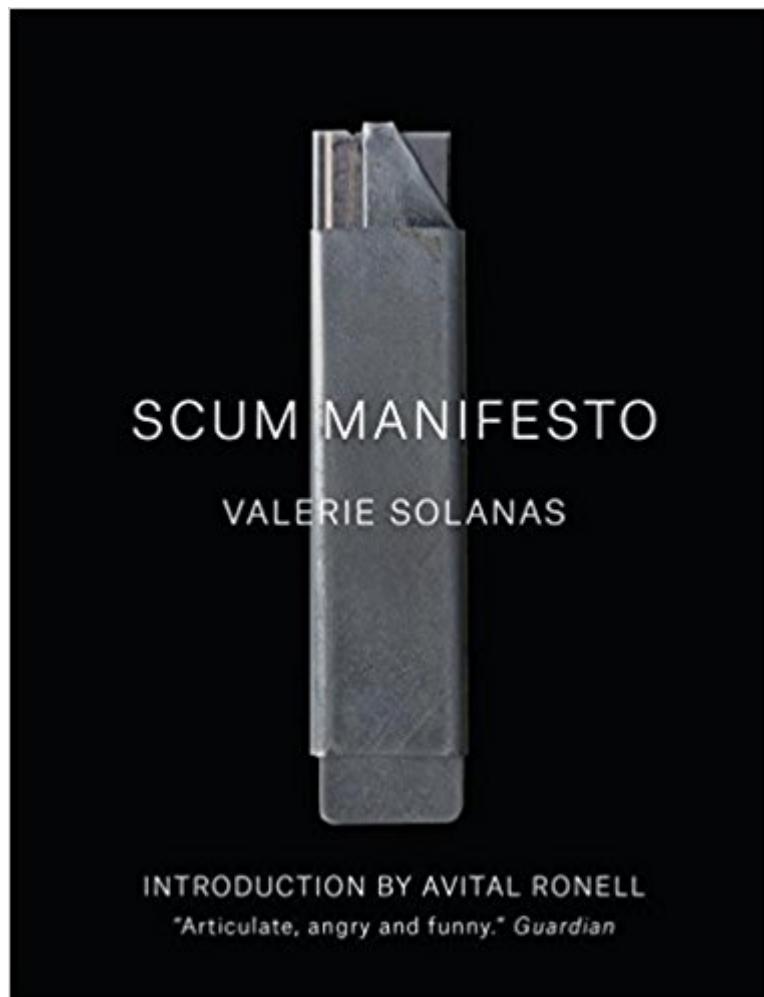


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# SCUM Manifesto



## Synopsis

Classic radical feminist statement from the woman who shot Andy Warhol —“Life in this society being, at best, an utter bore and no aspect of society being at all relevant to women, there remains to civic-minded, responsible, thrill-seeking females only to overthrow the government, eliminate the money system, institute complete automation and destroy the male sex.” Outrageous and violent, SCUM Manifesto was widely lambasted when it first appeared in 1968. Valerie Solanas, the woman who shot Andy Warhol, self-published the book just before she became a notorious household name and was confined to a mental institution. But for all its vitriol, it is impossible to dismiss as the mere rantings of a lesbian lunatic. In fact, the work has proved prescient, not only as a radical feminist analysis light years ahead of its time —predicting artificial insemination, ATMs, a feminist uprising against underrepresentation in the arts—but also as a stunning testament to the rage of an abused and destitute woman. In this edition, philosopher Avital Ronell’s introduction reconsiders the evocative exuberance of this infamous text.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

—“The SCUM Manifesto is a document of profound vulnerability, written in a voice of profound empowerment. It’s a brutal call to arms, written by a woman in a world of hurt. This tension between powerlessness and power makes it an enduring piece of writing. Never have the personal and the political been so mercilessly zipped together, like little steel teeth.” —Claire

Dederer, Nation  "Solanas is as relevant today as she was in the 1960s, because nothing much has changed for women."  Julie Bindel, Spectator  "You either happen to think this is a work of unadulterated genius, or you dismiss it as the ravings of a loony psycho-bitch, not understanding that this is exactly what makes it so compelling and so charged with insight."  Suzanne Moore, *Â New Statesman*  "Valerie Solanas wrote a very angry and very precise portrait of what she considered the male to be: something between a human and an ape; an unresponsive blob only concerned with physical sensation and without the capacity for empathy or self-knowledge or intimacy, and at the same time full of hatred and jealousy and shame and guilt. Her description is beautiful and on some level, I think, entirely accurate."  Nick Cave  "Its nihilism is a form of utopia for Solanas, a pre-punk aesthete who fearlessly tossed out ideas that people are just now beginning to raise  As a mixture of social philosophy and fine shtick, her work has the rare virtue of seeming at the same time totally insane and totally right."  Los Angeles Times  "As Solanas reminds us, revolutionary ideas don't emerge quietly from the elite stratum of a society; they often bloom from its scum."  Dissent  "Gleefully incoherent, crackling with energy."  Bookslut  "Articulate, angry and funny."  Guardian 

Valerie Jean Solanas (1936 1988) was an American radical feminist writer who is best known for SCUM Manifesto, as well as for the attempted murder of artist Andy Warhol. Avital Ronell teaches at New York University, The European Graduate School and Paris VIII, and is the author of many books including *The Test Drive*.

man haters unite! this gal has issues---as entertaining as it is a book to ponder...

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