

# big interview with dan rather

**big interview with dan rather** offers an in-depth exploration of one of the most influential figures in American journalism. This comprehensive article delves into Dan Rather's illustrious career, his approach to journalism, and the impact of his reporting on the media landscape. As a pioneering news anchor and correspondent, Rather's experiences provide valuable insights into the evolution of broadcast journalism. The discussion covers his early beginnings, major interviews, challenges faced during his tenure, and his legacy in the industry. Readers will gain a thorough understanding of why a big interview with Dan Rather remains significant for media professionals and audiences alike. The article is structured to provide a detailed overview, followed by focused sections on various aspects of his professional life.

- Early Career and Rise to Prominence
- Notable Interviews and Reporting Highlights
- Challenges and Controversies
- Contributions to Journalism and Legacy
- Insights from the Big Interview with Dan Rather

## Early Career and Rise to Prominence

Dan Rather began his journalism career in the 1950s, rapidly establishing himself as a dedicated and fearless reporter. His early work at smaller stations helped him develop a strong reporting style that combined thorough research with compelling storytelling. Over the years, Rather transitioned to larger networks, eventually joining CBS News, where he gained national recognition. His coverage of significant events such as the Civil Rights Movement and the Vietnam War positioned him as a trusted voice in American journalism. The big interview with Dan Rather sheds light on these formative years and how they shaped his professional ethos.

## Initial Roles and Local Reporting

Starting as a reporter and news anchor in Texas, Dan Rather honed his skills by covering local stories that demanded accuracy and responsiveness. This phase was crucial in building his reputation for reliability and in-depth reporting. The experience he gained in smaller markets prepared him for the complexities of national news coverage.

## Joining CBS and National Recognition

Dan Rather's move to CBS marked a pivotal moment in his career. As a correspondent and later as

the anchor of the CBS Evening News, he reported on landmark historical events, earning accolades and respect across the industry. His distinctive voice and authoritative presence became synonymous with trusted news delivery.

## **Notable Interviews and Reporting Highlights**

The big interview with Dan Rather highlights numerous landmark moments in broadcast journalism. His interviews with world leaders, cultural icons, and influential figures demonstrate his ability to extract insightful information and present it clearly to viewers. These interviews often went beyond surface-level questions, addressing critical issues and uncovering new perspectives.

### **Interviews with Political Figures**

Throughout his career, Dan Rather conducted interviews with presidents, senators, and international leaders. His approach combined respect with incisive questioning, ensuring that important topics received thorough examination. These interviews contributed significantly to public understanding of political affairs.

### **Coverage of Historic Events**

From the assassination of President John F. Kennedy to the Watergate scandal and beyond, Rather's reporting has been central to some of the most defining moments in American history. His presence on the ground during these events and his ability to convey complex issues in an accessible manner elevated the standards of broadcast news.

### **Major Awards and Recognitions**

Dan Rather's work has been recognized with numerous awards, reflecting his impact on journalism. Notable accolades include multiple Emmy Awards, Peabody Awards, and recognition from journalistic institutions for excellence in reporting.

## **Challenges and Controversies**

Despite his success, Dan Rather's career was not without challenges and controversies. The big interview with Dan Rather addresses some of the more difficult moments, including criticism of his reporting methods and editorial decisions. These experiences illustrate the complexities faced by journalists in maintaining integrity while navigating political and corporate pressures.

### **The Rathergate Incident**

One of the most significant controversies in Rather's career involved the 2004 report on President George W. Bush's military service, which was later challenged for authenticity. The fallout from this incident led to a reevaluation of journalistic standards and had lasting effects on Rather's career.

trajectory.

## **Maintaining Credibility in a Changing Media Landscape**

Throughout his career, Rather adapted to the evolving media environment, including the rise of digital news and changing audience expectations. This section explores how he managed credibility and trustworthiness amid these shifts.

## **Contributions to Journalism and Legacy**

Dan Rather's influence extends beyond his reporting to shaping journalistic practices and mentoring new generations of reporters. His commitment to uncovering the truth and providing comprehensive news coverage has left an enduring mark on the profession. The big interview with Dan Rather emphasizes his role as a pioneer in broadcast journalism and his dedication to public service through news.

## **Innovations in Broadcast Journalism**

Rather contributed to innovations in news presentation and investigative reporting. His work helped elevate broadcast journalism to a more analytical and in-depth form, moving beyond simple news delivery to contextual storytelling.

