



## Answer Me!

*Jim Goad (Editor)*

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## **Answer Me!** Jim Goad (Editor)

ANSWER Me! is a big black slab of trouble. Originally released as a series of magazines, then a collected edition which sold thousands before going out of print, ANSWER Me! has been blamed for a White House shooting and a triple suicide. It has been banned in several countries and put on trial for obscenity in the USA. Chock full of well-written rants, interviews, and articles on topics ranging from music and subcultures to sex, love, hate, murder, serial killers, and suicide, this fat, gorgeous anthology contains the legendary rantzine's first three issues in their entirety. It also contains sixty new pages of wistful ANSWER Me! memories and tasty new articles written by philanthropist and humanitarian Jim Goad. There's a strong chance that this is the best book ever published. Only an idiot would refuse to buy it.

ANSWER Me! was so wonderful because it reminded me of when my uncle Joey turned me on to National Lampoon when I was eight years old. After National Lampoon I was always looking for uglier forms of humor, and then comes along ANSWER Me! -- Shaun Partridge, Partridge Family Temple

ANSWER Me! is a nasty little book ... more than worth its cover price for the jaw dropping serial killer and suicide guides. -- debased.com

## **Answer Me! Details**

Date : Published February 25th 2015 by Scapegoat Publishing (first published 1994)

ISBN : 9780976403531

Author : Jim Goad (Editor)

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## From Reader Review Answer Me! for online ebook

### Tristan Goding says

The process of reading this felt like a serious disaster, waiting to happen. The thoughts expressed here pull the reader through a very wide range of emotions and, though the writing definitely has a truly sociopathic edge to it, the end result is actually quite fascinating and almost feels like therapy for those of us who have gotten really tired of human hypocrisy. The cultish, almost fascistic quality to the pieces contained within, the desperate fixation on everything evil and downright wrong with every facet of life, in many ways, gives these essays an element of empathy that make the sordid subject matter feel humorous. Just because the writings of Debbie and Jim Goad came across as exploitative and vulgar to many of us does not make their feelings on these things any less valid. From page one, I was ready to puke. As I continued, I was stunned, again and again, by many of the insights expressed here. In short, I recommend it, but only for those who seriously want to be severely challenged in as many ways as they can be.

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### Cynthia Lewis says

Goad is a talented and incisive writer, and I respect talent and incisiveness. I also tend to like writing that pushes the boundaries of what most are comfortable with exploring. With that said, some of the boundary-pushing here seems juvenile, like it was done merely for attention and not as unbounded intellectual exploration.

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### Kendall Moore says

Raw, witty, and with a shock value that does occasionally wear thin. Yet overall, a good zine filled to the brim with disturbed artwork and writing.

Recommended for those of us whose minds have a taste for nihilism and acts of human detritus.

Best Parts:

Death in Bakersfield (article)

Shoot First, Live Free (article)

Swallowed by Jersey (short story)

Essays by Debbie Goad

Top 100 Serial Killers and Mass Murderers

Top 100 Suicides

Interviews with Holly Woodlawn and "Iceberg Slim"

Honorable mention: 24 Hours on the Sunset Strip

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### **Daniel Levesque says**

You want to hate Jim Goad as much as he hates you, but it's hard to put this "Hate zine" compilation down. (Full disclosure: my original four issues, separately, were used against my cousin in a court battle for his kids. He was borrowing them, and the cops came, and they looked at em, and...) I like Debbie's stories as much as Jims, if not more.

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### **Dirk says**

This was the first Jim Goad thing I ever read. It was back in 97 and I almost forgot about this issue. It's maybe my least favorite Answer Me! but it's still interesting, and simultaneously very very depressing.

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### **Roland says**

The most uncomfortable reading experience in my life, but it's still fascinating.

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### **Charlie says**

This is something that would be really unsettling to quite a few people I'd imagine. I think I'm a happy enough person that my worldview is pretty different to that of Jim and Debbie Goad. For the most part this was a comedy read for me with lots of interesting things about serial killers etc. on the side...

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### **Jamie says**

Due for a re-read. I suspect much of this has aged terribly but I care not. Read first at a point when my patience and compassion for other human beings was beginning to wane and hasten its decline as a result. Repulsive yet compelling writing. Occasionally contrived, occasionally quite brilliant. Recommended.

