

Pamela Paul

Writer at Large, *The Wall Street Journal*
Author, *100 Things We've Lost to the Internet*

A keen observer of shifting mores



Biography

Pamela Paul is a bestselling author and Writer at Large at *The Wall Street Journal*. A trusted voice calling for more thorough, thoughtful discourse across the political spectrum, Paul is widely admired for her fearlessness in questioning the status quo and pushing back on ideological orthodoxy. She casts her critical eye on topics like free speech, identity, and gender, tracing their evolution through our society and critiquing the conversations around them—often with humor.

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Topics & Books

Difficult Conversations
Education
Free Speech



Previously, Paul was a former opinion columnist at the *New York Times* and served as Editor of the *New York Times Book Review*, where she oversaw all books coverage at *The Times*. During her 9-year tenure, the Book Review expanded in both in the scope of books it covered, and in the variety of writers who contributed. As the long-time host of the weekly *NYT Book Review Podcast*, Paul interviewed pop-culture icons, political leaders, and literary titans, from actor John Lithgow to Senator Amy Klobuchar to Booker Prize winner George Saunders and repeat guests like Colson Whitehead and David Sedaris. Throughout her time at the Book Review, Paul championed honesty, bravery, and intellectual independence—the same qualities that guide her columns.

Paul is the author of 8 books. Her most recent, *100 Things We've Lost to the Internet* (2021), is 'at once an evocative swan song for a disappearing era, and perhaps a guide to reclaiming just a little bit more of the world IRL.' *The Chicago Tribune* named it one of the ten best books of the year.

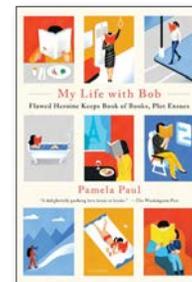
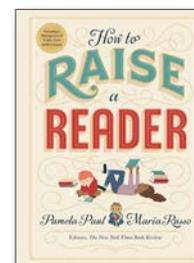
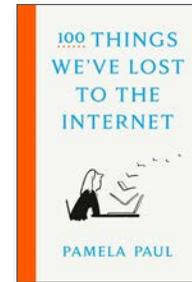
How to Raise a Reader (2019) is a practical guide for parents who wish to instill in their children a lifelong love of reading. Addressing distinct developmental phases, Paul shares tips for establishing a strong reading foundation, such as creating special rituals and building a family library. Rather than fret about screen time, parents can make books a naturally appealing, fortifying alternative to mindless scrolling—a healthy, sustainable way for children to slow down, get lost, and grow their curiosity. Along with her memoir, *My Life with Bob*, she highlights the power of storytelling and the relationship between book and reader as a way to enrich peoples' lives.

Pornified, named one of the best books of 2005 by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, proved prescient in its warning against the normalization and accessibility of extreme content, and how its proliferation affects individuals, relationships, and the very fabric of society.

Always a keen observer of shifting mores, Pamela Paul invites us to examine more closely our own rapidly changing habits and opinions, even if we welcome progressive change.

Her writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, *New York Times Magazine*, *The Atlantic*, *Vogue*, and *The Washington Post*. She was a contributing writer at *Time* and served as a contributor and columnist for *The Economist*. Paul has lived in New York, London, France and Thailand.

She is a graduate of Brown University.



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