## **Mentorship and Advocacy**

Throughout his career, Dan Rather has been an advocate for journalistic integrity and freedom of the press. He has mentored numerous journalists and spoken publicly about the responsibilities of media in a democratic society.

## **Continuing Impact**

Even after retiring from daily news anchoring, Rather remains active in journalism through documentaries, lectures, and online platforms. His ongoing engagement ensures that his insights continue to influence the field.

## **Insights from the Big Interview with Dan Rather**

The big interview with Dan Rather offers unique perspectives on his career, the challenges faced by journalists, and the future of news media. His reflections provide valuable lessons on perseverance, ethical reporting, and adapting to change within the industry.

## Perspectives on Journalism Ethics

In the interview, Rather discusses the importance of accuracy, fairness, and accountability in journalism. He stresses that these principles are essential to maintaining public trust and upholding democratic values.

## Views on Media Evolution

Rather addresses the transformation of media in the digital age, highlighting both opportunities and obstacles. He emphasizes the need for journalists to embrace innovation without compromising quality or integrity.

## Advice for Aspiring Journalists

Drawing from his extensive career, Dan Rather offers advice for those entering the field. Key recommendations include dedication to truth, continuous learning, and resilience in the face of adversity.

- Commit to thorough research and fact-checking
- Maintain impartiality and avoid sensationalism
- Adapt to new technologies and platforms
- Engage audiences with compelling yet responsible storytelling
- Uphold journalistic ethics under all circumstances

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is 'Big Interview with Dan Rather' about?

'Big Interview with Dan Rather' is a television series hosted by veteran journalist Dan Rather, featuring in-depth interviews with influential leaders, newsmakers, and cultural icons.

### Who is Dan Rather?

Dan Rather is an American journalist and former news anchor known for his long career with CBS News, where he covered major events and conducted high-profile interviews.

## Where can I watch 'Big Interview with Dan Rather'?

The show is available on AXS TV and can also be streamed on various platforms that carry AXS TV content.

## What types of guests appear on 'Big Interview with Dan Rather'?

Guests include politicians, entertainers, authors, and other prominent figures who have made significant contributions to their fields or society.

## How is 'Big Interview with Dan Rather' different from other interview shows?

The show stands out due to Dan Rather's extensive journalistic experience, offering deep, insightful conversations that explore the guests' personal and professional lives.

## When did 'Big Interview with Dan Rather' first premiere?

The show premiered in 2013, bringing Dan Rather back to television with a focus on long-form interviews.

## Is 'Big Interview with Dan Rather' suitable for educational purposes?

Yes, the program provides valuable historical and cultural insights through its interviews, making it a useful resource for educators and students interested in journalism and current affairs.

## Additional Resources

### 1. *The Big Interview: Mastering the Art of Conversation with Dan Rather*

This book delves into the techniques and strategies Dan Rather uses to conduct compelling and insightful interviews. It explores how to prepare, ask meaningful questions, and engage with interviewees to bring out their best stories. Readers gain practical advice on how to improve their own interviewing skills.

### 2. *Dan Rather's Legacy: Lessons from a Legendary Journalist*

A comprehensive look at Dan Rather's career, this book highlights his most significant interviews and reporting moments. It provides insights into his journalistic integrity, perseverance, and the impact of his work on American media. The book also discusses his interview style and how it shaped public discourse.

### 3. *Inside the Interview Room: Techniques from Dan Rather*

Focusing on the psychological and interpersonal aspects of interviewing, this book breaks down Dan Rather's approach to connecting with subjects. It explains how to build trust, read body language, and adapt questions on the fly. Journalists and communicators will find valuable tips for conducting interviews that resonate.

#### 4. *Conversations that Matter: Inspired by Dan Rather's Big Interviews*

This book compiles some of Dan Rather's most memorable interviews and analyzes what made them impactful. It offers readers frameworks for initiating meaningful dialogue in various contexts, from journalism to business. The emphasis is on listening actively and asking thoughtful questions.

#### 5. *The Interviewer's Toolkit: Strategies from Dan Rather*

A practical guide for aspiring interviewers, this book outlines essential skills such as research, question formulation, and handling difficult subjects. Drawing from Dan Rather's experiences, it shows how to stay composed under pressure and maintain journalistic ethics. The book includes exercises to sharpen interviewing abilities.

#### 6. *Breaking News: Dan Rather and the Evolution of Interview Journalism*

This title traces the history of televised interviews and how Dan Rather contributed to its evolution. It examines changes in media technology, audience expectations, and the role of the interviewer. Readers gain an understanding of the challenges and opportunities in modern interview journalism.

