rolling stone worst decisions

rolling stone worst decisions have become a fascinating topic for music fans, critics, and industry insiders alike. As one of the most influential publications in popular culture, Rolling Stone has shaped and sometimes shaken the music landscape with its editorial choices, controversial rankings, and notorious missteps. This article provides an in-depth look at the most significant and talked-about decisions made by Rolling Stone magazine that have sparked debate, criticism, and enduring legacy. From infamous album reviews to questionable artist features and overlooked milestones, we'll unpack the magazine's most contentious moves, examine their impact on artists and music culture, and analyze why these decisions remain widely discussed today. Readers will discover how Rolling Stone's editorial policies, shifting priorities, and industry challenges contributed to these moments. Whether you're a long-time reader or a curious newcomer, this comprehensive guide illuminates the magazine's history of controversial choices and the ongoing discourse surrounding its worst decisions. Dive in to explore the stories behind Rolling Stone's most debated moments and why they continue to resonate.

- Overview: Rolling Stone's Influence and Legacy
- Infamous Album Reviews and Rankings
- Controversial Artist Features and Omissions
- Editorial Missteps and Backlash
- Impact on Artists and Music Culture
- Lessons Learned and Lasting Effects

Overview: Rolling Stone's Influence and Legacy

Rolling Stone magazine, founded in 1967, rapidly became a touchstone of music journalism, pop culture commentary, and political reporting. Its blend of in-depth interviews, critical reviews, and iconic photography helped define generations of artists and trends. With its reputation for setting industry standards, Rolling Stone's decisions have often reverberated far beyond its readership. However, the magazine's prominence has also meant that its worst decisions—controversial picks, misjudged reviews, and overlooked talents—have had outsized influence and sparked widespread debate. Understanding these moments provides valuable insight into the evolving dynamics of music criticism and cultural gatekeeping.

Infamous Album Reviews and Rankings

Notorious Negative Reviews

Rolling Stone's album reviews are legendary for their candor, but some have been regarded as missteps or outright blunders. Several now-classic albums initially received scathing critiques, only to be reappraised years later as masterpieces. These decisions are frequently cited as examples of Rolling Stone's worst judgments, demonstrating how evolving tastes and hindsight can reshape critical consensus.

- Led Zeppelin's debut album was initially dismissed as derivative and unoriginal.
- Black Sabbath's early releases were criticized for their heaviness, which later defined a genre.
- Pink Floyd's "The Wall" received mixed reviews despite its enduring legacy and influence.

Questionable Ranking Lists

Rolling Stone is known for its ambitious "Greatest Of All Time" lists, including albums, songs, and artists. However, these lists have often sparked outrage for perceived biases, glaring omissions, and controversial placements. Critics and fans have argued that certain genres, artists, or eras were unfairly overlooked or misrepresented, leading to lasting debates over the magazine's judgment.

- Underrepresentation of hip-hop and electronic music in early rankings
- Surprising placement of certain albums over universally acclaimed works
- Frequent reshuffling of rankings with little explanation

Controversial Artist Features and Omissions

Overlooked Legends and Unsung Heroes

One of Rolling Stone's worst decisions has been the omission or underrepresentation of influential artists, especially those outside mainstream rock. Many pioneering musicians from genres such as jazz, punk, metal, and hip-hop have struggled to receive recognition in the magazine's pages and lists. This tendency has led to accusations of bias and a limited view of musical innovation.

- Minimal coverage of female artists and musicians of color in key features
- Ignoring emerging genres that later became influential

Failure to spotlight regional scenes and underground movements

Controversial Covers and Interviews

Rolling Stone's covers and exclusive interviews have shaped artist images and public narratives. However, some choices have backfired, sparking backlash from fans, critics, and the artists themselves. Whether perceived as sensationalism or poor editorial judgment, these decisions are remembered as some of the magazine's most controversial moments.

- Placing controversial figures on the cover, sometimes glamorizing criminal or divisive personalities
- Interviews that misrepresented or misquoted artists, leading to public disputes
- Features that prioritized shock value over substance

Editorial Missteps and Backlash

Fact-Checking Failures

In its quest for groundbreaking stories, Rolling Stone has occasionally stumbled with serious editorial errors. The most notorious example was the publication of a now-discredited investigative piece that led to legal and reputational fallout. These lapses in journalistic integrity have been among the worst decisions in the magazine's history, underscoring the importance of rigorous fact-checking.

- Legal settlements and public apologies following inaccurate reporting
- Loss of trust among readers and industry professionals
- Impact on future investigative journalism standards

Sensationalism and Editorial Bias

Rolling Stone has been accused of favoring sensational stories or allowing personal biases to shape editorial direction. This tendency has sometimes resulted in coverage that feels more provocative than informative, and has led to criticism from both fans and artists. The fallout from these decisions highlights the delicate balance between editorial freedom and responsible journalism.

- Editorial choices driven by trends rather than substance
- Polarizing features that overshadowed genuine artistic merit
- Reputation for unpredictability in coverage

Impact on Artists and Music Culture

Shaping Careers and Public Perception

Rolling Stone's reviews, rankings, and features can have a profound impact on artists' careers. A harsh critique or overlooked release may stunt an artist's momentum, while a glowing review or prime feature can catapult them to new heights. The magazine's worst decisions have sometimes unfairly hindered talented musicians or contributed to widespread misconceptions.

- Artists whose careers were slowed by negative coverage
- Musicians who benefited from Rolling Stone's endorsement despite initial skepticism
- Influence on industry trends and genre popularity

Influence on Fan Communities and Industry Standards

Fans and industry professionals have often looked to Rolling Stone for guidance and validation. The magazine's lists and reviews help shape collective tastes and industry benchmarks, but its missteps can also fuel division and controversy within fan communities. These decisions continue to influence how music history is written and remembered.

- Debates over "greatest" artists and albums fueled by magazine rankings
- Growing demand for more diverse and inclusive coverage
- Long-term effects on music journalism practices

Lessons Learned and Lasting Effects

Evolving Editorial Standards

In response to criticism and changing cultural dynamics, Rolling Stone has made efforts to evolve its editorial approach. Recent years have seen more diverse coverage, improved fact-checking, and a broader recognition of genres and voices. These lessons learned from the magazine's worst decisions continue to shape its ongoing legacy and relevance.

