

Rolling Stone Worst Decisions



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'Glee' Brings in a New Glee Class

Like every high school-centric show before it, *Glee* faced a major dilemma when its characters reached graduation age. Taking a page from the *Archie* comics and keeping them forever 17 would have made no sense, but it would have been ridiculous to send them all to the same college *Boy Meets World*-style. Since you can't have *Glee* without a glee club, the show ultimately decided to follow the OG *Glee* crew as they navigated college *and* bring in a new group of high school singers for Mr. Schuster to teach. The result was an enormous cast of characters and an absurd number of overlapping storylines spanning across the entire country. Ratings plummeted the second *Glee* kicked off this incarnation of the show, and it wisely put the focus back solely on the original cast.

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 rhythm-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 TRADE Book of the Year, MOJO Over 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: Don Perry Produced The Music 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 René 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

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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

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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 Nightwish.

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.

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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.

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