#### 7. *Voices of Truth: Dan Rather's Pursuit of Authentic Storytelling*

Highlighting Rather's commitment to authenticity, this book explores how he seeks out genuine voices and stories. It discusses techniques for uncovering deeper truths beyond surface-level answers. The narrative emphasizes ethical storytelling and the power of interviews to inform and inspire.

#### 8. *The Power of Questions: Insights from Dan Rather's Interview Style*

This book focuses exclusively on the art of questioning and its critical role in interviews. Using examples from Dan Rather's work, it teaches readers how to craft questions that elicit revealing and honest responses. The text also covers follow-up techniques and managing interview dynamics.

#### 9. *Interviewing with Impact: Dan Rather's Guide to Engaging Audiences*

Aimed at media professionals and communicators, this book offers strategies for creating interviews that captivate and educate audiences. It explores narrative structure, pacing, and emotional intelligence in the context of Dan Rather's interviews. Readers learn how to balance information delivery with storytelling to maximize impact.

## **Big Interview With Dan Rather**

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**big interview with dan rather: A Convenient Parallel Dimension** James Greene, 2022-11-01  
"Rarely has a movie this expensive provided so many quotable lines." So wrote Roger Ebert in his review of *Ghostbusters*, the 1984 blockbuster that handed our paranormal fears over to some of the sharpest comic minds of the day. *Ghostbusters* instantly resonated with audiences thanks to eye-popping special effects and crackling wit; to date, it remains the highest-grossing horror comedy of all time. The film spawned an Emmy-nominated Saturday morning cartoon, a tentpole 1989 sequel, a contentious 2016 reboot, legions of merchandise, and one of the most dedicated fan bases

in history. Ghostbusters also elevated its players to superstardom, something a few cast members found more daunting than the Stay Puft Marshmallow Man. Now, for the first time, the entire history of the slime-soaked franchise is told in *A Convenient Parallel Dimension: How Ghostbusters Slimed Us Forever*. The cohesion of talent during the mid-'70s comedy revolution, the seat-of-their-pants creation of the first Ghostbusters, the explosive success that seemed to mandate a franchise, the five year struggle to make Ghostbusters II, the thirty-one-year struggle to make Ghostbusters III—it's all here, with incredible attention to detail. Thoroughly researched and engaging, *A Convenient Parallel Dimension* smashes long-held myths and half truths about the dynamics behind this cultural juggernaut and presents the real story, down to the last drop of ectoplasm.

**big interview with dan rather: The Blues Brothers** Daniel de Visé, 2024-03-19 The story of the epic friendship between John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd, the golden era of improv, the early days of Saturday Night Live, and the making of a comedic film classic that helped shape our popular culture “They’re not going to catch us,” Dan Aykroyd, as Elwood Blues, tells his brother Jake, played by John Belushi. “We’re on a mission from God.” So opens the musical action comedy *The Blues Brothers*, which hit theaters on June 20, 1980. Their scripted mission was to save a local Chicago orphanage. But Aykroyd, who conceived and wrote much of the film, had a greater mission: to honor the then-seemingly forgotten tradition of rhythm and blues, some of whose greatest artists—Aretha Franklin, James Brown, John Lee Hooker, Cab Calloway, Ray Charles—made the film as unforgettable as its wild car chases. Much delayed and vastly over budget, beset by mercurial and oft drugged-out stars, *The Blues Brothers* opened to outraged reviews. However, in the 44 years since, it has been acknowledged a classic: it has been inducted into the National Film Registry for its cultural significance, even declared a “Catholic classic” by the Church itself, and re-aired thousands of times on television to huge worldwide audiences. It is, undeniably, one of the most significant films of the twentieth century. The story behind any classic is rich; the saga behind *The Blues Brothers*, as Daniel de Visé reveals, is epic, encompassing the colorful childhoods of Belushi and Aykroyd; the comedic revolution sparked by Harvard’s *Lampoon* and Chicago’s *Second City*; the birth and anecdote-rich, drug-filled early years of Saturday Night Live, where the Blues Brothers were born as an act amidst turmoil and rivalry; and, of course, the indelible behind-the-scenes narrative of how the film was made, scene by memorable scene. Based on original research and dozens of interviews probing the memories of principals from director John Landis and producer Bob Weiss to Aykroyd himself, *The Blues Brothers* illuminates an American masterpiece while vividly portraying the creative geniuses behind modern comedy.