- Greater inclusion of underrepresented genres and artists
- Commitment to accuracy and transparency
- Emphasis on responsible journalism and balanced reporting

Enduring Legacy in Music Journalism

Despite its missteps, Rolling Stone remains a cornerstone of music journalism. Its worst decisions—and the reactions they provoked—underscore the complex relationship between critics, artists, and audiences. The magazine's ongoing efforts to adapt and improve reflect its enduring importance in the ever-changing world of music and culture.

- Rolling Stone's evolving reputation among music fans
- Continuous impact on media and cultural criticism
- Ongoing relevance in shaping music history

Q: What are some of the most infamous Rolling Stone worst decisions in album reviews?

A: Some of the most infamous decisions include negative early reviews of classic albums like Led Zeppelin's debut, Black Sabbath's early releases, and Pink Floyd's "The Wall," all of which were later hailed as masterpieces.

Q: How have Rolling Stone's ranking lists sparked controversy?

A: Rolling Stone's "greatest of all time" lists have often been criticized for genre bias, surprising placements, and omissions of influential artists, leading to debates about their editorial judgment and industry influence.

Q: Why has Rolling Stone been accused of overlooking important artists?

A: The magazine has faced criticism for underrepresenting female musicians, artists of color, and innovators from genres like punk, metal, and hip-hop, which has been seen as a limited view of musical innovation.

Q: What was Rolling Stone's most notorious fact-checking failure?

A: The most notorious failure was the publication of a discredited investigative story that led to legal action, public apologies, and damage to the magazine's reputation.

Q: How do Rolling Stone's decisions impact artists' careers?

A: Rolling Stone's reviews and features can significantly shape public perception, sometimes hindering careers with negative coverage or propelling artists to new heights through positive recognition.

Q: Has Rolling Stone changed its editorial approach in response to criticism?

A: Yes, Rolling Stone has made efforts to include more diverse voices, improve fact-checking, and broaden its coverage in response to past criticisms and evolving cultural standards.

Q: What role does Rolling Stone play in shaping music history?

A: Rolling Stone's editorial decisions, reviews, and lists influence industry trends, fan debates, and the way music history is written and remembered.

Q: Why do fans and critics continue to debate Rolling Stone's worst decisions?

A: Fans and critics debate these decisions because of Rolling Stone's significant influence, the lasting impact on artists, and the ongoing evolution of music and cultural standards.

Q: What lessons has Rolling Stone learned from its worst decisions?

A: The magazine has learned to prioritize diversity, accuracy, and responsible journalism, striving to adapt its editorial standards to better reflect the music world's complexity.

Q: What is Rolling Stone's legacy in music journalism despite its missteps?

A: Despite its worst decisions, Rolling Stone remains a highly influential publication, continuously shaping music journalism and pop culture with its evolving approach and coverage.

Rolling Stone Worst Decisions

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Rolling Stone's Worst Decisions: A Retrospective on Editorial Missteps

Rolling Stone, a magazine synonymous with counterculture and groundbreaking journalism, hasn't always hit the mark. Over its decades-long history, the publication has made several significant editorial decisions that have drawn intense criticism, impacting its reputation and credibility. This article delves into some of Rolling Stone's worst decisions, analyzing their impact and offering insights into the lessons learned – or perhaps, not learned – along the way. We'll explore the controversies, the fallout, and the lasting consequences of these choices, examining both the journalistic and business aspects of these critical missteps.

The Jackie Coakley Rape Allegation: A Defining Low Point (2014)

Perhaps the most infamous blunder in Rolling Stone's history is the 2014 publication of "A Rape on Campus," written by Sabrina Rubin Erdely. This article detailed a horrific gang rape allegedly occurring at the University of Virginia. The devastating account ignited outrage and sparked national conversations about sexual assault on college campuses. However, the story quickly unraveled. The alleged victim, Jackie, was found to have fabricated significant aspects of her account, leading to a complete retraction of the article and a devastating blow to Rolling Stone's reputation. This debacle highlighted the critical importance of thorough fact-checking and verification in investigative journalism. The resulting damage extended beyond just lost credibility; it fueled a broader discussion about the responsibilities of journalists and the potential consequences of unchecked narratives.

The Fallout and Lessons Unlearned?

The fallout from the Jackie Coakley article was swift and severe. Rolling Stone faced multiple lawsuits, lost significant readership and advertising revenue, and saw its journalistic integrity deeply questioned. While the magazine apologized and implemented changes to its editorial processes, questions remain about whether enough has been done to prevent similar failures in the future. The incident serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of prioritizing a compelling narrative over rigorous journalistic practices.

The Dylan Farrow Open Letter and the Woody Allen Controversy (2014)

While not as directly damaging as the Jackie Coakley case, Rolling Stone's handling of Dylan Farrow's open letter detailing allegations of sexual abuse against her adoptive father, Woody Allen, raised eyebrows. The publication's decision to publish the letter, alongside a response from Allen's representatives, created a highly charged debate that felt less like objective reporting and more like an amplification of already entrenched positions. This choice highlighted the complexities of reporting on highly sensitive and emotionally charged events, especially those with established and deeply entrenched public opinions. The lack of a more in-depth investigation and balanced perspective left many readers feeling that the magazine hadn't fully served its journalistic responsibility.

Navigating Complex Narratives: The Challenge for Rolling Stone

This episode highlights a persistent challenge faced by media outlets: how to effectively report on sensitive topics that involve powerful figures and conflicting narratives without inadvertently contributing to the polarization of public opinion. Rolling Stone's handling of this situation underscores the need for nuanced reporting and a commitment to thorough investigation, even when dealing with emotionally charged subject matter.

Other Notable Editorial Missteps and Controversies

Beyond these two high-profile instances, Rolling Stone's history is peppered with other questionable editorial choices. These range from factual inaccuracies in various articles to inconsistent application of journalistic ethics. Though not always reaching the same level of public outrage, these

smaller missteps cumulatively contributed to an erosion of public trust. The publication's evolving coverage of political issues and its handling of celebrity profiles have also drawn criticism over the years, reflecting a sometimes uneven application of its journalistic standards. This inconsistency undermines its authority and raises questions about its editorial direction.

