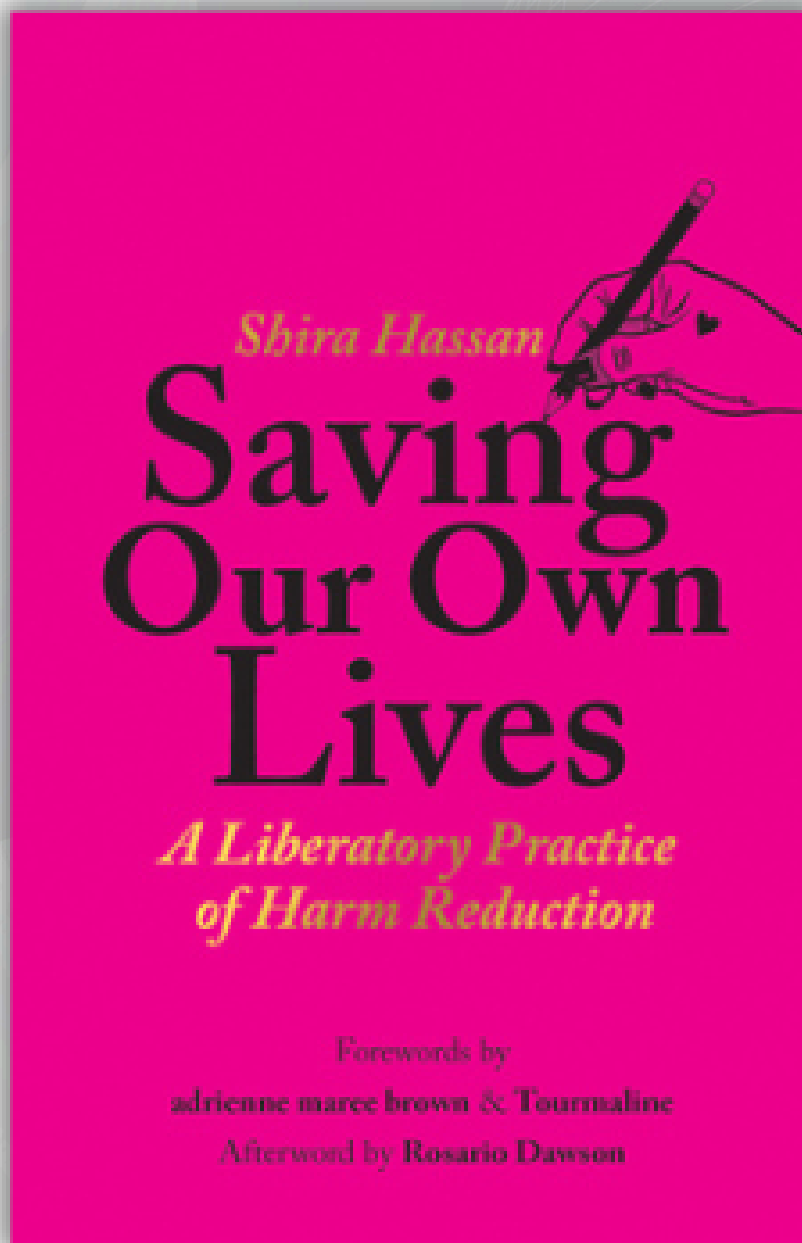




# ACCESS, BELONGING & CONNECTION BOOK CLUB



**LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH**

**MEETING ID: 849 9026 4702**

**PASSWORD: BOOKCLUB**

**9AM PT / 10AM MT / 11AM CT / 12PM ET**

# SAVING OUR OWN LIVES: A LIBERATORY PRACTICE OF HARM REDUCTION

BY SHIRA HASSAN



“Harm Reduction is one of the most important interventions of the 20th century, and yet a compilation of its critical stories and voices was, until now, seemingly nowhere to be found. *Saving Our Own Lives*, an anthology of essays from long-time organizer Shira Hassan, fills this gap by telling the stories of how sex workers, Black, Indigenous, and people of color, queer folks, trans, gender non-conforming, and two-spirit people are – and have been - building systems of change and support outside the societal frameworks of oppression and exploitation. This is a collective story of trans women of color, who were sex workers and radical political organizers, who created shared housing to ensure that young people had safe places to sleep. It is the story of clean syringes, "liberated" from empathetic doctors' offices by activists who were punk women of color who distributed them among injection drug users in squats in the East Village, and the early AIDS activists who made sure that everyone knew how to use them. It is the story of Black Panthers and the Young Lords taking over Lincoln Park Hospital in the Bronx to demand and ultimately create community-accessible drug treatment programs; and of bad date sheets passed between sex workers in Portland, who created a data collection tool that changed how prison abolitionists track systemic violence.

At a political moment when mutual aid and harm reduction are more important than ever, this book serves as an inspiration and a catalyst for radical transformation of our world.”

- Goodreads



# SAVING OUR OWN LIVES: A LIBERATORY PRACTICE OF HARM REDUCTION

BY SHIRA HASSAN

**OCTOBER 25**

**People Power and the Original Harm Reductionists: The History of a Movement** (pg. 42-49)  
**Harm Reduction Is Our Shared Root** (pg. 306-321)

**JANUARY 31**

**Understanding Harm Reduction** (pg. 114-157)  
**Moving Away From Public Health Harm Reduction** (pg. 158-178)  
**We Are Not the Problem- We Are the Solution** (pg. 233-240)

**MARCH 28**

**The Beautiful Mess: Justice in Our Healing** (pg. 193-218)  
**Eating Disorders and Liberatory Harm Reduction** (pg. 248-252)

**MAY 30**

**Applying Liberatory Harm Reduction to Mental Health and Psychiatric Medication** (pg. 241-247)  
**Liberatory Spaces of Glamorous, Queer Punk Rage** (pg. 67-76)

**SEPTEMBER 27**

**Forward** (pg. xiii- xvi)  
**Introduction** (pg. xvii-xix)  
**Welcome** (pg. 1-9)  
Pg.'s 27-37 (excerpt from "Liberatory Harm Reduction Saved My Life")

**NOVEMBER 22**

**Indigenizing Harm Reduction** (pg. 106-113)  
**We Go Where Our People Are** (pg. 94-105)

**FEBRUARY 28**

**Transformative Justice and Liberatory Harm Reduction** (pg. 261-286)  
**The Intersection of Healing Justice and Harm Reduction in Liberatory Practice** (pg. 220-232)

**APRIL 25**

**Harm Reduction is Disability Justice: It's Not Out There, It's in Here** (pg. 180-186)  
**Harm Reduction is Grace in Action** (pg. 322-328)  
**The System Is Not Broken, but It Will Break Us if We Do Not Work Together to Dismantle It** (pg. 77-82)