**big interview with dan rather: Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young's 50-Year Quest** Robert McParland, 2019-04-26 Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young, with their distinct vocal harmonies, blending of rock, jazz, folk, and blues, and political and social activism, have remained one of the most enduring musical acts of the 1960s. This book examines their songs and themes, which continue to resonate with contemporary listeners, and argues that Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young reflect part of the broader story of American culture. This appreciative volume contextualizes their work within the political climate of the late 1960s, and makes the case that the values and concerns expressed in their music thread through the American experience today.

**big interview with dan rather: Growing Up in the Lone Star State** Gaylon Finklea Hecker, Marianne Odom, 2021-04-06 Gaylon Finklea Hecker and Marianne Odom began the interviews for this book in 1981 and devoted a professional lifetime to collecting the memories of accomplished Texans to determine what, if anything, about growing up in the Lone Star State prepared them for success. The resulting forty-seven oral history interviews begin with tales from the early 1900s, when Texas was an agrarian state, and continue through the growth of major cities and the country’s race to the moon. Interviewees recalled life in former slave colonies; on gigantic ranches, tiny farms, and sharecropper fields; and in one-horse towns and big-city neighborhoods, with relatable stories as diverse as the state’s geography. The oldest interviewees witnessed women earning the right to vote and weathered the Great Depression. Many remembered two world wars, while others recalled the Texas City explosion of 1947 and the tornado that devastated Waco in

1953. They witnessed the advent of television and the nightly news, which helped many come to terms with the assassination of a president that took place too close to home. Their absorbing reflections are stories of good and bad, hope and despair, poverty and wealth, depression and inspiration, which would have been different if lived anywhere but Texas.

**big interview with dan rather: Fifty Years of 60 Minutes** Jeff Fager, 2017-10-24 “An illuminating TV show biography” (Kirkus Reviews), the ultimate inside story of 60 Minutes—the program that has tracked and shaped the biggest moments in post-war American history. From its almost accidental birth in 1968, 60 Minutes has set the standard for broadcast journalism. The show has profiled every major leader, artist, and movement of the past five decades, perfecting the news-making interview and inventing the groundbreaking TV exposé. From legendary sit-downs with Richard Nixon in 1968 and Bill Clinton in 1992 to landmark investigations into the tobacco industry, Lance Armstrong’s doping, and the torture of prisoners in Abu-Ghraib, the broadcast has not just reported on our world but changed it, too. Executive Producer Jeff Fager takes us into the editing room with the show’s brilliant producers and beloved correspondents, including hard-charging Mike Wallace, writer’s-writer Morley Safer, soft-but-tough Ed Bradley, relentless Lesley Stahl, intrepid Scott Pelley, and illuminating storyteller Steve Kroft. He details the decades of human drama that have made the show’s success possible: the ferocious competition between correspondents, the door slamming, the risk-taking, and the pranks. Above all, Fager reveals the essential tenets that have never changed: why founder Don Hewitt believed “hearing” a story is more important than seeing it, why the “small picture” is the best way to illuminate a larger one, and why the most memorable stories are almost always those with a human being at the center. “As traditional reporting is increasingly being challenged by high-decibel, opinion-drenched media, Fager highlights storytelling that conveys a deep understanding of issues and demonstrates the power of television to inform” (The Washington Post). Fifty Years of 60 Minutes is at once a sweeping portrait of fifty years of American cultural history and an intimate look at how the news gets made.

**big interview with dan rather: Soul Doctoring** Gayle Madeleine Randall, 2022-05-31 Soul Doctoring is the most important book on integrated personal healing to be written in the 21st century. It is a compelling, enlightening, and entertaining read, and a benchmark for yet another way to bring information into one's body for the purpose of healing and self-doctoring—through provocative storytelling that touches the soul. Written by medical futurist and renowned integrative medicine pioneer Dr. Gayle Madeleine Randall, offers a blueprint and roadmap for our return to ideal personal health—and by restoring our own health, turning our attention to helping our lives, communities and planet fully regenerate in what Nestlé CEO Aude Gandon famously termed Generation Regeneration. Dr. Randall's writings, podcasts, lectures, workshops and seminars on Mind-Body Medicine around the world have transformed the lives of thousands of patients, clients and attendees by enlightening them to their own healing potential. With the publication of Soul Doctoring, she makes it possible for the reader to access the entirety of her experience and intrinsic knowledge of the human body, heart, and soul. Join her as she breaks new ground in holistic medicine, self-healing and the highest limits of human potential.