Conclusion: Rebuilding Trust and Maintaining Relevance

Rolling Stone's missteps underscore the crucial importance of rigorous journalistic practices, ethical considerations, and a commitment to factual accuracy. The magazine's legacy continues to be shaped by these controversies, reminding us that even established publications are not immune to making significant errors. Moving forward, the magazine needs to prioritize consistent application of journalistic ethics and transparency to rebuild and maintain public trust. Only then can it fully reclaim its position as a leading voice in cultural commentary.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- Q1: What were the immediate consequences of the Jackie Coakley article retraction?
- A1: The retraction resulted in lawsuits, plummeting credibility, significant financial losses, and a widespread questioning of Rolling Stone's editorial processes.
- Q2: How did Rolling Stone attempt to address the issues raised by the Jackie Coakley case?
- A2: The magazine issued a public apology, commissioned an independent review of its editorial practices, and implemented stricter fact-checking protocols.
- Q3: Did the Dylan Farrow open letter contribute to a significant shift in public opinion regarding Woody Allen?
- A3: While the letter sparked further discussion, its publication within Rolling Stone didn't necessarily produce a dramatic shift in established opinions regarding the accusations against Woody Allen.
- Q4: Has Rolling Stone fully recovered from its past controversies?
- A4: The recovery is an ongoing process. While the magazine has attempted to improve its editorial standards, rebuilding complete public trust requires sustained commitment and consistent ethical reporting.
- Q5: What lessons can other media organizations learn from Rolling Stone's experiences?

A5: The paramount lesson is the unwavering need for rigorous fact-checking, unbiased reporting, and a robust commitment to journalistic ethics, even when faced with compelling narratives or powerful figures. Transparency and accountability are also essential for maintaining public trust.

rolling stone worst decisions: Anything for a Hit Dorothy Carvello, 2018-09-04 Dorothy Carvello knows all about the music biz. She was the first female A&R executive at Atlantic Records, and one of the few in the room at RCA and Columbia. But before that, she was secretary to Ahmet Ertegun, Atlantic's infamous president, who signed acts like Aretha Franklin and Led Zeppelin, negotiated distribution deals with Mick Jagger, and added Neil Young to Crosby, Stills & Nash. The stories she tells about the kingmakers of the music biz are outrageous, but it is her sinuous friendship with Ahmet that frames her narrative. He was notoriously abusive, sexually harassing Dorothy on a daily basis. Carvello reveals here how she flipped the script and showed Ertegun and every other man who tried to control her that a woman can be just as willing to do what it takes to get a hit. Never-before-heard stories about artists like Michael Jackson, Madonna, Steven Tyler, Bon Jovi, INXS, Marc Anthony, and many more make this book a must-read for anyone looking for the real stories on what it takes for a woman to make it in a male-dominated industry.

rolling stone worst decisions: Rolling Stones FAQ Gary J. Jucha, 2019-11-22 Cleverly marketed by their original manager as the bad boys of rock, the Rolling Stones have survived dalliances with the devil, drug busts, and the death of founding member Brian Jones to become the world's longest-running rock and roll band. Led by partners-in-crime Mick Jagger and Keith Richards, the Rolling Stones have had No. 1 hits, released classic albums, broken box office records, and literally changed the world. All too often, however, books on the Rolling Stones glimmer with gossip instead of shimmering with facts about the band's music. The Rolling Stones FAQ presents these musical facts in a fast-moving, fan-friendly read. The five incarnations of the Rolling Stones are highlighted with in-depth explorations of the band's hit records, albums, films, and tours. The band's story is told not only through the biographies of the eight men to each be called a Rolling Stone, but also through the stories of session men, producers, managers, artists, girlfriends, and wives who have contributed to the enduring, yet controversial, success of the Rolling Stones.

rolling stone worst decisions: Rolling Stone 1,000 Covers Rolling Stone, 2006-10 Reproduces one thousand of the magazine's covers and includes behind-the-scenes stories and excerpts from articles and interviews with the idols of rock and rythym-and-blues.

rolling stone worst decisions: The Rolling Stones Audrey Borus, Heather Miller, 2018-12-15 On July 12, 1962, the Marquis Club in London debuted a new band. Scruffy-looking and irreverent, they performed music that hadn't really been heard on English shores, a combination of the blues, a style of music written and performed by slaves in the American South, and a newer genre, rock and roll. They called themselves The Rolling Stones. Through informative sidebars, fascinating direct quotations, and revealing personal facts, this book explores the past, present, and future of the legendary band that more than fifty years later, still keeps turning out hits.

rolling stone worst decisions: *Broken Horses* Brandi Carlile, 2021-04-06 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • The critically acclaimed singer-songwriter, producer, and six-time Grammy winner opens up about faith, sexuality, parenthood, and a life shaped by music in "one of the great memoirs of our time" (Glennon Doyle, author of Untamed). NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY NPR AND AUTOSTRADDLE • "The best-written, most engaging rock autobiography since her childhood hero, Elton John, published Me."—Variety Brandi Carlile was born into a musically gifted, impoverished family on the outskirts of Seattle and grew up in a constant state of change, moving from house to house, trailer to trailer, fourteen times in as many years. Though imperfect in every way, her dysfunctional childhood was as beautiful as it was strange, and as nurturing as it was difficult. At the age of five, Brandi contracted bacterial meningitis, which almost took her life, leaving an indelible mark on her formative years and altering her journey into young adulthood. As an openly gay teenager, Brandi grappled with the tension between her sexuality and

her faith when her pastor publicly refused to baptize her on the day of the ceremony. Shockingly, her small town rallied around Brandi in support and set her on a path to salvation where the rest of the misfits and rejects find it: through twisted, joyful, weird, and wonderful music. In Broken Horses, Brandi Carlile takes readers through the events of her life that shaped her very raw art—from her start at a local singing competition where she performed Elton John's "Honky Cat" in a bedazzled white polyester suit, to her first break opening for Dave Matthews Band, to many sleepless tours over fifteen years and six studio albums, all while raising two children with her wife, Catherine Shepherd. This hard-won success led her to collaborations with personal heroes like Elton John, Dolly Parton, Mavis Staples, Pearl Jam, Tanya Tucker, and Joni Mitchell, as well as her peers in the supergroup The Highwomen, and ultimately to the Grammy stage, where she converted millions of viewers into instant fans. Evocative and piercingly honest, Broken Horses is at once an examination of faith through the eyes of a person rejected by the church's basic tenets and a meditation on the moments and lyrics that have shaped the life of a creative mind, a brilliant artist, and a genuine empath on a mission to give back.

