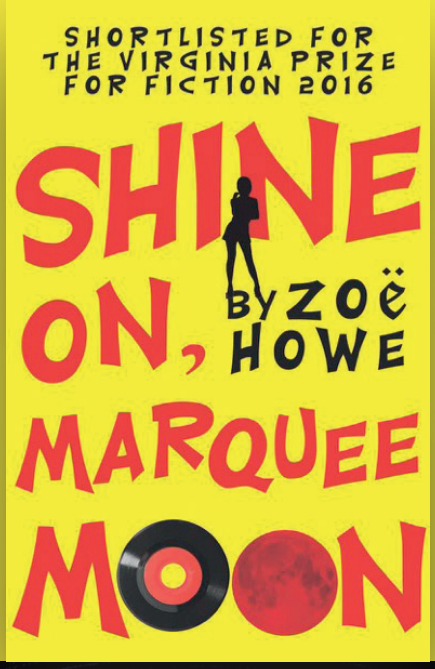
SHORTLISTED FOR THE VIRGINIA PRIZE FOR FICTION 2016



"Shine on, Marquee Moon is everything you'd expect from Zoë Howe: warm, wry, evocative and unconventional. This is an author who knows the idiosyncrasies of the music business and captures them all with candour and affection in a novel that is funny, fierce and better than most comeback tours."

— Jane Bradley, founder and director of For Books' Sake.

'A great story, full of sharp and funny observations. Someone needs to form a Concierge tribute band.'

— Gideon Coe, BBC 6Music

Zoë Howe's crackling account of life around a rock band is fast, funny and superbly well-observed

— MARK ELLEN, music journalist and editor (Smash Hits, The Word, Select, Mojo, Q), broadcaster and author of "Rock Stars Stole My Life"

Shine On, Marquee Moon is a rock 'n' roll love story that celebrates the extremes of life in the music business and challenges the myth of sex, drugs and rock n' roll with plenty of wry humour, strong characters and sharp dialogue along the way. Never mind chick lit; this is rock-chick lit.

Women working behind the scenes in the music industry have, unfairly, received relatively little attention – but respected music writer and musician **Zoë Howe** believes it's time for that to change.

"To have a female protagonist in a rock 'n' roll story who isn't a groupie or a fan is probably fairly unusual. I wanted to tell this story from the perspective of not just a woman who is connected romantically to a musician, but to a woman who is part of the crew. She isn't in awe of the often glamorous world she finds herself in, she's a creative and an equal to the people around her," explains Zoë.

Sylvie is a dresser working for a New Romantic band currently enjoying a 21st century revival. Sylvie becomes romantically involved with Nick – reluctant heart-throb and the least unhinged member of the band – after bonding amid the chaos of touring life over a shared obsession with Television's seminal album 'Marquee Moon'. However, a dark secret threatens to destroy their future together and much more besides… **Shine On, Marquee Moon** exposes the hilarious, heart-wrenching and often bizarre reality of life on and off the road, where the most unlikely people become family, and 'friends' aren't always who they appear to be.

Shine On, Marquee Moon is shortlisted for the Virginia Prize For Fiction 2016.

Zoë Howe is an acclaimed British music writer whose books include *Lee Brilleaux: Rock 'n' Roll Gentleman* (Polygon, 2015), *Barbed Wire Kisses — The Jesus and Mary Chain Story* (Polygon, 2015), *Wilko Johnson — Looking Back At Me* (Cadiz Music Ltd., 2012), *Stevie Nicks — Visions, Dreams and Rumours* (Omnibus Press, 2014) and *Typical Girls? The Story Of The Slits* (Omnibus Press, 2011).

She also plays the drums.

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