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Do Ya Wanna Be A Wrestler, Kid?



Synopsis

Since the age of 14 Beau James has done just about everything in the world of Pro Wrestling. Starting out at the age of 14 helping promote towns, work on the ring crew, and selling merchandise. His in ring career start at 15 years old. At the age of 16 he started his own Pro Wrestling Promotion Southern States Wrestling. For the past near quarter century he has travel America living his childhood dreams. In his new book "Do Ya Wanna Be A Wrestler,Kid?" you will follow his life long love affair with Pro Wrestling. Hear first hand accounts of his battles and struggles to get SSW started. The daily battles that have followed him to present a product that is as close to what he watched and followed as a kid. How older wrestlers set out to stop him. Who helped him along the way. Get a behind the scenes look at a life of someone who wrestles for a living and how it becomes harder with each passing day. His personal thoughts of how wrestling has changed for the worse and who is to blame. It will surprise you. His tributes to many of his heroes turned friends who are no longer with us. The dangers of traveling 120 to 200 days a year. The fun wrestlers have by pulling elaborate practical jokes on each other. And never before publicly told stories of wrestling legends Jimmy Valiant, Ricky Morton, Dr. Tom Prichard, Dutch Mantell, Buddy Landel, Ivan Koloff, Jerry Lawler, Robert Fuller, Jimmy Golden and many more. Let's not forget his fairy tale love story with Misty. How her love helped change Beau many ways for the good. The book also includes praise for Beau from WWE, TNA, and NWA stars. 348 pages that once you start reading you will not be able to put it down.

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Customer Reviews

Pro wrestling thrived in the U.S. long before the WWE, as nearly every part of the country had a local wrestling promotion that entertained fans in its region. Beau James is a throwback to that era and as a wrestler, promoter, historian and author, he has made a life's mission of keeping old-school pro wrestling alive. In this book, James presents an insider's perspective on what it is like to promote and wrestle on independent pro wrestling cards. These shows are far from the bright lights of Monday Night Raw - wrestlers may ride four to a car for hours to wrestle in a National Guard armory or elementary school gym. But James has managed to make a living in independent wrestling for more than 20 years, which is a testament to his drive and his love for the business. He's also a wonderful storyteller, and he shares plenty of behind-the-scenes stories - some funny, some tragic, but all worth reading. If you want to know more about pro wrestling on the grassroots level, "Do Ya Wanna Be A Wrestler, Kid?" is highly recommended.

Wow! I mean just that. What can I actually say that Beau James didn't? I read the book from cover to cover and never wanted to put it down. Beau's vast wealth of wrestling knowledge (dates, people and fun facts) is just impeccable, he's like a human wrestling encyclopedia. The main focus in the book is the hot bed of Tennessee wrestling, Kingsport, TN (although he did some long road trips around the US). He was able to work with and meet some of the greatest wrestling stars living and passed. This really isn't just a book on wrestling; it includes an in-depth look into the soul of this man and shows his love of one woman, wrestling and his trial and tribulations with faith and personal demons. I recommend that everyone should read this book at least once, it's worth it.

This book was an amazing trip through a fun, dreary, challenging, hopeful and heartfelt journey. I enjoyed reading the trials, tribulations and triumphs of a man I had never met but grew to respect and appreciate.

Excellent perspective in this book. Beau has been involved in every fact of professional wrestling

and it shows in this book.

Very entertaining look into the inside of pro wrestling. Great storytelling by a man who has lived his dream. Beau James has seen it all in the sport. Lots of stories that will make you laugh and even a few that will make you want to cry.

Beau James has given himself a unique charge to preserve the tradition of professional wrestling in the South, and this book encapsulates not only that, but gives you an emotional look into his personal ups and downs. James, now in his early 40s, has only earned money through professional wrestling... which has led to different trials and challenges that not many have had. In the book, he discusses his personal and professional life, culminating in his both taking the reigns of Southern States Wrestling and his marriage to Misty, who is also a professional wrestler. For any potential reader, it's important to note that you're not getting Charles Dickens or classical writing here. It's literally Beau telling stories about his life the way that he speaks. I would encourage you to listen to one of his podcasts or watch Southern States Wrestling on YouTube before reading the book... that way you can get a tone and pace for the voice of the author and really get pulled in by the emotion in his unique storytelling. It's a relatively fast read, but a good one. Beau's not a WWE type of guy... you're not going to get pre-packaged and overproduced with his writing. What you're going to get are real, raw, and emotional stories from his life.

This book is AMAZING.... Wasn't sure what I expected but it was a pleasant surprise. Beau James is so interesting you won't want to put it down until you have read the last page. Beau has a unique style in bringing each page to life and he takes you back in time to live all those memories. He leads a fascinating life as a professional wrestler but it has not always been glamorous. I have two Beau James books and can't wait until the next book comes out. If you are a wrestling fan, you will love this book!

Beau & I both started in the business in the same time period following the death of the territories. While I'd read his name in magazines, I got to know more about him from a dear friend of both of ours, 'The Duke of New York' Al Getz. I always liked & respected Beau, & after reading his book, my admiration grew. Beau is brutally honest about his faults & failures as well as the reasons for his triumphs. Most books by indy wrestlers & promoters are as 'indy-riffic' as the shows they work & run. Beau's is a chronicle of what faith & hard work can do in transforming your life. The story Beau

weaves about his marriage to Misty is touching. I laughed so hard I cried about 10 times, usually while reading a Billy Joe Travis story. Reading about his lifestyle in the 90's & early 2000's made me reflect on the lifestyle that so many of my friends have struggled, some unsuccessfully, to change. Beau's philosophies on wrestling & promoting are so close to my own that I cancelled a 'shoot interview' I had planned on doing & told all my friends to read his book. Every indy wrestler or wannabe needs to read this book. It is simultaneously a celebration of a way of life & a warning to not allow that life to consume you, a lesson more people involved in wrestling (including myself) need to learn more often. Thomas Simpson is the co-founder with Matt & Jeff Hardy of OMEGA (Organization of Modern Extreme Grappling Arts) & has almost 20 years of experience as a promoter. Omega: Uncommon Passion - From Dream to Reality

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