

» Cars » Auto Financing » Event Tickets » Jobs » Real Estate » Online Degrees » Business Opportunities » Shopping

Search

How do I find it?

Subscribe to paper »

Advertisement

HOW FAR IS THE OCEAN FROM HERE
A novel by Amy Shearn

"A story that rises incrementally in speed and momentum, from the first page to the last."
— Charles Baxter,
author of *Feast of Love*



Home News Travel Money Sports Life Tech Weather

Become a member of the USA TODAY community now!
Log in | Become a member
What's this?



Life » Books Top 150 Books Shop for Books

5 questions for Janis Ian

Updated 1d 14h ago | Comments 17 | Recommend 11 | E-mail | Save | Print | Reprints & Permissions | [RSS](#)



Enlarge By Peter Cunningham

Janis Ian penned her autobiography, *Society's Child*.

By **Craig Wilson, USA TODAY**

[Mixx it](#)

Other ways to share:

[Yahoo! Buzz](#)

[Digg](#)

[Newsvine](#)

[Reddit](#)

[Facebook](#)

What's this?

Singer Janis Ian's autobiography is aptly called *Society's Child* (Tarcher/Penguin, 361 pp., \$26.95) after her 1966 hit about an interracial relationship. USA TODAY caught up with Ian, 57, by phone at home in Nashville.

1. Was writing this memoir cathartic, painful, wonderful?

All the above. When it came time to write it, I just went right back into therapy!

2. Do you think we've advanced much as a society since 1966, when radio stations refused to play *Society's Child*?

That wouldn't happen now, I don't think. In a lot of ways, yes, we've advanced, and a lot of ways, no. I got married to my (lesbian) partner. How advanced is that? In that sense, it's a very different world. We're not there yet, but we've evolved enormously.

FIND MORE STORIES IN: [Nashville](#) | [Night Live](#) | [Child](#) | [George Carlin](#) | [Janis Ian](#)

3. You were on the first episode of *Saturday Night Live* in 1975, with the late George Carlin, no less. What's your memory?

My memory of that night is foggy. I was sick. I had strep throat. I do remember that Carlin muttered on about wolverines.

4. You turned down doing the soundtrack for *The Graduate*. Your thoughts today?

No regrets. Paul (Simon) did a much better job than I could have ever done at my age.

5. What do you think is the biggest misperception people have about you?

That I'm dead. A radio show recently did a beautiful eulogy of me.

Share this story:

[Mixx it](#)



Enlarge

[Yahoo! Buzz](#) [Digg](#) [Newsvine](#) [Reddit](#) [Facebook](#) What's this?

Posted 1d 14h ago

Updated 1d 14h ago | E-mail | Save | Print | Reprints & Permissions | [RSS](#)

To report corrections and clarifications, contact Reader Editor **Brent Jones**. For publication consideration in the newspaper, send comments to letters@usatoday.com. Include name, phone number, city and state for verification.

Guidelines: You share in the USA TODAY community, so please keep your comments smart and civil. Don't attack other readers personally, and keep your language decent. Use the "Report Abuse" button to make a difference. [Read more.](#)

You must be logged in to leave a comment. [Log in](#) | [Register](#)

Related Advertising Links [What's This?](#)

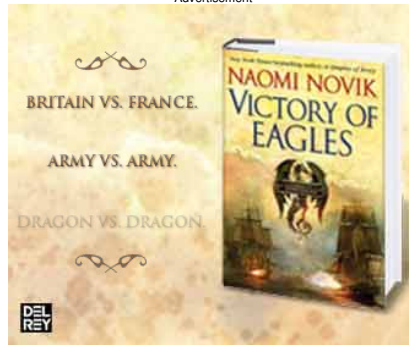
"She has Yellow Teeth"

The Secrets Dentists don't want you to know about Teeth Whitening!
www.best-teeth-whitening.com

"2008 Diet Of The Year"

Finally, A Diet That Really Works! As Seen On CNN, NBC, CBS & Fox News
www.Wu-YiSource.com

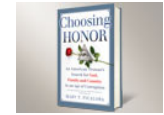
Advertisement



Featured Advertiser

[What's this?](#)

CHOOSING HONOR by Mary T. Ficalora
An American Woman's Search for God, Family, and Country in an Age of Corruption
availpress.com



Submit

Comments: (17) Showing: **Newest first**



Just4Kxx wrote: 11h 17m ago

I recently saw the first episode of SNL for the first time and noticed how stiff and uncomfortable she looked while performing. Her being ill that night might have explained this.

Recommend | Report Abuse



blackhawk84 wrote: 11h 35m ago

I love that song 'at Seventeen"...it was and so great of a song.

Recommend | Report Abuse



thomasf wrote: 13h 34m ago

At Seventeen was and still is a masterpiece of haunting melody and soulful sounds. I love this lady.

Recommend | Report Abuse



me20082 wrote: 15h 55m ago

Geez.....this is the homosexual blog....

Recommend | Report Abuse



me20082 wrote: 15h 57m ago

"I got married to my (lesbian) partner."

There's NO SUCH THING.

Recommend | Report Abuse



PCB wrote: 18h 24m ago

marietx

FYI - a lot of us out here think that lesbians are "ewwwwww" - and your opinion of us is no more important than our opinion of them. Get over yourself and stop portraying yourself as superior - you're not.

Recommend **2** | Report Abuse



marieTX wrote: 19h 55m ago

pacann wrote: 8h 14m ago
Lesbian? ewwwwww. I had no idea

Brainless bigots. Ewwwwwww.

Recommend **3** | Report Abuse



redheart wrote: 21h 22m ago

I just saw the re-run of the SNL after George Carlin died. I had not thought of her in years. The song still sounds good after all these years.

Recommend **1** | Report Abuse



cae43402 wrote: 22h 44m ago

I'm not sure if seventeen was a self portrait of yourself in words, but you definitely were a Beauty Queen. Your beauty was real physically and emotionally.

Recommend **1** | Report Abuse

More comments on this story: [1](#) [2](#) [Next](#) ▶

Sponsored Links

Solar Stock Pick - EVSO
Emerging Green Energy Co. Growth Stock Investment
EvolutionSolar.com

"Teeth Whiteners Exposed"
7 Teeth Whitening Products Tested, Rated, and Reviewed. A Must Read!
www.Best-Teeth-Whitening.com

Free OptionsTrading Workshop-NYC
Learn to trade in all markets like the pro's for Free. Sign up now!
www.bettertrades.com

[Get listed here](#)



Newspaper Home Delivery - Subscribe Today

[Home](#) • [News](#) • [Travel](#) • [Money](#) • [Sports](#) • [Life](#) • [Tech](#) • [Weather](#)

About USATODAY.com: [Site Map](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Jobs with Us](#) | [Terms of Service](#)
[Privacy Policy/Your California Privacy Right](#) | [Media Kit](#) | [Press Room](#) | [Reprints and Permissions](#)

News Your Way: [Mobile News](#) | [Email News](#) | [IM Alerts](#) | [Add USATODAY.com RSS feeds](#) | [Podcasts](#) | [Widgets](#)

Partners: [USA WEEKEND](#) | [Sports Weekly](#) | [Education](#) | [Space.com](#)

Copyright 2008 USA TODAY, a division of Gannett Co. Inc.