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## Feminist AF:

## A Guide to Crushing Girlhood

## Brittney Cooper, Susana M. Morris, and Chanel Craft Tanner Are Your Fly Big Sisters in Feminist AF

Los Angeles, CA (October 5, 2021) – The pressures girls face from society, peers, and the media are so intense, it's easy to feel completely lost. Discovering feminist models and leaders can be the difference between struggling and thriving, especially for young womxn of color who encounter their own unique challenges. In their new book Feminist AF: A Guide to Crushing Girlhood (Norton Young Readers, October 5, 2021), activists and educators Brittney Cooper, Susana M. Morris, and Chanel Craft Tanner help girls live their feminism out loud.



The resonant and personal tone of Cooper's bestselling Eloquent Rage finds a new audience in young readers, joining forces with Morris and Tanner to form a feminist trio daring to address issues relevant to young people today. Feminist AF cuts to the chase, offering candid insights on friendships, bodies, family dynamics, emotional health, pop culture, dating, sex, sexism, racism, homophobia, classism, and xenophobia.

Applying feminist theory has never been more freeing— or more fun. The voices of Cooper, Morris, and Tanner make up the warm heart of Feminist AF, speaking from the position of a "fly big sister" or "cool Auntie." Even the toughest topics are approached in an intimate, thoughtful, and accessible way. The advice in each chapter speaks to questions Black and brown girls often won't find addressed in white feminist texts: What do you do when you feel like your natural hair is ugly, or when classmates keep touching it? How do you handle your self-confidence if your family or culture prizes fair-skinned womxn over darker-skinned ones? How do you balance your identities if you're an immigrant or a child of immigrants? In "Rock Your Body," a chapter on self-love and body acceptance, a central refrain of affirmation embraces the reader wherever they stand: "Big girl, we see you... Disabled girl, we see you... Trans girls, bois, and nonbinary people... we see you." This foundation of understanding runs deep throughout Feminist AF, making space for the concerns of young readers often left behind by mainstream feminism.

Cooper, Morris, and Tanner are members of the Crunk Feminist Collective, a group of feminists of color who came of age in the hip-hop generation. The Collective is a space of support and camaraderie for its members to discuss, express, and debate feminist ideas and projects. Crunk Feminist values are the basis of Feminist AF's guiding philosophy: community well-being, irreverence, and— of course— smashing the patriarchy. "Trying to be a damn lady has never been the goal of our feminism," the authors write. "[Crunk music] always gets the party started, and once you've experienced it, you are forever changed... that's also what feminism means to us." Feminist AF also draws from other feminist groups and frameworks, weaving an empowering tapestry across generations. Quotes abound from feminist role models from Audre Lorde to Cardi B. Specially curated lists of books, movies, and music aim to enhance the reader's journey. From the book's three-woman authorship to its recommendations for feminist next steps, Feminist AF is a radical celebration of collaboration and collectivity.

Feminist AF is a deeply empathetic text, acknowledging that the issues girls today are complex and overwhelming. Young feminists will find power and solace not only in the book's actionable information and advice, but in Cooper, Morris, and Tanner's unwavering support. "We cheer for everybody feminist – trans girls, cis girls, girls with disabilities, BIPOC girls, queer girls, working-class girls, nonbinary folx, and our non-girl allies," the authors write. "We wrote this book for freedom. We do this work for girls. If you are Feminist AF or trying to be, this book can help."

Feminist AF: A Guide to Crushing Girlhood is forthcoming from Norton Young Readers on October 5, 2021. It can be purchased in paperback at \$16.95 and ebook at \$9.99 wherever books are sold.