**big interview with dan rather: Don Rickles** Michael Seth Starr, 2022-10-25 An entertaining, hilarious, biting biography of “Mr. Warmth,” the infamously prickly comic who dominated Hollywood and Las Vegas for decades, making an artform out of heckling his friends, family and especially his audiences—and they couldn’t get enough of it. Having ridden a wave of success that lasted more than sixty years, Don Rickles is best known as the “insult” comic who skewered presidents, royalty, celebrities, and friends and fans alike. But there was more to “Mr. Warmth” than a devilish ear-to-ear grin and lightning-fast put-downs. Rickles was a loving husband, an adoring father who suffered a devastating loss, and a loyal friend to the likes of Bob Newhart and Frank Sinatra. Don was also a young student at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and intended to become a serious actor. But it was in small nightclubs where Rickles found success, steamrolling hecklers, honing his acerbic put-downs, and teaching the world to love being insulted. Don Rickles, The Merchant of Venom traces his career from his rise in the 1950s to a late-in-life resurgence thanks to

the Toy Story franchise, his role in Scorsese's *Casino*, and scores of TV appearances from Carson to Seth Meyers. In the intervening decades, Rickles conquered every medium, including the stage, where the Vegas legend was still performing at the age of eighty-five. In his highly memorable career, he was idolized by a generation of younger comedians including Jerry Seinfeld, Jay Leno, and many others. And all along, Rickles performed in the shadow of a shocking open secret: he was the nicest man in town.

**big interview with dan rather: Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young** David Browne, 2019-04-02  
The first and most complete narrative biography of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, by acclaimed music journalist and Rolling Stone senior writer David Browne Riveting. -People Magazine This is one of the great rock and roll stories. -New York Times Book Review Even in the larger-than-life world of rock and roll, it was hard to imagine four more different men. Yet few groups were as in sync with their times as Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young. Starting with the original trio's landmark 1969 debut album, their group and individual songs-Wooden Ships, Ohio, For What It's Worth (with Stills and Young's Buffalo Springfield)-became the soundtrack of a generation. But their story would rarely be as harmonious as their legendary vocal blend. Over the decades, these four men would continually break up, reunite, and disband again-all against a backdrop of social and musical change, recurring disagreements, and self-destructive tendencies that threatened to cripple them as a group and as individuals. In Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young: The Wild, Definitive Saga of Rock's Greatest Supergroup, Rolling Stone senior writer David Browne presents the ultimate deep dive into rock and roll's most musical and turbulent brotherhood. Featuring exclusive interviews with band members, colleagues, fellow superstars, former managers, employees, and lovers-and with access to unreleased music and documents-this is the sweeping story of rock's longest-running, most dysfunctional, yet pre-eminent musical family, delivered with the epic feel their story rightly deserves.

**big interview with dan rather: Colombian Diasporic Identities** Annie Mendoza, 2023-05-31  
This book interrogates the identity politics involved in framing Colombian diasporas, examining the ways that creative writers, directors, performers and artists negotiate collective and personal experiences that shape their identities through their art and cultural productions. New consideration of the diversity of Afro-Latin American and Indigenous communities within the overarching categorization of Colombianness or Colombianidad have led to increased focus on the representation of Colombia and Colombian diasporic communities. By focusing on different cultural productions—novels, memoirs, films, plays and visual arts—this book analyzes the performance of Colombianidad by communities throughout the diaspora. Topics include Afro-Colombian, US Latinx, Caribbean and queer identity, marginalization of racialized bodies within Colombia and the Colombian diaspora, and the politics of identity representation. *Colombian Diasporic Identities: Representations in Literature, Film, Theater and Art* examines how a consciously Colombian diasporic existence travels and is altered across geographic locales. *Colombian Diasporic Identities* will be key reading for scholars and students in US Latinx studies, and Latin American diasporic studies, together with ethnic studies, gender studies, queer studies and literature.

**big interview with dan rather: Lowdown** Jude Warne, David Paich, 2025-04-08 Boz Scaggs has always been a musical artist of complexity. Boz Scaggs founded his connection to music through the blues, but his lasting legacy is one of glamorous and romantic pop songwriting. He possessed a somewhat shy and sensitive demeanor never totally at home in the public eye, yet his claim to several chart-topping singles and albums, particularly the millions-selling and critically acclaimed *Silk Degrees* (1976), demanded constant exposure. The persona he expressed through his music was laid back, effortlessly cool, sophisticated, stylish, romantically charming, and suave. But the immense success he achieved in his career pointed in part to the driven and determined artist within. *Lowdown: The Music of Boz Scaggs* examines the uniqueness of these contradictions and Boz Scaggs's sixty-plus-year career and his rich and diverse musical catalogue. Over the decades, Scaggs collaborated with an array of talented heavies, from the Steve Miller Band to the Muscle Shoals Rhythm Section (which included a young Duane Allman) on Boz Scaggs (1969), from the session players on *Silk Degrees* (1976) who would form the hit band Toto to Donald Fagen and Michael

McDonald on the Dukes of September's 2010 Rhythm Revue tour. This first-ever book on Boz is constructed around intensely thorough analysis of his complete discography, and new and exclusive in-depth interviews with a selection of Scaggs's associated colleagues from his vast career.