rolling stone worst decisions: This Searing Light, the Sun and Everything Else Jon Savage, 2019-04-02 The SUNDAY TIMES Top Ten Bestseller#1 Book of the Year, UNCUT#1 Book of the Year, ROUGH TRADEBook of the Year, MOJOOver the course of two albums and some legendary gigs, Joy Division became the most successful and exciting underground band of their generation. Then, on the brink of a tour to America, Ian Curtis took his own life.In This Searing Light, the Sun and Everything Else, Jon Savage has assembled three decades' worth of interviews with the principal players in the Joy Division story to create an intimate, candid and definitive account of the band. It is the story of how a group of young men can galvanise a generation of fans, artists and musicians with four chords and three-and-a-half minutes of music. And it is the story of how illness and inner demons can rob the world of a shamanic lead singer and visionary lyricist.

rolling stone worst decisions: Decisions Seymour Eiseman, Robert Eiseman, 2019-07-09 This book represents a method by which students are assisted to make wise decisions about the use of alcohol and other drugs. Situations which are essential to effective daily living are employed to reach effective decisions. The role of parents in assisting the children toward a better understanding of the nature of drug use is also explored. Specifically, the use of alcohol and other drugs in the workplace places the drug situation directly in the light of the job market. The current problem of HIV and drugs is also discussed, along with drugs and pregnancy.

rolling stone worst decisions: Stanley Kubrick Gene D. Phillips, 2013-07-08 From his first feature film, Fear and Desire (1953), to his final, posthumously released Eyes Wide Shut (1999), Stanley Kubrick excelled at probing the dark corners of human consciousness. In doing so, he adapted such popular novels as The Killing, Lolita, A Clockwork Orange, and The Shining and selected a wide variety of genres for his films -- black comedy (Dr. Strangelove), science fiction (2001: A Space Odyssey), and war (Paths of Glory and Full Metal Jacket). Because he was peerless in unveiling the intimate mysteries of human nature, no new film by Kubrick ever failed to spark debate or to be deeply pondered. Kubrick (1928-1999) has remained as elusive as the subjects of his films. Unlike many other filmmakers he was not inclined to grant interviews, instead preferring to let his movies speak for themselves. By allowing both critics and moviegoers to see the inner workings of this reclusive filmmaker, this first comprehensive collection of his relatively few interviews is invaluable. Ranging from 1959 to 1987 and including Kubrick's conversations with Gene Siskel, Jeremy Bernstein, Gene D. Phillips, and others, this book reveals Kubrick's diverse interests -nuclear energy and its consequences, space exploration, science fiction, literature, religion, psychoanalysis, the effects of violence, and even chess -- and discloses how each affects his films. He enthusiastically speaks of how advances in camera and sound technology made his films more effective. Kubrick details his hands-on approach to filmmaking as he discusses why he supervises nearly every aspect of production. All the hand-held camerawork is mine, he says in a 1972 interview about A Clockwork Orange. In addition to the fun of doing the shooting myself, I find it virtually impossible to explain what I want in a hand-held shot to even the most talented and sensitive camera

operator. Neither guarded nor evasive, the Kubrick who emerges from these interviews is candid, opinionated, confident, and articulate. His incredible memory and his gift for organization come to light as he quotes verbatim sections of reviews, books, and articles. Despite his reputation as a recluse, the Kubrick of these interviews is approachable, witty, full of anecdotes, and eager to share a fascinating story. Gene D. Phillips, S.J., is a professor of English at Loyola University in Chicago, where he teaches fiction and the history of film. He is the author of many notable books on film and is a founding member of the editorial board of both Literature/Film Quarterly and The Tennessee Williams Journal. He was acquainted with Stanley Kubrick for twenty-five years.

rolling stone worst decisions: Rolling Stone 50 Years of Covers Jann S. Wenner, 2018-05-08 For the past 50 years, the covers of Rolling Stone have depicted the icons of popular culture—from John Lennon, Bob Dylan, the Rolling Stones, Madonna, and Steve Martin to Rihanna, Louis C.K., Adele, Radiohead, and Barack Obama—cementing their legendary and influential status. No other magazine has the illustrious history and prestige of having defined popular culture from the birth of rock and roll to the present. This fantastic collection is newly revised and updated to include the covers from all 50 years of Rolling Stone history. With an updated introduction by Jann S. Wenner as well as new excerpts from the magazine and quotes from photographers and their celebrity subjects, this nostalgic journey down the memory lane of music, entertainment, and politics is irresistible.

rolling stone worst decisions: The Mammoth Book of the Rolling Stones Sean Egan, 2013-06-20 'The greatest rock 'n' roll band in the world!' This vainglorious introduction given to The Rolling Stones on stage by an excitable roadie was almost immediately accepted as a simple statement of fact. It was already evident that Mick Jagger, Keith Richards and Co. were, as their first manager Andrew Loog Oldham had claimed, 'a way of life'. The Stones' defiance of convention made them the figureheads of a questioning new generation, and drove the Establishment to imprison them. This enduring rebel aura and the unmistakeable craft evident in classic records such as Satisfaction, Honky Tonk Women and Brown Sugar ensured subsequent generations of diehard fans, establishing the band as the biggest box office attraction the world has ever seen. The Mammoth Book of The Rolling Stones provides a comprehensive collection of reviews, analysis, interviews and exposés - both archive and contemporary, favourable and critical, concise and epic - of these extraordinary cultural icons as they pass the astonishing milestone of 50 years as rock's pre-eminent band.

rolling stone worst decisions: *Me* Ricky Martin, 2010-11-02 International superstar, Ricky Martin, who has sold more than 60 million albums worldwide, opens up for the first time about memories of his early childhood, experiences in the famed boy band Menudo, struggles with his identity during the Livin' la Vida Loca phenomenon, reflections on coming to terms with his sexuality, relationships that allowed him to embrace love, and life-changing decisions like devoting himself to helping children around the world and becoming a father. Me is an intimate memoir about the very liberating and spiritual journey of one of the most iconic pop-stars of our time.