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### **Kevin says**

This book holds the contents of the infinitely interesting suicide issue and serial killer issue of the magazine. One of the harshest things to ever be published. But yeah, it's pretty funny at times as well. Not for the PC-

minded. Is PC even a relevant term anymore?

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### **Cwn\_annwn\_13 says**

A compilation of the first three issues of the underground zine Answer Me! put out by Jim Goad and his now deceased wife Debbie. Interviews with subjects as diverse as Iceberg Slim, David Duke, Anton Lavey and Timothy Leary. Articles like the 100 most spectacular suicides, (which is at times quite hilariously written) going undercover at AA and NA meetings, serial killer profiles, (also made me laugh out loud) among lots of other interesting and diverse topics. The highlight for me though was the misanthropic, hateful rants dished out by the Goads. Further proving my theory that righteous hatred is a beautiful thing.

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### **Sacha Colgate says**

More utterly worthless "transgressive" garbage that should have been thrown in the nearest landfill site at the draft stage. Who cares how "edgy" and "daring" mister Goad is? A "book" full of blundering idiocy, entirely tiresome and predictable "challenging views" pieces, and a worldview that seems to consist of "we're much better than you" (how old are these authors? Five?). You'd probably get more coherence and sense out of a packet of Doritos, all being told.

And oh yeah, by the way, what are we to make of Goad's positive views on Peter Sotos? "Time will vindicate Peter Sotos", eh Jim? Fat chance of that, my good man - Sotos has been widely and deservedly forgotten about, and hopefully he'll never put pen to paper again.

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### **Varmint says**

Imagine a violent drunk in a bar. He's wandering around, ranting about something, and brandishing a broken bottle at various customers.

Imagine that he's actually fascinating. His high volume hate filled threats sound like the best of Hunter Thompson, or Burroughs, or Bukowski with all the tired hippie niceness burnt away.

Really not for everyone. Goad will find a way to get under your skin and offend you, no matter how open minded you think you are.

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### **Audrey says**

It was interesting, but a bit of a burden to read. One can only wallow in the mire for so long before it becomes oppressive.

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### Thomas says

This book isn't really True Crime (though it has a lot in it), but I'm too lazy to create a new category for Jim and Debbie Goad. I always liked this totally mean spirited, nihilistic book. I know after I got it, I immediately read it straight through in one sitting. To me, that warrants at least 3 stars. Jim Goad goes on about himself too much, bragging that he's creating the ultimate zine. It reminds me of Howard Stern talking too much about his ratings-- BORING! But Debbie Goad (I think they are divorced now, so I'm not sure what last name she is going by now) Anyway-- Debbie Goad's rants are some of the most poisonous writing I've ever read-- In Answer Me!, I think her pieces are the real monsters.

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### Shadow Girl says

I can't tell you, for sure, when I first got my hands on this.

I can remember getting one of the first three 'issues', mailing away for it to some unknown P.O. Box after a buddy sent me info about it. He said, "Hey, you like fucked up shit, check out this (forgive me...) 'zine!"

It was perfect - full of dirt, grime, and grainy pictures.

Jim & Debbie Goad were a pissed off couple who hated everything, except each-other, and I was obsessed. I got a letter some time later. Something personal was happening, so they were putting *ANSWER ME! The First Three* together in one issue, with a glossy cover and a bit of supplemental material, to raise some dough. I sent for it the same day!

I've read this cover to cover HUNDREDS of times.

The pages still leave ink stains on my fingers, it's beat up and worn.

I still sometimes worry about the person who finds it after I die...

Serial killers, suicides, Dr. Kevorkian - (he was very much alive and in business when they called him. And since the good doctor was dealing death [practicality] right around the corner from me, it was that much cooler!). It still feels wrong, and dirty. I wouldn't sell it for anything!

I always wanted *ANSWER ME! Issue 4*, the RAPE issue, and everything else advertised in the back of my copy. I never sent for anything after finding out that the 'something personal' that was going on came to a sad end. I didn't know if address were changed, if people moved around, then it would slip my mind until the next time I picked it up again.

I'm going to stop writing this now, so I can read up on what Jim Goad & Goad To Hell have posted on... Goodreads!? Really?! I'm smirking at this, but... hey - freaks of the world, UNITE! Why not here?

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