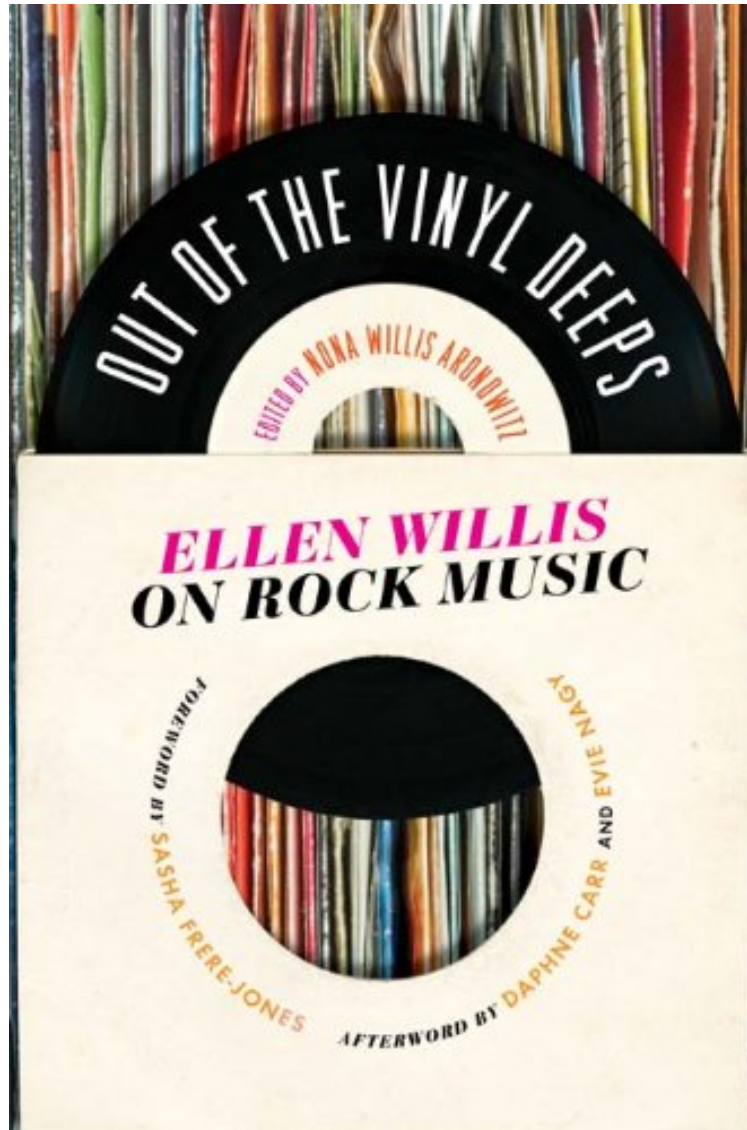


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## Out of the Vinyl Deeps: Ellen Willis on Rock Music

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**From Brand :** **Out of the Vinyl Deeps: Ellen Willis on Rock Music** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Out of the Vinyl Deeps: Ellen Willis on Rock Music:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. interesting in partsBy JThere are bits here that really do provide a fresh perspective and Willis does have that greatest and rarest quality, a free mind.Still, like most rock crit it can sag and bore quite a bit. In a way a welcome contrast from the wearing and unconvincing intensity of Lester Bangs or the pomposity of Marcus and the other guy; and of course, the female angle is interesting- historically as much as

anything. Yes, good, but less fun than I'd have hoped. A free mind and - therefore - a good mind, but not a brilliant one. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Make that 4 3/4 stars. By GeoWhy not 5 stars- because nothing is perfect. This insiders look at a true musical insiders reviews is a fun read. I do not agree with much that is said about some of the recordings, in fact, that is part of the fun of this book. Ellen was so sure that her opinions were the only valid ones that it can sometimes make your blood boil, but it is done with such background, experience and validity that you are many times sent back in time and to your collection to find her point of view and damnit--- she's right more often than not. This was almost an interactive reading experience for me--- perhaps you will have the same experience! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars. By Jim Frick. Great stories about the music I love.

In 1968, the New Yorker hired Ellen Willis as its first popular music critic. Her column, *Rock, Etc.*, ran for seven years and established Willis as a leader in cultural commentary and a pioneer in the nascent and otherwise male-dominated field of rock criticism. As a writer for a magazine with a circulation of nearly half a million, Willis was also the country's most widely read rock critic. With a voice at once sharp, thoughtful, and ecstatic, she covered a wide range of artists: Bob Dylan, The Who, Van Morrison, Elvis Presley, David Bowie, the Rolling Stones, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Joni Mitchell, the Velvet Underground, Sam and Dave, Bruce Springsteen, and Stevie Wonder. Assessing their albums and performances not only on their originality, musicianship, and cultural impact but also in terms of how they made her feel.

"Here, [Ellen Willis's] witty, cerebral essays finally get the compilation they deserve. She grapples with voices who inspired her . . . and relates feminism to music in revelatory ways. *Vinyl Deeps* is the testament of a crucial voice. At a time when rock clichés were still being invented, Willis was already leaving them behind." Rob Sheffield, *Rolling Stone*