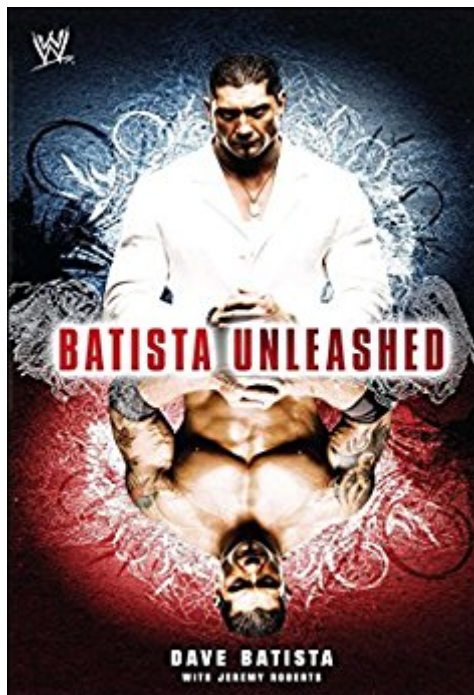


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Batista Unleashed (WWE)



Synopsis

People around the world know Dave Batista as World Wrestling Entertainment's "the Animal," the rope-shaking, spine-busting World Heavyweight Champion, one of the most popular Superstars in recent years. The crowd turned Batista from heel to babyface after they were electrified by his awesome physique and physical wrestling style. Few fans, however, know that Batista didn't join the profession until he was thirty years old -- an age at which many wrestlers are thinking about hanging up their boots. Nor do most fans know the tremendous toll the climb to the top has taken on Batista's personal life. While successfully staying away from hard drugs and -- usually -- liquor, he found sex too tempting to resist. "Women were my drug of choice," the Animal confesses. That addiction cost him his marriage, destroying a relationship that had helped him climb from poverty to the pinnacle of sports entertainment in less than two years. Now, in *Batista Unleashed*, the WWE Superstar comes clean about the choices he made and the devastating effects they had on his family. He talks about the injury that stripped him of his title -- an injury he blames on Mark Henry's carelessness. While being sidelined cost Batista untold hundreds of thousands of dollars in lost income, it also set the stage for a tremendous comeback that cemented the Animal's reputation as a true champion. Batista talks about growing up in the worst part of Washington, D.C., where three murders occurred in his front yard before he was nine. He speaks lovingly about his mother -- a lesbian -- and how hard she worked to keep the family not just together but alive. He talks candidly about his own criminal past: a conviction on a drug charge and another, since overturned, on assault. He speaks of his days as a bouncer and a lifeguard, and tells how bodybuilding may have saved his life. Once he made it to the WWE, Batista realized he wasn't really ready for the big time. His career seemed headed for a fall until Fit Finlay took him under his wing. But his real education came when he joined Evolution and rode with Triple H and Ric Flair, two of sports entertainment's all-time greats. Batista talks about what they taught him, and details some of their wild times on the road. But the champ also reveals a kinder, gentler side. While his soft-spoken manner in the locker room has sometimes been misinterpreted as arrogance, in truth Batista's always been somewhat shy and quiet. Emotional by nature, he reveals for the first time that the tears fans saw at *WrestleMania 21*, when he won the World Heavyweight Championship for the first time, were very real. And he speaks movingly about his problems with his ex-wives and teenage daughters, and how it felt to become a grandfather. While his straight-shooting mouth has occasionally gotten him into trouble -- most notably in a backstage confrontation with Undertaker after some remarks about *SmackDown!* -- Batista is his own harshest critic. He explains his early limitations as a wrestler and the work he has done to overcome them. Interspersing his memoir with

accounts from life on the road, Batista lightens the narrative with a surprising sense of humor. An Animal in the ring, he reveals himself as an honest and even humble man in everyday life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'll start with what I think is the moral of this story that is ongoing because the subject is thankfully still alive; Follow your dreams and don't let anyone tell you that you can't succeed at it. I don't pretend to know Dave Bautista but I feel like what I read was in his words and not someone else telling his story. I didn't mind that the telling went back and forth from the past to the present. He talked about growing up poor, and the decisions that shaped his life both good and bad. He's had some tragedies in his life and seems to have learned from them and I hope that young people who pick up the book learn those lessons without going through some of the things he had to. There is some swearing so parents be aware this isn't really suitable for young teens. I watched wrestling as a kid and just started getting back into it in the past few months so I actually learned some things about the business that I would have never known. I watch the matches now with a different mindset while still realizing it is sports 'entertainment'. In light of Mr. Bautista leaving the WWE this year I

wonder what could now be added to this story. The last three years since this book ended must certainly be equally entertaining. All in all I thought it was a good read and I wish him luck in his future endeavors. If nothing else he seems to be a fighter and if Dave Bautista can channel that determination he can do just about anything in his personal and professional life.

I have felt that I walked through Batistas journey while reading this book. I really enjoyed his stories about his early years as a bouncer, later wrestle in OVW and finally WWE. Batistas relationship with Afa was a shock to me because I didn't know The Rocks relatives had a role in shaping Batista. What touched me the most was his relationship with the late EDDIE GUERRERO because he understood Batista and Batista was comfortable with him. Batistas ride to the World championship at Wrestlemania 21 against Triple H and later 23 with the undertaker were his glory days that I enjoyed. Check this book out if you want to walk with "THE ANIMAL".

Have read many wrestling Bios and went into this one thinking it would be similar to Stone Cold and The Rock's books. Readable but not memorable. Wow I was wrong. This is a brutally raw and riveting book. This what those of us who love to read behind the scenes books on wrestlers more than actually watch wrestling hope for. Very highly recommended even to no. Wrestling fans.

This book is tremendous!!! It gives you an inside look into the person we all know and Love as "The Animal... Batista" Its funny in spots and serious in others....But overall the book is very well written and very insightful... Great Reading!!!! You will Definitely ENJOY!!!!

I read the whole book in about three hours some parts were really boring and dragged in my opinion. I enjoyed reading the stories on the road and how he grew up but the rest was kinda a drag ok book but there are better books out there .

I enjoyed reading about his life. He says he doesn't understand the interest but I just found it interesting! He speaks about his childhood (murder in his front yard before age 9) and about working with wrestlers past & present. For a quiet guy, he has a lot to say and I, for one, am glad!

I really enjoy reading about Batista

I've never read any of the other books from any of the other wrestlers before, but I'm very glad I

decided to get this one. I never knew all the difficulties and hard work it takes to be a wrestler, plus reading about Batistas personal struggles made it even better of a book to read. You really get the experience of this mans life and becoming the Animal. If your a fan of Batista or even just a fan of professional wrestling, this is one book to get.

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