**big interview with dan rather: Richard Manuel** Stephen T. Lewis, 2025-06-24 For the first time, the Band's legendary Richard Manuel's compositions and performances are analyzed with expert commentary while shining a light on his contributions to all of his bands—and on the undeniable impact he had on rock music. Richard Manuel was a fearless original. Sweetly soulful as a vocalist and endearingly creative as a songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, he was a vital part of some of rock 'n' roll's pivotal moments, including Bob Dylan's controversial move to electric music, Woodstock 1969, and the legendary Last Waltz. Through thoughtful research and analysis, this book places Manuel's troubled yet inspired spirit within a musical and historical context. For the first time, Manuel's compositions and performances are critiqued with expert commentary—alongside new interviews with family, friends, and fellow musicians, including Eric Clapton and Van Morrison. The story traces Manuel's journey from Stratford, Ontario, to Woodstock, New York, and beyond, beginning with his first band, the Revols, then singing the blues with Robbie Robertson, Levon Helm, Rick Danko, and Garth Hudson in the Hawks, the group that would later become the Band. Manuel's influence was profound, his distinctive vocals infusing songs with emotion and depth. His songwriting flourished in classics like Tears of Rage, cowritten with Dylan, and We Can Talk. His keyboard work added a lovable funkiness to the Band's sound, blending elements of rock, folk, country, and blues into what would become the genesis of Americana. Despite the Band's successes, Manuel struggled with personal demons, battling addiction and inner turmoil. Looking beyond his human frailty, this book celebrates Richard Manuel's immeasurable contributions to music, ensuring that memories of his voice and artistry endure.

**big interview with dan rather: Benicio del Toro** Steven Otfinoski, 2020-06-01 Success didn't come easily to award-winning Puerto Rican actor Benicio del Toro. He experienced constant rejections in auditions for roles when he first started to pursue an acting career. It wasn't until he moved to Los Angeles that he started getting parts, starting with small ones in films like Big Top Pee Wee and eventually leading to a breakout role in The Usual Suspects. When he won an Academy Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role for his role in the movie Traffic, he was only the third Puerto Rican American to win an acting Oscar. Read all about del Toro in this full-color biography.

**big interview with dan rather: Weird Al** Lily E. Hirsch, 2022-04-15 From his love of accordions and Hawaiian print shirts to his popular puns and trademark dance moves, Weird Al Yankovic has made a career out of making us laugh. Funny music is often dismissed as light and irrelevant, but Yankovic's fourteen successful studio albums prove there is more going on than comedic music's reputation suggests. In this book, for the first time, the parodies, original compositions, and polka medleys of the Weird Al universe finally receive their due respect. Lily Hirsch weaves together original interviews with the prince of parody himself, creating a fresh take on comedy and music's complicated romance. She reveals that Yankovic's jests have always had a deeper meaning, addressing such topics as bullying, celebrity, and racial and gender stereotypes. Weird Al is undeterred by those who say funny music is nothing but a low-brow pastime. And thank goodness. With his good-guy grace still intact, Yankovic remains unapologetically and unmistakably himself. Reveling in the mischief and wisdom of Yankovic's forty-year career, this book is an Al-expense-paid tour of a true comedic and musical genius.

**big interview with dan rather: Howling to the Moonlight on a Hot Summer Night** Christopher McKittrick, 2024-10-01 A comprehensive guide to the band with praise from Booklist saying Stray Cats fans and music lovers in general will appreciate this exhaustively researched document of the group's influential and lengthy career. While New Wave pop music was dominating the charts in the early 1980s, one band made up of a trio of throwback-loving musicians from the suburbs of Massapequa, Long Island—guitarist/singer Brian Setzer, drummer Slim Jim Phantom, and bassist Lee Rocker—returned rockabilly to the international pop charts as the Stray Cats, releasing such infectious Top 10 singles "Rock This Town," "Stray Cat Strut," and "(She's) Sexy + 17." Over

forty years and many classic studio and live albums later, the Stray Cats still epitomize the spirit of the founding fathers of rock and roll—a coolness that never goes out of style. Howling to the Moonlight on a Hot Summer Night: The Story of the Stray Cats tells the full story of the band's history and catalog as musicians. It not only celebrates the Cats as one of the most successful rock revival groups, but follows their exploits as a throwback act in the years when MTV was still new, going on to enjoy long-lived popularity in rockabilly culture across the globe from Massapequa to Memphis and beyond.