rolling stone worst decisions: Stronger Jeff Bauman, Bret Witter, 2014-04-08 The New York Times bestselling memoir of the 27-year-old Boston Marathon bombing survivor and the basis of the major motion picture starring Jake Gyllenhaal. When Jeff Bauman woke up on Tuesday, April 16th, 2013 in the Boston Medical Center, groggy from a series of lifesaving surgeries and missing his legs, the first thing he did was try to speak. When he realized he couldn't, he asked for a pad and paper and wrote down seven words: Saw the guy. Looked right at me, setting off one of the biggest manhunts in the country's history. Just thirty hours before, Jeff had been at the finish line of the 2013 Boston Marathon cheering on his girlfriend, Erin, when the first bomb went off at his feet. As he was rushed to the hospital, he realized he was severely injured and that he might die, but he didn't know that a photograph of him in a wheelchair was circulating throughout the world, making him the human face of the Boston Marathon bombing victims, or that what he'd seen would give the Boston police their most important breakthrough. In Stronger, Jeff describes the chaos and terror of the bombing itself and the ongoing FBI investigation in which he was a key witness. He takes us inside his grueling rehabilitation, and discusses his attempt to reconcile the world's admiration with

his own guilt and frustration. . Brave, compassionate, and emotionally compelling, Jeff Bauman's story is not just his, but ours as well.

rolling stone worst decisions: Hand to Mouth Linda Tirado, 2015-09-01 The real-life Nickel and Dimed—the author of the wildly popular "Poverty Thoughts" essay tells what it's like to be working poor in America. ONE OF THE FIVE MOST IMPORTANT BOOKS OF THE YEAR--Esquire "DEVASTATINGLY SMART AND FUNNY. I am the author of Nickel and Dimed, which tells the story of my own brief attempt, as a semi-undercover journalist, to survive on low-wage retail and service jobs. TIRADO IS THE REAL THING."—Barbara Ehrenreich, from the Foreword As the haves and have-nots grow more separate and unequal in America, the working poor don't get heard from much. Now they have a voice—and it's forthright, funny, and just a little bit furious. Here, Linda Tirado tells what it's like, day after day, to work, eat, shop, raise kids, and keep a roof over your head without enough money. She also answers questions often asked about those who live on or near minimum wage: Why don't they get better jobs? Why don't they make better choices? Why do they smoke cigarettes and have ugly lawns? Why don't they borrow from their parents? Enlightening and entertaining, Hand to Mouth opens up a new and much-needed dialogue between the people who just don't have it and the people who just don't get it.

rolling stone worst decisions: The Only Girl Robin Green, 2018-08-21 A raucous and vividly dishy memoir by the only woman writer on the masthead of Rolling Stone Magazine in the early Seventies. In 1971, Robin Green had an interview with Jann Wenner at the offices of Rolling Stone magazine. She had just moved to Berkeley, California, a city that promised Good Vibes All-a Time. Those days, job applications asked just one question: What are your sun, moon and rising signs? Green thought she was interviewing for a clerical job like the other girls in the office, a real job. Instead, she was hired as a journalist. With irreverent humor and remarkable nerve, Green spills stories of sparring with Dennis Hopper on a film junket in the desert, scandalizing fans of David Cassidy and spending a legendary evening on a water bed in Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s dorm room. In the seventies, Green was there as Hunter S. Thompson crafted Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas, and now, with a distinctly gonzo female voice, she reveals her side of that tumultuous time in America. Brutally honest and bold, Green reveals what it was like to be the first woman granted entry into an iconic boys' club. Pulling back the curtain on Rolling Stone magazine in its prime, The Only Girl is a stunning tribute to a bygone era and a publication that defined a generation.

rolling stone worst decisions: Under Their Thumb Bill German, 2022-06-15 At age sixteen, Bill German began publishing a Rolling Stones fanzine out of his bedroom in Brooklyn. And when he presented an issue to the band on a street in New York, he obviously made an impression: before he knew it, the Stones had hired him to document their career, inviting him in to the studio and to their private jam sessions. He traveled the world with them, stayed at their homes, and, for almost two decades, witnessed their wild parties and nasty feuds. Yet through it all, he never lost his identity as that "nice boy from Brooklyn." Under Their Thumb is a fish-out-of-water tale about a fan who wanted to know everything about his favorite rock group—and suddenly learned too much. This updated edition, published to mark the Stones' sixtieth anniversary, features forty new pages of text and more than thirty never-before-seen photos.

rolling stone worst decisions: Worst. President. Ever. Robert Strauss, 2016-10-01 Worst. President. Ever. flips the great presidential biography on its head, offering an enlightening—and highly entertaining!—account of poor James Buchanan's presidency to prove once and for all that, well, few leaders could have done worse. But author Robert Strauss does much more, leading readers out of Buchanan's terrible term in office—meddling in the Dred Scott Supreme Court decision, exacerbating the Panic of 1857, helping foment the John Brown uprisings and "Bloody Kansas," virtually inviting a half-dozen states to secede from the Union as a lame duck, and on and on—to explore with insight and humor his own obsession with presidents, and ultimately the entire notion of ranking our presidents. He guides us through the POTUS rating game of historians and others who have made their own Mount Rushmores—or Marianas Trenches!—of presidential achievement, showing why Buchanan easily loses to any of the others, but also offering insights into

presidential history buffs like himself, the forgotten lesser presidential sites, sex and the presidency, the presidency itself, and how and why it can often take the best measures out of even the most dedicated men.

rolling stone worst decisions: *Tim Burton* Tim Burton, 2005 Collected interviews with the eclectic director of Edward Scissorhands, Beetlejuice, and Ed Wood

rolling stone worst decisions: Radical Decision Making: Leading Strategic Change in Complex Organizations D. Hruška, 2014-12-12 Radical Decision Making offers a controversial new framework to the conventional strategic change management conversation. While many approaches provide a discussion on a singular level, Dr. Hruška blends theory and research of decision making and social interaction to develop a consistent framework of strategic change.

