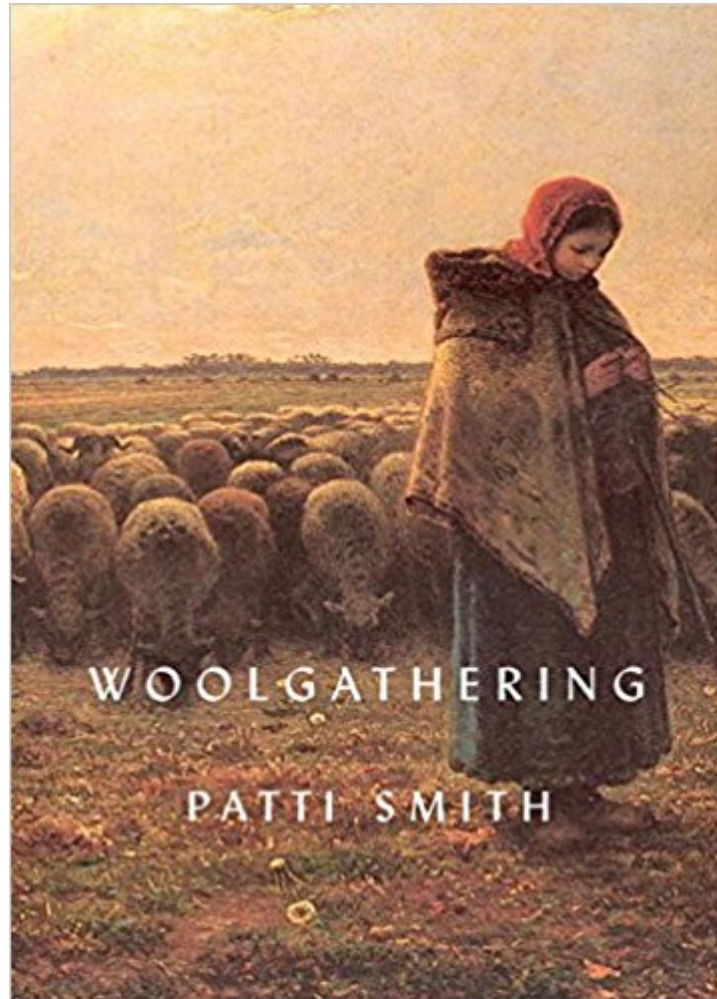




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# Woolgathering



## Synopsis

The National Book Award-winning Patti Smith presents a treasure box of a childhood memoir about “clear unspeakable joy” and “just the wish to know.” A great book about becoming an artist, *Woolgathering* tells of a youngster finding herself as she learns the noble vocation of woolgathering, “a worthy calling that seemed a good job for me.” She discovers “often at night, often in nature” the pleasures of rescuing “a fleeting thought.” Deeply moving, *Woolgathering* calls up our own memories, as the child “glimpses and gleans, piecing together a crazy quilt of truths.” Smith introduces us to her tribe, “a race of cloud dwellers,” and to the fierce, vital pleasures of cloud watching and stargazing and wandering. A radiant new autobiographical piece, “Two Worlds” (which was not in the original 1992 *Hanuman* edition of *Woolgathering*), and the author’s photographs and illustrations are also included. *Woolgathering* celebrates the sacred nature of creation with Smith’s beautiful style, acclaimed as “glorious” (NPR), “spellbinding” (Booklist), “rare and ferocious” (Salon), and “shockingly beautiful” (New York Magazine). Black-and-white illustrations

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“A poet of distinction.” - The New York Times “Smith is well attuned to the otherworldly dimension of dreams and cosmic visions. In this intimate and vaulting collection, she

ushers us into the kingdom of childhood. Smith looks to family history for sources of her artistic impulses and portrays herself in adulthood as a roaming mystic, journal in hand, heart and mind open. Exultations of concentrated beauty and mystery ignite Smith's soulful poems about the making of an artist. - Booklist "Capturing moments of her adult life, Smith pares down her prose to a state of vivid impressionism, so enigmatic that even ordinary acts - preparing mint tea, nodding off while sewing - take on spiritual weight. - The Guardian

Patti Smith is a poet, performer, visual artist, and author of the National Book Award-winning memoir *Just Kids*. She has twelve albums, has had numerous gallery shows, and continues to give concerts of her music and poetry. Her books include *Early Work*, *The Coral Sea*, *Witt*, *Babel*, *Auguries of Innocence*, *Woolgathering*, *Land 250*, *Trois*, and many others. She lives in New York.

Forty years ago, Patti Smith changed rock music with the release of *Horses*. She combined Beat sensibility with outraged punk, confounding critics and listeners alike. She embraced androgyny, sexuality, sensuality and sensibility in her music, poetry, writing and spoken word performance art, and was Robert Mapplethorpe's muse. Now she has emerged as one of America's finest prose writers, and most certainly *Woolgathering* is a testament to her talent. Written and published when Smith turned 45, *Woolgathering* is a collection of childhood memories, stories she says are true as she remembers them. They are woven together in a stream-of-consciousness recollection, reading *Woolgathering* is like lying on the grass on a summer afternoon staring up at the sky and watching clouds drift and float and meander overhead. The sky is Smith's narrative, and her memories clouds. It makes no difference that almost 25 years has past since Smith spent some time gathering the wool of her memories and imagination and translated them into ink on paper. Don't expect *Just Kids*, don't expect *Babel*; have no expectations, and just relax and read as if sky-gazing as clouds pass overhead.

Patti Smith has such an unusual mind and way of expressing its thoughts. I am a big fan and can only say that for those people who like her unique self this book is a pleasure. Also as it is short it might be a nice introduction for those readers who are not familiar with her or her written work.

Patti Smith is an icon and I didn't get the chance to see her last week when she was in town so I bought her books and music instead.

I ordered the hard cover edition, which is a skinny little, beautiful book. It can be read in small, delicious bites.

Wonderful book

good book, but liked M Train better, Just Kids as well.

I love everything Patti Smith writes about. This is a beautiful book her fans will love. Thanks for sending it quickly and in great condition.

This is a beautiful, magical little book. Patti Smith is such a fantastic writer. This book is very small. I read it within the hour. I really wanted it so I could put it on my bookshelf along with my other Patti Smith books and poetry collections I have. I'll be reading this again. Her words are haunting.

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