



## A Visit from the Goon Squad

By Jennifer Egan

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Bennie is an aging former punk rocker and record executive. Sasha is the passionate, troubled young woman he employs. Here Jennifer Egan brilliantly reveals their pasts, along with the inner lives of a host of other characters whose paths intersect with theirs. With music pulsing on every page, *A Visit from the Goon Squad* is a startling, exhilarating novel of self-destruction and redemption.

National Bestseller

National Book Critics Circle Award Winner

PEN/Faulkner Award Finalist

*A New York Times Book Review* Best Book

One of the Best Books of the Year: *Boston Globe*, *Chicago Tribune*, *The Daily Beast*, *The Miami Herald*, *The Minneapolis Star-Tribune*, *Newsday*, *NPR's On Point*, *O, the Oprah Magazine*, *People*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Salon*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Seattle Times*, *Slate*, *Time*, *The Washington Post*, and *Village Voice*

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## **A Visit from the Goon Squad** By Jennifer Egan Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #6989 in Books
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- Original language: English
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### Editorial Review

#### From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. Readers will be pleased to discover that the star-crossed marriage of lucid prose and expertly deployed postmodern switcheroos that helped shoot Egan to the top of the genre-bending new school is alive and well in this graceful yet wild novel. We begin in contemporaryish New York with kleptomaniac Sasha and her boss, rising music producer Bennie Salazar, before flashing back, with Bennie, to the glory days of Bay Area punk rock, and eventually forward, with Sasha, to a settled life. By then, Egan has accrued tertiary characters, like Scotty Hausmann, Bennie's one-time bandmate who all but dropped out of society, and Alex, who goes on a date with Sasha and later witnesses the future of the music industry. Egan's overarching concerns are about how rebellion ages, influence corrupts, habits turn to addictions, and lifelong friendships fluctuate and turn. Or as one character asks, How did I go from being a rock star to being a fat fuck no one cares about? Egan answers the question elegantly, though not straight on, as this powerful novel chronicles how and why we change, even as the song stays the same. (*June*)

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#### From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Critics loved Egan's newest novel, describing it as "audacious" and "extraordinary" (*Philadelphia Inquirer*). In the hands of a less-gifted writer, Egans's time-hopping narrative, unorthodox format, and motley cast of characters might have failed spectacularly. But it works here, primarily because each person shines within his or her individual chapter that offers a distinct voice and a fascinating backstory. A few reviewers mentioned the uneven nature of the chapters and the different stylistic experiments within them. Yet, hailed as "a frequently dazzling piece of layer-cake metafiction" (*Entertainment Weekly*), *A Visit from the Goon Squad* is a gutsy novel that succeeds on all levels.

#### Review

"Pitch perfect. . . . Darkly, rippling funny. . . . Egan possesses a satirist's eye and a romance novelist's heart."

—*The New York Times Book Review*

"At once intellectually stimulating and moving. . . . Like a masterful album, this one demands a replay."

—*The San Francisco Chronicle*

"A new classic of American fiction."

—*Time*

"Audacious, extraordinary."

—*Philadelphia Inquirer*

"A spiky, shape-shifting new book. . . . A display of Egan's extreme virtuosity."

—*The New York Times*

"Wildly ambitious. . . . A tour de force. . . . Music is both subject and metaphor as Egan explores the mutability of time, destiny, and individual accountability post-technology."

—*O, The Oprah Magazine*

“The smartest book you can get your hands on.”

—*Los Angeles Times*

“A rich and unforgettable novel about decay and endurance, about individuals in a world as it changes around them. . . . [Egan] is one of the most talented writers today.”

—*The New York Review of Books*

“It ends in the same place it starts, except that everything has changes, including you, the reader.”

—*The New Republic*

“Clever. Edgy. Groundbreaking. . . . Features characters about whom you come to care deeply as you watch them doing things they shouldn’t, acting gloriously, infuriatingly human.”