rolling stone worst decisions: Appetite for Self-Destruction Steve Knopper, 2009-01-06 For the first time, Appetite for Self-Destruction recounts the epic story of the precipitous rise and fall of the recording industry over the past three decades, when the incredible success of the CD turned the music business into one of the most glamorous, high-profile industries in the world -- and the advent of file sharing brought it to its knees. In a comprehensive, fast-paced account full of larger-than-life personalities, Rolling Stone contributing editor Steve Knopper shows that, after the incredible wealth and excess of the '80s and '90s, Sony, Warner, and the other big players brought about their own downfall through years of denial and bad decisions in the face of dramatic advances in technology. Big Music has been asleep at the wheel ever since Napster revolutionized the way music was distributed in the 1990s. Now, because powerful people like Doug Morris and Tommy Mottola failed to recognize the incredible potential of file-sharing technology, the labels are in danger of becoming completely obsolete. Knopper, who has been writing about the industry for more than ten years, has unparalleled access to those intimately involved in the music world's highs and lows. Based on interviews with more than two hundred music industry sources -- from Warner Music chairman Edgar Bronfman Jr. to renegade Napster creator Shawn Fanning -- Knopper is the first to offer such a detailed and sweeping contemporary history of the industry's wild ride through the past three decades. From the birth of the compact disc, through the explosion of CD sales in the '80s and '90s, the emergence of Napster, and the secret talks that led to iTunes, to the current collapse of the industry as CD sales plummet, Knopper takes us inside the boardrooms, recording studios, private estates, garage computer labs, company jets, corporate infighting, and secret deals of the big names and behind-the-scenes players who made it all happen. With unforgettable portraits of the music world's mighty and formerly mighty; detailed accounts of both brilliant and stupid ideas brought to fruition or left on the cutting-room floor; the dish on backroom schemes, negotiations, and brawls; and several previously unreported stories, Appetite for Self-Destruction is a riveting, informative, and highly entertaining read. It offers a broad perspective on the current state of Big Music, how it got into these dire straits, and where it's going from here -- and a cautionary tale for the digital age.

rolling stone worst decisions: The Rolling Stone Interviews Jann S. Wenner, 2007-11-01 The greatest interviews with the greatest rock stars, movie stars, and cultural icons -- uncensored and unfiltered -- are published together in one remarkable volume in celebration of Rolling Stones 40th anniversary.

rolling stone worst decisions: Redemption Song Chris Salewicz, 2008-05-13 With exclusive access to Strummer's friends, relatives, and fellow musicians, music journalist Chris Salewicz penetrates the soul of an rock 'n roll icon. The Clash was--and still is--one of the most important groups of the late 1970s and early 1980s. Indebted to rockabilly, reggae, Memphis soul, cowboy justice, and '60s protest, the overtly political band railed against war, racism, and a dead-end economy, and in the process imparted a conscience to punk. Their eponymous first record and London Calling still rank in Rolling Stone's top-ten best albums of all time, and in 2003 they were officially inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Joe Strummer was the Clash's front man, a rock-and-roll hero seen by many as the personification of outlaw integrity and street cool. The political heart of the Clash, Strummer synthesized gritty toughness and poetic sensitivity in a manner that still resonates with listeners, and his untimely death in December 2002 shook the

world, further solidifying his iconic status. Salewicz was a friend to Strummer for close to three decades and has covered the Clash's career and the entire punk movement from its inception. He uses his vantage point to write Redemption Song, the definitive biography of Strummer, charting his enormous worldwide success, his bleak years in the wilderness after the Clash's bitter breakup, and his triumphant return to stardom at the end of his life. Salewicz argues for Strummer's place in a long line of protest singers that includes Woody Guthrie, John Lennon, and Bob Marley, and examines by turns Strummer's and punk's ongoing cultural influence.

rolling stone worst decisions: Dreaming the Beatles Rob Sheffield, 2017-04-25 An NPR Best Book of the Year • Winner of the Virgil Thomson Award for Outstanding Music Criticism "This is the best book about the Beatles ever written" - Mashable Rob Sheffield, the Rolling Stone columnist and bestselling author of Love Is a Mix Tape offers an entertaining, unconventional look at the most popular band in history, the Beatles, exploring what they mean today and why they still matter so intensely to a generation that has never known a world without them. Dreaming the Beatles is not another biography of the Beatles, or a song-by-song analysis of the best of John and Paul. It isn't another exposé about how they broke up. It isn't a history of their gigs or their gear. It is a collection of essays telling the story of what this ubiquitous band means to a generation who grew up with the Beatles music on their parents' stereos and their faces on T-shirts. What do the Beatles mean today? Why are they more famous and beloved now than ever? And why do they still matter so much to us, nearly fifty years after they broke up? As he did in his previous books, Love is a Mix Tape, Talking to Girls About Duran Duran, and Turn Around Bright Eyes, Sheffield focuses on the emotional connections we make to music. This time, he focuses on the biggest pop culture phenomenon of all time—The Beatles. In his singular voice, he explores what the Beatles mean today, to fans who have learned to love them on their own terms and not just for the sake of nostalgia. Dreaming the Beatles tells the story of how four lads from Liverpool became the world's biggest pop group, then broke up—but then somehow just kept getting bigger. At this point, their music doesn't belong to the past—it belongs to right now. This book is a celebration of that music, showing why the Beatles remain the world's favorite thing—and how they invented the future we're all living in today.

rolling stone worst decisions: The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump Bandy X. Lee, 2019-03-19 As this bestseller predicted, Trump has only grown more erratic and dangerous as the pressures on him mount. This new edition includes new essays bringing the book up to date—because this is still not normal. Originally released in fall 2017, The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump was a runaway bestseller. Alarmed Americans and international onlookers wanted to know: What is wrong with him? That question still plagues us. The Trump administration has proven as chaotic and destructive as its opponents feared, and the man at the center of it all remains a cipher. Constrained by the APA's "Goldwater rule," which inhibits mental health professionals from diagnosing public figures they have not personally examined, many of those qualified to weigh in on the issue have shied away from discussing it at all. The public has thus been left to wonder whether he is mad, bad, or both. The prestigious mental health experts who have contributed to the revised and updated version of The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump argue that their moral and civic duty to warn supersedes professional neutrality. Whatever affects him, affects the nation: From the trauma people have experienced under the Trump administration to the cult-like characteristics of his followers, he has created unprecedented mental health consequences across our nation and beyond. With eight new essays (about one hundred pages of new material), this edition will cover the dangerous ramifications of Trump's unnatural state. It's not all in our heads. It's in his.

rolling stone worst decisions: The Rolling Stone Album Guide Anthony DeCurtis, James Henke, Holly George-Warren, 1992 A completely revised edition of the bestselling guide to popular recordings--featuring 2,500 entries and more than 12,500 album reviews. The definitive guide for the `90s.