**big interview with dan rather: Taking a Stand** Jared N. Champion, Peter C. Kunze, 2021-11-15 Contributions by Jared N. Champion, Miriam M. Chirico, Thomas Clark, David R. Dewberry, Christopher J. Gilbert, David Gillota, Kathryn Kein, Rob King, Rebecca Krefting, Peter C. Kunze, Linda Mizejewski, Aviva Orenstein, Raúl Pérez, Philip Scepanski, Susan Seizer, Monique Taylor, Ila Tyagi, and Timothy J. Viator Stand-up comedians have a long history of walking a careful line between serious and playful engagement with social issues: Lenny Bruce questioned the symbolic valence of racial slurs, Dick Gregory took time away from the stage to speak alongside Martin Luther King Jr., and—more recently—Tig Notaro challenged popular notions of damaged or abject bodies. Stand-up comedians deploy humor to open up difficult topics for broader examination, which only underscores the social and cultural importance of their work. Taking a Stand: Contemporary US Stand-Up Comedians as Public Intellectuals draws together essays that contribute to the analysis of the stand-up comedian as public intellectual since the 1980s. The chapters explore stand-up comedians as contributors to and shapers of public discourse via their live performances, podcasts, social media presence, and political activism. Each chapter highlights a stand-up comedian and their ongoing discussion of a cultural issue or expression of a political ideology/standpoint: Lisa Lampanelli's use of problematic postracial humor, Aziz Ansari's merging of sociology and technology, or Maria Bamford's emphasis on mental health, to name just a few. Taking a Stand offers a starting point for understanding the work stand-up comedians do as well as its reach beyond the stage. Comedians influence discourse, perspectives, even public policy on myriad issues, and this book sets out to take those jokes seriously.

**big interview with dan rather: American Television News: The Media Marketplace and the Public Interest** Steve M. Barkin, 2016-09-16 This concise history of the news broadcasting industry will appeal to both students and general readers. Stretching from the radio days of the 1920s and 1930s and the early era of television after World War II through to the present, the book shows how commercial interests, regulatory matters, and financial considerations have long shaped the broadcasting business. The network dominance of the 1950s ushered in the new prominence of the anchorman, a distinctly American development, and gave birth to the golden age of TV broadcasting, which featured hard-hitting news and documentaries epitomized by the reports by CBS's Edward R. Murrow. Financial pressures and advertising concerns in the 1960s led the networks to veer away from their commitment to serve the public interest, and tabloid television - celebrity, gossip-driven soft news - and news magazines became increasingly widespread. In the 1980s cable news further transformed broadcasting, igniting intense competition for viewers in the media marketplace. Focusing on both national and local news, this stimulating volume examines the evolution of broadcast journalism. It also considers how new electronic technologies will affect news delivery in the 21st century, and whether television news can still both serve the public interest and maintain an audience.

**big interview with dan rather: Security in a Changing World** Volker Franke, 2002-03-30 The end of the Cold War has brought about significant changes in the political, economic, social, and cultural structure of the international system. Absent a distinct enemy and the threat of global thermonuclear war, the United States today faces a host of new security challenges that require policymakers to make difficult decisions with significant domestic and international implications. The range of conflicting goals, expectations, and capabilities demands fresh solutions to international conflicts and civil unrest, new strategies for conducting peace support operations, and the preparation of America's forces for completing operational assignments under increasingly

uncertain conditions. The case studies and exercises constructed for this book examine some of the most pertinent management, leadership, and accountability issues related to U.S. national security. Each case places readers at the center of difficult decisions, illustrates more general policy dilemmas, and is designed to stimulate discussion of those issues beyond the classroom. Cases highlight dilemmas at two levels: pertaining specifically to the case and pertaining to its larger policy implications. The absence of a one-sided argument, specific policy recommendations, or logical conclusions, enables readers to recognize the importance of the issues at hand and their greater policy implications and to discern lessons that might apply more generally to public policy, administration, and management. Particularly useful in courses dealing with national security, international relations, public/policy administration, civil-military relations, and organizational management. An instructor's manual is available upon request.

