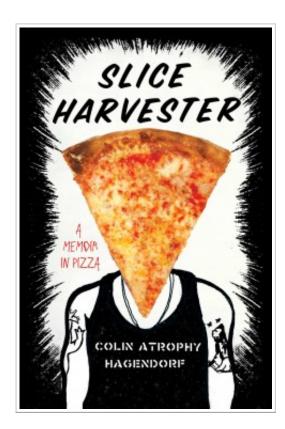
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# **Slice Harvester**

A Memoir in Pizza by Colin Atrophy Hagendorf

Price: \$23.00(Hardcover) Published: August 11, 2015

Rating: 0.0/5 (0 votes cast)

**From the Publisher:** Over the course of two years, a twentysomething punk rocker eats a cheese slice from every pizzeria in New York City, gets sober, falls in love, and starts a blog that captures headlines around the world—he is the Slice Harvester, and this is his story.

Since its arrival on US shores in 1905, pizza has risen from an obscure ethnic food to an iconic symbol of American culture. It has visited us in our dorm rooms and apartments, sometimes before we'd even unpacked or painted. It has nourished us during our jobs, consoled us during break-ups, and celebrated our triumphs right alongside us.

In August 2009, Colin Hagendorf set out to review every regular slice of pizza in Manhattan, and his blog, Slice Harvester, was born. Two years and nearly 400 slices later, he'd been featured in The Wall Street Journal, the Daily News (New...

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## What We Say

Well, I didn't expect this! Some young punk -- literally, he loves punk; I'm not being dismissive or Cagney-esque -got a clever idea. Go to every pizza by the slice joint in Manhattan and review them all, one by one. He starts a blog. He launches a zine. He gets media attention because, like I said, it's a good idea and he wrote entertainingly about it. Good for him. But a book? For whatever reason I casually started it (I skim a lot of books these days, panning for gold) and suddenly I was hooked. Yes, he writes amusingly about pizza, even pointing me to some joints I need to check out. But this isn't a glorified collection of blog posts. It's a full blown memoir about growing up a disgruntled, pain in the ass kid who found salvation and meaning in the subculture of punk. Hagendorf (love the name!) is charmingly self-deprecating about his childhood, perceptive and smart in depicting life as he saw it then with enough detached amusement to be charming without ever demeaning the oh so passionate viewpoint of his younger self. Then we see him out on his own delivering burritos and other...stuff, developing a serious drinking problem, being in a band (natch) and having a friend die by choking on his own vomit at far too young an age. Within a year, Hagendorf has decided to do SOMETHING with his life and it might as well be this cockamie pizza idea. He launches the blog, starts to date a super terrific gal who's way too cool for him yet somehow sticks around even as his drinking gets worse (taking a job at a bar didn't help) and ultimately sobering up. Plus pizza! He works in all this along with effective sketches of various pizza owners and the changing neighborhoods they are found in. It's sweet, moving, breezy and guick. And far more than an ode to pizza by the slice, but it's that too. I'll bet he's got a novel in him somewhere; presumably he'll write it in the booth of one of his favorite joints. -- Michael Giltz

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## What Others Say

"Hagendorf's popular Slice Harvester blog chronicled his quest to eat and review a slice of cheese pizza from every pizzeria in Manhattan. In this entertaining memoir, he mashes up that journey with the topics of addiction, family, punk rock, nostalgia, and love. ... Full of drinking binges, colorful characters from the punk scene, and random asides, like comparing a slice to Anthony Kiedis, the narrative takes readers on a roller-coaster ride." - **Publishers Weekly** 

"It speaks to me man. It's about New York and pizza and getting your shit together. That's what I'm about and what I'm trying to be about." - **Himanshu Suri, rapper** 

What You Say

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