rolling stone worst decisions: <u>Don Perry Produced The Music</u> Don Perry, 2016-02-25 Don Perry was an "eye-witness" to the birth of Rock and Roll. When Elvis Presley arrived, Rock and Roll exploded and Don knew he wanted to be a part of it. In 1963, he sold his car and armed with enough

money to last six months, headed to Hollywood to become a Rock star. Surely that would be enough time. That six months stretched to nearly thirty years and as Rock evolved and changed, so did Don's career. "Don Perry Produced The Music" traces his journey as a singer/songwriter, recording engineer, record producer, manager, concert promoter and finally, music supervisor for film and TV. It also traces the golden years of Rock and Roll and how they shaped every step of the way.

rolling stone worst decisions: Floor Sample Julia Cameron, 2007-04-19 An unflinching memoir by the woman who has helped thousands of people uncover their creative inspiration. In Floor Sample, the author of the international bestseller The Artist's Way weaves an honest and moving portrayal of her life. From her early career as a writer for Rolling Stone magazine and her marriage to Martin Scorsese, to her tortured experiences with alcohol and Hollywood, Julia Cameron reflects in this engaging memoir on the experiences in her life that have fueled her own art as well as her ability to help others realize their creative dreams. She also describes the fascinating circumstances that led her to emerge as a central figure in the creative recovery movement-a movement that she inaugurated and defined with the publication of her seminal work, The Artist's Way. Julia Cameron is a passionate and wry observer of the world, and her account of her life as a self-described floor sample for all she teaches in her brilliant books on creativity will surprise, entertain, and inspire all her many fans as well as anyone interested in an absorbing literary memoir.

rolling stone worst decisions: The Someday Funnies Michel Choquette, 2011-11-01 Presents a collection of 129 never-before-published comics about the 1960s by 169 writers and artists, including Renâe Goscinny, Jack Kirby, Harvey Kurtzman, Art Spiegelman, and Gahan Wilson.

rolling stone worst decisions: Main Lines, Blood Feasts, and Bad Taste Lester Bangs, 2008-12-10 Before his untimely death in 1982, Lester Bangs was inarguably the most influential critic of rock and roll. Writing in hyper-intelligent Benzedrine prose that calls to mind Jack Kerouac and Hunter S. Thompson, he eschewed all conventional thinking as he discussed everything from Black Sabbath being the first truly Catholic band to Anne Murray's smoldering sexuality. In Mainlines, Blood Feasts, Bad Taste fellow rock critic John Morthland has compiled a companion volume to Psychotic Reactions and Carburetor Dung, the first, now classic collection of Bangs's work. Here are excerpts from an autobiographical piece Bangs wrote as a teenager, travel essays, and, of course, the music pieces, essays, and criticism covering everything from titans like Miles Davis, Lou Reed, and the Rolling Stones to esoteric musicians like Brian Eno and Captain Beefheart. Singularly entertaining, this book is an absolute must for anyone interested in the history of rock.

rolling stone worst decisions: Confess Rob Halford, 2020-09-29 The legendary frontman of Judas Priest, one of the most successful heavy metal bands of all time, celebrates five decades of heavy metal in this tell-all memoir. Most priests hear confessions. This one is making his. Rob Halford, front man of global iconic metal band Judas Priest, is a true Metal God. Raised in Britain's hard-working, heavy industrial heartland, he and his music were forged in the Black Country. Confess, his full autobiography, is an unforgettable rock 'n' roll story-a journey from a Walsall council estate to musical fame via alcoholism, addiction, police cells, ill-fated sexual trysts, and bleak personal tragedy, through to rehab, coming out, redemption . . . and finding love. Now, he is telling his gospel truth. Told with Halford's trademark self-deprecating, deadpan Black Country humor, Confess is the story of an extraordinary five decades in the music industry. It is also the tale of unlikely encounters with everybody from Superman to Andy Warhol, Madonna, Jack Nicholson, and the Queen. More than anything else, it's a celebration of the fire and power of heavy metal. Rob Halford has decided to Confess. Because it's good for the soul. Named one of the Best Music Books of 2020 by Rolling Stone and Kirkus Reviews

rolling stone worst decisions: A Man Called Destruction Holly George-Warren, 2014-03-20 The first biography of the artist who "essentially invented indie and alternative rock" (Spin) A brilliant and influential songwriter, vocalist, and guitarist, the charismatic Alex Chilton was more than a rock star—he was a true cult icon. Awardwinning music writer Holly George-Warren's A Man Called Destruction is the first biography of this enigmatic artist, who died in 2010. Covering

Chilton's life from his early work with the charttopping Box Tops and the seminal power-pop band Big Star to his experiments with punk and roots music and his sprawling solo career, A Man Called Destruction is the story of a musical icon and a richly detailed chronicle of pop music's evolution, from the mid-1960s through today's indie rock.

rolling stone worst decisions: The Heroin Diaries Nikki Sixx, 2008-09-04 Set against the frenzied world of heavy metal superstardom, the co-founder of legendary Motley Crue offers an unflinching and gripping look at his own descent into drug addiction. When Motley Crue were at the height of their fame, there wasn't a drug Nikki Sixx wouldn't do. He spent days - sometimes alone, sometimes with others addicts, friends and lovers - in a coke- and heroin-fuelled daze. THE HEROIN DIARIES reveals Nikki's personal diary entries alongside commentary from the people who know Nikki best including band mates Tommy, Vince and Mick. The book is a candid look at a nightmare come true: a punishing heroin addiction that brought Nikki to the edge of losing his talent, his career, his family and finally to a near-fatal overdose which left him clinically dead for a few minutes before being revived. Brutally honest, utterly riveting and shockingly moving, THE HEROIN DIARIES follows Nikki during the year he plunged to rock bottom and his courageous decision to pick himself up and start living again.

rolling stone worst decisions: Full Metal Jacket Stanley Kubrick, Gustav Hasford, Michael Herr, 1987

rolling stone worst decisions: <u>Come Home, America</u> William Greider, 2009-03-17 Asserts that America is straying from its democratic ideals and faltering in a rapidly globalized world community, and challenges policies that are based on a priority of making America number one in the world while examining the economic and political forces that have brought about contemporary problems.