**big interview with dan rather: Crime of the Century: Classic Rock and True Crime** Angie Moon, 2024-03-28 Crime of the Century is a comprehensive book about classic rock's connections to true crime cases with over twenty true stories of classic rock musicians and their encounters with murderers, and musicians who committed murders. Inside the book you'll find the most famous stories like how The Beach Boys met Charles Manson and how Phil Spector went from legendary producer to convicted murderer. There are stories of how classic rockers encountered some of the most notorious serial killers like The Kinks meeting John Wayne Gacy on their 1965 American tour and Debbie Harry allegedly getting into Ted Bundy's car in the early 70s. You'll see how the Manson Family's classic rock connections run deeper than you thought with their encounters with Neil Young, John Phillips, Tony Valentino, Phil Ochs, and Frank Zappa. You'll also learn how classic rockers were only a few degrees of separation from presidential assassinations and attempted assassinations like The Band meeting Jack Ruby, Squeaky Fromme pursuing Jimmy Page, and John Hinckley's encounter with DEVO and how they used the poem he wrote for Jodie Foster as song lyrics. It's a wild and crazy ride through classic rock history. But believe it or not, these are all true stories.

**big interview with dan rather: To Feel the Music** Neil Young, Phil Baker, 2019-09-10 Neil Young took on the music industry so that fans could hear his music—all music—the way it was meant to be heard. Today, most of the music we hear is com-pressed to a fraction of its original sound, while analog masterpieces are turning to dust in record company vaults. As these recordings disappear, music fans aren't just losing a collection of notes. We're losing spaciousness, breadth of the sound field, and the ability to hear and feel a ping of a triangle or a pluck of a guitar string, each with its own resonance and harmonics that slowly trail off into silence. The result is music that is robbed of its original quality—muddy and flat in sound compared to the rich, warm sound artists hear in the studio. It doesn't have to be this way, but the record and technology companies have incorrectly assumed that most listeners are satisfied with these low-quality tracks. Neil Young is challenging the assault on audio quality—and working to free music lovers from the flat and lifeless status quo. To Feel the Music is the true story of his quest to bring high-quality audio back to music lovers—the most important undertaking of his career. It's an unprecedented look inside the successes and setbacks of creating the Pono player, the fights and negotiations with record companies to preserve masterpieces for the future, and Neil's unrelenting determination to make musical art available to everyone. It's a story that shows how much more there is to music than meets the ear. Neil's efforts to bring quality audio to his fans garnered media attention when his Kickstarter campaign for his Pono player—a revolutionary music player that would combine the highest quality possible with the portability, simplicity and affordability modern listeners crave—became the third-most successful Kickstarter campaign in the website's history. It had raised more than \$6M in pledges in 40 days. Encouraged by the enthusiastic response, Neil still had a long road ahead, and his Pono music player would not have the commercial success he'd imagined. But he remained committed to his mission, and faced with the rise of streaming services that used even lower quality audio, he was determined to rise to the challenge. An eye-opening read for all fans of Neil Young and all fans of great music, as well as readers interested in going behind the scenes of product creation, To Feel the Music has an

inspiring story at its heart: One determined artist with a groundbreaking vision and the absolute refusal to give up, despite setbacks, naysayers, and skeptics.

**big interview with dan rather: AC/DC on track** Chris Sutton, 2024-07-29 AC/DC are a global rock institution and big brand name. The secret to their success has always been that they are a rock 'n' roll band, pure and simple, undiluted by trends with a solid authenticity and no frills or pretentiousness. Chris Sutton examines the recorded output of the band in detail, helped by new interview material with former members, collaborators and friends in manager Michael Browning, drummers Peter Clack, Noel Taylor and Tony Currenti, engineer/producer Mike Fraser, logo designer Gerard Huerta, bassist Ian Hampton and engineer Dave Thoener. They have one of the world's biggest-selling albums in Back In Black, but is it their best album, and which are their best songs? As well as commentary and analysis of every track on every studio album, space is also given to B-sides and out-takes, while the live albums and box sets are also discussed. The background to each album is also covered as the band navigate tragedy and setbacks with a determination to keep going - rock or bust! Whether you wish to revisit old favourites or learn about those gems you missed, AC/DC On Track is the essential guide to this legendary band's music. Chris Sutton manages Smethwick Heritage Centre Museum and has written several publications for them. He has also written several plays. This book is his fourth for Sonicbond Publishing, with several more to follow. He lives in Great Malvern, UK.

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