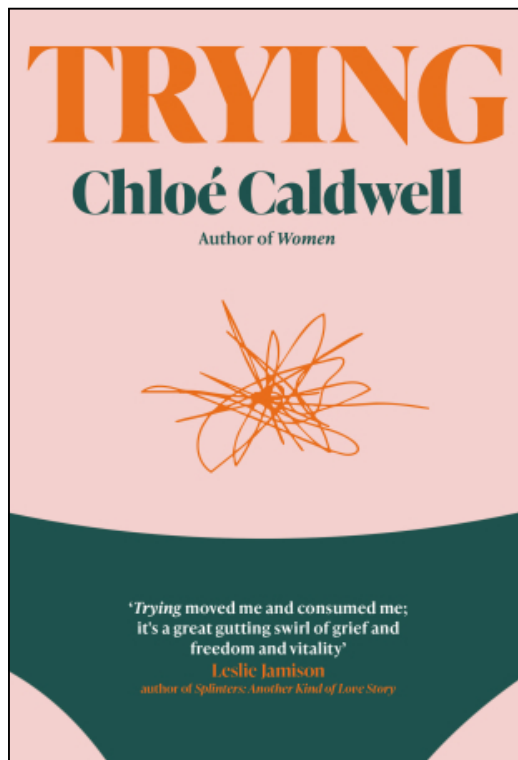




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TRYING

A Memoir

by CHLOÉ CALDWELL

THE BOOK

Everyone loves a story about people who beat the odds. But what about those who didn't?

In the years she spent hoping to conceive a child with her husband, Chloé Caldwell consumed everything she could find on infertility. No matter the book or reddit forum, her experiences seemed absent amid stories of IVF and miracle babies.

Bouncing between her job at a boutique selling 'life-changing pants' and the fertility clinic offering 'innovative ways to create your family', Caldwell ignored the sense that something else in her life was wrong – until she extracted a confession from her husband.

In this candid and intimate memoir, Caldwell confronts the irresolution and uncertainty of those denied their deepest desire to become a mother and discovers how, even in the depths of grief, new pleasures and possibilities can be found.

What begins as an account of trying to create life becomes a bold and brave journey to rebuild one's own.

At once hilarious and heartbreaking, *Trying* reveals how, even when life blows up, sometimes it's only the beginning.

CHLOÉ CALDWELL

Chloé Caldwell is the author of *Women* (Fourth Estate reissue, 2024), the memoir *The Red Zone* (Soft Skull, 2022), and the essay collections *I'll Tell You in Person* (Emily Books/Coffee House Press, 2016) and *Legs Get Led Astray* (Short Flight/Long Drive reissue, 2017). Her essays have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Bon Appétit*, the *Cut*, *Autostraddle*, *Longreads*, and *Nylon*.



MARKETING & SALES POINTS

Powerful, personal and gloriously irreverent, Caldwell's 'memoir in real time' is an unflinching look at a transitional moment in her life and creativity. Caldwell distills her experience with fertility treatment, a troubled marriage and embracing her queerness into a dynamic and punchy narrative perfect for contemporary readers

Chloé Caldwell is already a known figure in the UK and US literary scene for queer cult classic *Women*. Queer press outlets will be targeted for coverage along with VERVE sending advance copies to our extensive list of queer content creators and supporters

For fans of Kirsty Logan's *The Unfamiliar*, *The Argonauts* by Maggie Nelson and *Untamed* by Glennon Doyle

A memoir that, like VERVE's fiction, unveils a distinct voice and perspective and explores timely themes – themes that will resonate with key VERVE audiences (particularly LGBTQ+ readers) but also a wider readership of those interested in motherhood/fertility and page-turning memoirs

PRAISE FOR TRYING

'The queen of irreverence and confessionalism Chloé Caldwell... gives readers a wide-eyed look at her life in a time of great uncertainty. With tenderness, humility, curiosity and familiarity that readers have come to expect from Caldwell, her latest memoir is a touching and liberating look into identity, fertility and becoming' - **Felicia Reich, *Paste Magazine***
'Caldwell's compact and wide-ranging musings are wry surprising and fresh' - **Amy Fusselman, author of *The Means***

'In *Trying*, Caldwell shows – in the most hilarious, heartbreaking ways – how our culture drives women batshit crazy and then pretends this insanity is healthy adulthood. What a relief to watch a woman become truly sane: wild, free, spontaneous, slutty, unapologetic, fully alive' -

Hannah Tennant-Moore, author of *Wreck and Order*

'Confessional writing at its best' - ***Brooklyn Rail***

'*Trying* becomes more about surrendering to the truth of her marriage's implosion while embracing her own infinite potential outside of timeworn heterosexual norms... Her writing slaps, and readers like it... Certain to produce many more books, Caldwell shows readers how to endure catastrophe with aplomb; there can be no better recommendation for literature' - ***Washington Post***

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