Imagine a country whose young women are systematically denied education, whose media are largely state-controlled, and whose genocidal history has been virtually purged from its citizens’ collective memory. Now imagine an itinerant feminist writer, former punk, artist, and independent media-maker arriving to give 32 young women the deceptively simple independent publishing tools they need to tell their stories—and, in the process, to become powerful advocates for their own rights and for the just future of their country. Cambodian Grrrl offers a compelling and spirited model of what is possible when media-making becomes a community endeavor. Don’t understand why media is a human rights issue? You will by the end of Anne Elizabeth Moore’s latest effort.

—Jennifer L. Pozner, executive director of Women in the Media and News

An improbable little traveller’s tale that becomes a surprisingly complex and moving portrait of a people’s resilience in the face of an unimaginable historical tragedy. Cambodian Grrrl is fierce, charming, impassioned, and humane.

—Lee Sandlin, literary critic of the Wall Street Journal

A passionate, engaging, heartbreaking, funny, and inspiring book. I want to slip it into every tourist guide to Asia and give a copy to every girl in the world.

—Jean Kilbourne, creator of the “Killing Us Softly: Advertising’s Image of Women” film series

1000000000000000% punk rock.

—Jacksonville Public Library

Anne Elizabeth Moore is the ultimate travel companion. She doesn’t just squeeze us into her luggage—she lets readers peer right over her shoulder as she attempts the implausible. Turns out, the implausible is hard, and funny, tragic, and illuminating, but once you sign up for the journey she never lets you look away (because she never did). Be forewarned, after reading what this woman accomplished in a few months, you might just ask yourself some hard questions about how you spent last summer . . .

—Glynn Washington, host of NPR’s Snap Judgment

Marketing Notes

Cover by Esther Pearl Watson. 5,000 Postcards distributed. Anne Elizabeth Moore travels frequently to Cambodia, to bookfairs, and book tours across the U.S. Her Best American Comics has sold over 100,000 copies. Previous nonfiction work Unmarketable was a Mother Jones Best Book of 2007 and continues to sell in a third printing.

Comparative Titles


Half the Sky, Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, Knopf; (2009) 978-0307387097 $15.95

Eat Pray Love, Elizabeth Gilbert, Penguin; (2006) 978-0143038412 $15

Gecko Tails, Carol Livingston, Trafalgar Square, London; (1997) 978-0753800058 $15.95

Finding George Orwell in Burma, Emma Larkin, Penguin; (2005) 978-0143037118 $16

Pyongyang: A Journey in North Korea, Guy Delisle, Drawn & Quarterly; (2007) 978-18972999210 $14.95

For Us Surrender Is Out of the Question: A Story from Burma’s Never-Ending War, Mac McClelland, Soft Skull; (2010) 978-1593762650 $15.95


Anne Elizabeth Moore is the author of Unmarketable: Brandalism, Copyfighting, Marketing, and the Erosion of Integrity (The New Press, 2007), and Hey Kids, Buy This Book (Soft Skull, 2004). She is the founding editor of the Best American Comics series from Houghton Mifflin and the Comics Journal Special Edition anthologies from Fantagraphics Books, and edited the now-defunct Punk Planet. Her work with young women in Southeast Asia has been featured in Time Out Chicago, Make/Shift, Print, the Phnom Penh Post, GritTV with Laura Flanders, and NPR’s Worldview with Jerome McDonnell. When she’s not adventuring, Moore lives in Chicago and maintains an active art exhibition schedule. www.anneelizabethmoore.com

Cantankerous Titles was founded in 2009 as a new publishing project by Joe Biel of Microcosm Publishing, and is dedicated to “anthropology for lay people.” Recent titles include the best-selling Henry & Glenn Forever, Between Resistance and Community and Aftermass: A Post-Critical Mass Portland.