



## Anthropology of an American Girl: A Novel (Random House Reader's Circle)

By Hilary Thayer Hamann

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#### **This is what it's like to be a high-school-age girl.**

To forsake the boyfriend you once adored.  
To meet the love of your life, who just happens to be your teacher.  
To discover for the first time the power of your body and mind.

#### **This is what it's like to be a college-age woman.**

To live through heartbreak.  
To suffer the consequences of your choices.  
To depend on others for survival but to have no one to trust but yourself.

#### **This is *Anthropology of an American Girl*.**

A literary sensation, this extraordinarily candid novel about the experience of growing up female in America will strike a nerve in readers of all ages.

BONUS: This edition contains an *Anthropology of an American Girl* discussion guide.

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## Anthropology of an American Girl: A Novel (Random House Reader's Circle) By Hilary Thayer Hamann Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

**Amazon Best Books of the Month, June 2010:** Eveline Auerbach, the heroine of *Anthropology of an American Girl*, observes at one point that "pain becomes its own story." That may be the best way to begin talking about Hilary Thayer Hamann's arresting and provocative coming-of-age novel, set against the twilight years of Eveline's adolescence and the dawn of the 1980s--a decade made all the more infamous by books like *American Psycho* and *Bright Lights, Big City*. Hamann's 600-page epic is a worthy and welcome successor to those novels, as it charts the wistful and unsteady course of a girl experiencing the often brutal paradox of being a woman. Eveline is a curious soul. Much of her story unfolds in interior monologues that display how acutely--and how honestly--she observes herself and the men who lay claim to her, and no thought of hers is left unturned: she reflects with great tenderness both the guileless narcissism and the strange liberty of being young. *Anthropology of an American Girl* is an accomplished and absorbing work of fiction, resonant and romantic in the grandest sense, that will remind you what a great American novel really is. --Anne Bartholomew

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. If publishers could figure out a way to turn crack into a book, it'd read a lot like this. Originally a self-published cult hit in 2003 (since reedited), Hamann's debut traces the sensual, passionate, and lonely interior of a young woman artist growing up in windswept East Hampton at the end of the 1970s. The book begins as a two-pronged tragedy befalls 17-year-old narrator Eveline: her best friend's mother (more maternal than her own) dies, and Eveline is raped by two high school students. Her brutalized interior, exquisitely rendered by Hamann, leads Eveline to a series of self-realizations that bears obvious comparison to that iconic nonconformist Holden Caulfield. The difference, though, is Eveline's femininity threatens to subsume her fragility. Over the course of the book, she falls deeply in love with a stormy figure who helps bring her to disturbing conclusions. Eveline—bent on self-destruction but capable of deep passion, stifled by circumstance but constantly blossoming—is a marvelously complex and tragic figure of disconnection, startlingly real and exposed at all times. (*May*)

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Angst, isolation, and blossoming sexuality are major themes in Hamann's sprawling debut. It comes as no great surprise, then, that the original printing became a cult favorite among younger readers and that several critics compared it favorably to J. D. Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*. On the other hand, most acknowledged the book could have benefited from tighter editing, and one less-than-enthusiastic reviewer found the heroine too self-absorbed for her taste: another disliked the philosophizing. Overall, however, critics hailed *Anthropology of an American Girl* as an impressive first work and credited Hamann with an elegant writing style "that would make a good poet jealous" (*Dallas Morning News*).

### Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Sheila Carter:**

What do you about book? It is not important with you? Or just adding material when you need something to

explain what your own problem? How about your extra time? Or are you busy particular person? If you don't have spare time to accomplish others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have extra time? What did you do? All people has many questions above. They must answer that question due to the fact just their can do that will. It said that about e-book. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is proper. Because start from on kindergarten until university need this Anthropology of an American Girl: A Novel (Random House Reader's Circle) to read.

### **Ruth Davis:**

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### **Mary Linkous:**

In this era globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information better to share. You can find a lot of sources to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You will observe that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended to you personally is Anthropology of an American Girl: A Novel (Random House Reader's Circle) this publication consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. That book was represented how do the world has grown up. The terminology styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. Typically the writer made some research when he makes this book. Honestly, that is why this book ideal all of you.

### **Sean Rusin:**

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