rolling stone worst decisions: <u>Lightning</u> Dean Koontz, 2003-09-02 #1 New York Times bestselling author Dean Koontz's brilliantly thrilling novel of suspense. In the midst of a raging blizzard, lightning struck on the night Laura Shane was born. And a mysterious blond-haired stranger showed up just in time to save her from dying. Years later, in the wake of another storm, Laura will be saved again. For someone is watching over her. Is he the guardian angel he seems? The devil in disguise? Or the master of a haunting destiny beyond all time and space? "A gripping novel...fast-paced and satisfying."—People

rolling stone worst decisions: Once Upon a Nightwish Mape Ollila, 2008 Hailing from the tiny hamlet of Kitee, Finland (pop. 10,000) Nightwish has captivated the world's imagination with magical million-selling releases like Once, Century Child, and Wishmaster. Their saga is a heavy metal fable as dramatic and tumultuous as the band's epic symphonic music. In these details and confessions, a vivid and painfully honest portrait of a musical dream emerges--and tensions swell as a split with original singer Tarja Turunen becomes inevitable. In this remarkably revealing official biography, author Mape Ollila charts the rise from village student project to global stardom, gaining unprecedented access not just to the members of Nightwish past and present; but also their families, their loyal and lewd crew, their peers, their critics, and countless other insiders from the Nightwish adventure. The book lays bare the creative firepower and personal demons of songwriter Tuomas Holopainen; the unique talents and traits of guitarist Emppu Vuorinen, drummer Jukka Nevalainen, and bassist Marco Hietala; and the true reasons behind the 2005 departure of vocalist Tarja Turunen--in the band's words and hers. Along the way, the band struggles with religious protesters, fortune-tellers, naked crew members, health problems, shady promoters, out-of-control fans, and the growing pains of an ever-steeper rock star learning curve. Happily ever after or not, these unique Finnish personalities are brought to life in this journey of into the mysteries of...Once Upon a

rolling stone worst decisions: The Great Derangement Matt Taibbi, 2009-01-13 A REVELATORY AND DARKLY COMIC ADVENTURE THROUGH A NATION ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN—FROM THE HALLS OF CONGRESS TO THE BASES OF BAGHDAD TO THE APOCALYPTIC CHURCHES OF THE HEARTLAND Rolling Stone's Matt Taibbi set out to describe the nature of George Bush's America in the post-9/11 era and ended up vomiting demons in

an evangelical church in Texas, riding the streets of Baghdad in an American convoy to nowhere, searching for phantom fighter jets in Congress, and falling into the rabbit hole of the 9/11 Truth Movement. Matt discovered in his travels across the country that the resilient blue state/red state narrative of American politics had become irrelevant. A large and growing chunk of the American population was so turned off—or radicalized—by electoral chicanery, a spineless news media, and the increasingly blatant lies from our leaders ("they hate us for our freedom") that they abandoned the political mainstream altogether. They joined what he calls The Great Derangement. Taibbi tells the story of this new American madness by inserting himself into four defining American subcultures: The Military, where he finds himself mired in the grotesque black comedy of the American occupation of Iraq; The System, where he follows the money-slicked path of legislation in Congress; The Resistance, where he doubles as chief public antagonist and undercover member of the passionately bonkers 9/11 Truth Movement; and The Church, where he infiltrates a politically influential apocalyptic mega-ministry in Texas and enters the lives of its desperate congregants. Together these four interwoven adventures paint a portrait of a nation dangerously out of touch with reality and desperately searching for answers in all the wrong places. Funny, smart, and a little bit heartbreaking, The Great Derangement is an audaciously reported, sobering, and illuminating portrait of America at the end of the Bush era.

rolling stone worst decisions: Obama's Legacy The Washington Post, 2016-12-20 In this timely retrospective, leading voices from The Washington Post come together to discuss Barack Obama's historic presidency. When President Obama was elected, he was a figure of hope for many Americans. Throughout his presidency, he has become far more than a symbol of change; he has enacted countless programs and policies that have made an impact on the country. As his term comes to an end, we look back on what has defined Obama as an American leader. Providing insight into everything from his politics to his family, this collection of articles examines the highlights of the Obama administration. The award-winning journalists at The Washington Post have brought together stories from the last eight years to commemorate the indelible mark our most recent president has made on the United States. Featuring over a hundred historic photos and articles from eight Pulitzer Prize winners, Obama's Legacy is the perfect way to close out the first family's years in the White House.

rolling stone worst decisions: Falling Is Like This Kate Rockland, 2010-05-11 Plotted with precise timing and set against an incredibly vivid portrait of the ever-changing East Village, Falling Is Like This is a comedic and touching account of the whirlwind affair with a rock star every girl dreams about. Tabloid-writer Harper Rostov breaks up with her boyfriend only to fall into the arms of Nick Cavallaro---certified punk-rock God who is considered a genius by fans and critics alike. Harper's newly single heart gets an overdose of chemistry from the Hitchhiker's Revenge guitarist as she falls for his intoxicating charisma. Over the course of a single week, Harper is swept up in their sexual energy and the allure of the band. But soon she can't help wondering if what she thought she wanted---what she left her sweet, caring boyfriend for---is everything she'd hoped it would be.

rolling stone worst decisions: Nine Lives Dan Baum, 2009-02-10 The hidden history of the haunted and beloved city of New Orleans, told through the intersecting lives of nine remarkable characters. "Nine Lives is stunning work. Dan Baum has immersed himself in New Orleans, the most fascinating city in the United States, and illuminated it in a way that is as innovative as Tom Wolfe on hot rods and Truman Capote on a pair of murderers. Full of stylistic brilliance and deep insight and an overriding compassion, Nine Lives is an instant classic of creative nonfiction." —Robert Olen Butler, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain Nine Lives is a multivoiced biography of a dazzling, surreal, and imperiled city, told through the lives of night unforgettable characters and bracketed by two epic storms: Hurricane Betsy, which transformed New Orleans in the 1960s, and Hurricane Katrina, which nearly destroyed it. Dan Baum brings the kaleidoscopic portrait to life, showing us what was lost in the storm and what remains to be saved. BONUS: This edition contains a Nine Lives discussion guide.

rolling stone worst decisions: Cases For Event Management and Event Tourism Donald Getz, Vassilios Ziakas, 2023-04-30 A comprehensive collection of fully developed case studies of event management and event tourism main areas, including HR, leadership, marketing, strategy, operations, stakeholder management, and evaluation, all written by international experts. It is a must have collection for all those studying and teaching event management and event tourism.

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