

ERA OF IGNITION

Coming of Age in a Time of Rage and Revolution

By Amber Tamblyn

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In *Era of Ignition*, actor, poet, director, and activist [Amber Tamblyn](#) (b. 1983) tells us what our Gen Y daughters are teaching their Gen Alpha daughters. We follow Tamblyn on the campaign trail for Hillary Clinton (in 2008 and 2016), and as she tries to get a seat at the table for a film deal (*Paint It Black*, 2016). In 2017, eight-and-a-half months pregnant, Tamblyn takes us to the first [Women's March](#) in D.C., and in the wake of public allegations against Harvey Weinstein, as her plus-one to Megan Ellison's inaugural meeting of twenty women to found [Time's Up](#). Sisters in solidarity critically examine and define abuses of power—harassment, discrimination, inequality, and underrepresentation—in all workplaces. The small proportion of survivors who come forward are routinely shamed, discredited, blamed, and gaslighted. In a *New York Times* op-ed, September 16, 2017, Tamblyn tells us why she's "[done with not being believed](#)." Also in the *Times*, in an [open letter](#), January 1, 2018, she and three hundred peers in the entertainment industry unveil Time's Up, its \$13 million (and growing) legal defense fund, and calls for legislative penalties and gender parity across industries. About our male allies, Tamblyn says, "We can show them the path, but it is up to them to take the journey" (233). To her daughter Marlow, Tamblyn concludes, "This world may leave you feeling as lost as a locket in the ocean To find yourself in it, pull the pin on your instincts and detonate" (254). —Lisa Thaler (author, *Look Up: The Life and Art of Sacha Kolin*), 29 September 2021