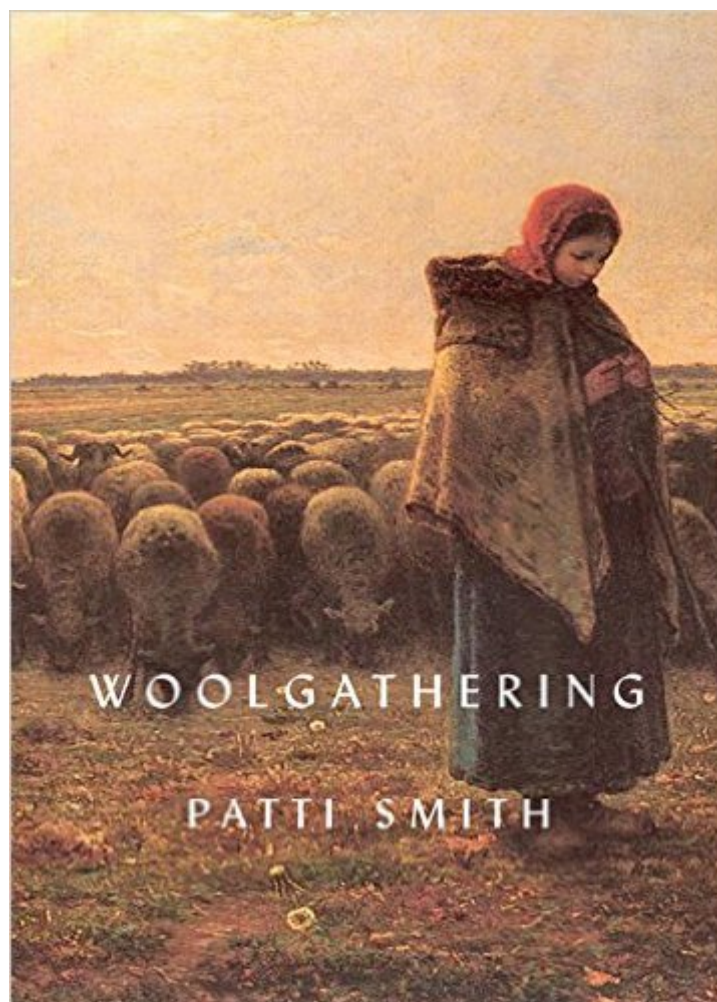


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# Woolgathering



## Synopsis

The National Book Award “winner 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

Hardcover: 80 pages

Publisher: New Directions; 1 edition (November 28, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0811219445

ISBN-13: 978-0811219440

Product Dimensions: 4.9 x 0.7 x 7.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars See all reviews (31 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

The Patti Smith that we so often envision is the one of intensity and power, ranting relentlessly onstage. She is the Patti that is the embodiment of punk, and is busy serving up rebellion and telling ‘the man’ how it is. For more hardcore fans and followers, there is also a Patti that is the intelligent Baudelaire-quoting troubadour. She is the one that has seen so much and shares it all freely for

others to learn. In *Woolgathering*, we are given a look into the creation and life of this powerhouse that delivers a glimpse of fragility and reflection. First published nearly twenty years ago, just after her 45th birthday, *Woolgathering* went largely unnoticed. This remastered edition supplies extended content and photos from the early life of Patti Smith, along with a further look into the icon herself. With intertwining stories from her childhood, those from her early twenties, and the reflection back on them, we are transported into a life that could be anyone's. Smith takes the magic and unawareness that it is to be a child, and draws us into a world that is almost magical, but almost tattered at the same time, managing to write about her childhood experiences without filling in the gaps of knowledge with what she has learned as an adult. She then drifts into the mind of what it is to be in your twenties and think that the world is yours, and that every word, every decision, carries such a heavy importance with it. Flowing easily from the unawareness of childhood, to the self-absorption of young-adulthood, to the self-reflection of later life, *Woolgathering* is a dreamy, yet honest autobiography. There is a quiet intensity that pulls one through the pages of this book that cannot be fully described or credited.

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Woolgathering

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