—*The Chicago Tribune*

“Egan’s bravura fifth book samples from different eras (the glory days of punk; a slick, socially networked future) and styles (sly satire, moving tragedy, even PowerPoint) to explore the interplay between music and the rough rhythms of life.”

—*Vogue*

“Told with both affection and intensity, *Goon Squad* stands as a brilliant, all-absorbing novel for the beach, the woods, the air-conditioned apartment or the city stoop while wearing your iPod. Stay with this one.”

—Alan Cheuse, NPR’s *All Things Considered*

“Brilliant, inventive. . . . Emboldening. It cracks the world open afresh. . . . Would that Marcel Proust could receive [a copy]. It would blow his considerable mind. . . . Expect to inhale Egan’s *A Visit From the Goon Squad*. Then expect it to lodge in your cranium and your breastbone a good long while.”

—*Cleveland Plain Dealer*

“Frequently dazzling. . . . Egan’s expert flaying of human foibles has the compulsive allure of poking at a sore tooth: excruciating but exhilarating too.”

—*Entertainment Weekly*

“If Egan is our reward for living through the self-conscious gimmicks and ironic claptrap of postmodernism, then it was all worthwhile. . . . [A] triumph of technical bravado and tender sympathy. . . . Turn up the music, skip the college reunion and curl up with *The Goon Squad* instead.”

—*The Washington Post*

“*A Visit From the Goon Squad* should cement [Egan’s] reputation as one of America’s best, and least predictable, literary novelists.”

—Taylor Antrim, *The Daily Beast*

“Brilliantly structured. . . . We are pulled right in. . . . [Egan is] a boldly intellectual writer who is not afraid to apply her equally powerful intuitive skills to her ambitious projects.”

—*Elle*

“This is art at its best—as a bulwark against the goon, as it embodies everything at once.”

—*Austin American Statesman*

“An exhilarating, big-hearted, three-headed beast of a story. . . . We see ourselves in all of Egan’s characters

because their stories of heartbreak and redemption seem so real they could be our own, regardless of the soundtrack. Such is the stuff great novels are made of.”

—Marie-Claire

“For all its postmodern flourishes, *Goon Squad* is as traditional as a Dickens novel. . . . [Egan’s] aim is not so much to explode traditional storytelling as to explore how it responds to the pressures and opportunities of the digital age.”

—Newsweek

“Egan has accomplished the tricky feat of using metafiction techniques without sacrificing old-fashioned story-telling. . . . *A Visit from the Goon Squad* has a circuitous structure that seems almost designed for our Internet rewired brains.”

—The Wall Street Journal

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Francisca Varney:

What do you regarding book? It is not important together with you? Or just adding material if you want something to explain what your own problem? How about your extra time? Or are you busy man? If you don't have spare time to do others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have spare time? What did you do? Everybody has many questions above. They must answer that question due to the fact just their can do that will. It said that about publication. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is appropriate. Because start from on pre-school until university need this particular *A Visit from the Goon Squad* to read.

#### Samantha Williams:

The knowledge that you get from *A Visit from the Goon Squad* is the more deep you searching the information that hide inside the words the more you get considering reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to know but *A Visit from the Goon Squad* giving you excitement feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in certain way that can be understood by means of anyone who read this because the author of this e-book is well-known enough. That book also makes your personal vocabulary increase well. So it is easy to understand then can go together with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having this kind of *A Visit from the Goon Squad* instantly.

#### Arlene Wilson:

This book untitled *A Visit from the Goon Squad* to be one of several books in which best seller in this year, that's because when you read this book you can get a lot of benefit upon it. You will easily to buy this kind of book in the book retailer or you can order it through online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, because you can read this book in your Smartphone. So there is no reason for your requirements to past this reserve from your list.

**Glenn Connelly:**

The actual book A Visit from the Goon Squad will bring someone to the new experience of reading the book. The author style to clarify the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book to study, this book very ideal to you. The book A Visit from the Goon Squad is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book from the official web site, so you can easier to read the book.

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