HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR

HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR: A GUIDE TO MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS WITH WRITERS

HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR IS A SKILL THAT COMBINES PREPARATION, CURIOSITY, AND EMPATHY. WHETHER YOU'RE A JOURNALIST, BLOGGER, PODCASTER, OR SIMPLY SOMEONE PASSIONATE ABOUT LITERATURE, CONDUCTING A COMPELLING AUTHOR INTERVIEW CAN REVEAL FASCINATING INSIGHTS ABOUT THE CREATIVE PROCESS, THE STORIES BEHIND THE STORIES, AND THE PERSON BEHIND THE PEN. BUT INTERVIEWING AUTHORS ISN'T JUST ABOUT ASKING QUESTIONS—IT'S ABOUT ENGAGING IN A DIALOGUE THAT RESPECTS THEIR CRAFT AND INVITES THEM TO SHARE THEIR UNIQUE PERSPECTIVES. IF YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR EFFECTIVELY, THIS GUIDE WILL WALK YOU THROUGH THE ESSENTIAL STEPS AND TECHNIQUES TO MAKE YOUR CONVERSATION MEMORABLE AND INSIGHTFUL.

GETTING READY: RESEARCH AND PREPARATION

BEFORE YOU DIVE INTO THE ACTUAL INTERVIEW, THOROUGH PREPARATION IS KEY. ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PARTS OF HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR IS UNDERSTANDING THEIR WORK AND BACKGROUND TO ASK THOUGHTFUL QUESTIONS THAT GO BEYOND SURFACE-LEVEL CHIT-CHAT.

READ THEIR WORK THOROUGHLY

YOU CAN'T HAVE A MEANINGFUL CONVERSATION WITHOUT BEING FAMILIAR WITH THE AUTHOR'S BOOKS, ESSAYS, OR ARTICLES. READING THEIR WORK HELPS YOU GRASP THEIR STYLE, THEMES, AND RECURRING MOTIFS. IT ALSO ALLOWS YOU TO PINPOINT SPECIFIC PASSAGES OR CHARACTERS THAT YOU CAN DISCUSS. THIS APPROACH SHOWS RESPECT FOR THE AUTHOR'S CRAFT AND SIGNALS THAT YOU'RE GENUINELY INTERESTED.

RESEARCH THE AUTHOR'S BACKGROUND

LOOK INTO THE AUTHOR'S BIOGRAPHY, INTERVIEWS THEY'VE DONE BEFORE, AND THEIR SOCIAL MEDIA OR WEBSITE. KNOWING THEIR INFLUENCES, CAREER TRAJECTORY, AND PERSONAL INTERESTS CAN HELP YOU CRAFT QUESTIONS THAT FEEL PERSONAL AND RELEVANT. ADDITIONALLY, UNDERSTANDING ANY RECENT NEWS OR EVENTS RELATED TO THEIR WORK CAN PROVIDE TIMELY TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION.

PREPARE OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

When planning your questions, focus on open-ended prompts that encourage elaboration rather than simple yes/no answers. Questions like "What inspired you to create this character?" or "How did your background influence the story?" invite richer responses. Avoid overly generic questions like "What's your book about?" unless you want to start with the basics.

CRAFTING THE INTERVIEW: BUILDING RAPPORT AND FLOW

KNOWING HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR WELL MEANS CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE THE AUTHOR FEELS COMFORTABLE AND ENGAGED. THE TONE AND FLOW OF THE CONVERSATION CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE IN THE QUALITY OF THE RESPONSES.

START WITH WARM-UP QUESTIONS

BEGIN WITH LIGHT, EASY TOPICS TO HELP THE AUTHOR RELAX. SIMPLE QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR WRITING ROUTINE, FAVORITE BOOKS, OR WHAT THEY'RE CURRENTLY READING CAN SET A FRIENDLY TONE. THIS WARM-UP PHASE CAN BREAK THE ICE AND BUILD RAPPORT BEFORE DELVING INTO DEEPER SUBJECTS.

LISTEN ACTIVELY AND ADAPT

EFFECTIVE AUTHOR INTERVIEWS REQUIRE ACTIVE LISTENING. PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE AUTHOR'S ANSWERS AND BE READY TO ASK FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS THAT EXPLORE INTERESTING POINTS FURTHER. SOMETIMES, THE BEST MOMENTS IN AN INTERVIEW COME FROM SPONTANEOUS CURIOSITY RATHER THAN STICKING RIGIDLY TO A SCRIPT.

BALANCE BETWEEN PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL

READERS OFTEN WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THE AUTHOR AS A PERSON, BUT IT'S IMPORTANT TO STRIKE A BALANCE. RESPECT BOUNDARIES AND AVOID OVERLY INTRUSIVE QUESTIONS. INSTEAD, FRAME PERSONAL QUESTIONS IN A WAY THAT RELATES TO THEIR WRITING—FOR EXAMPLE, ASKING HOW THEIR LIFE EXPERIENCES INFLUENCE THEIR NARRATIVES.

KEY QUESTION THEMES TO EXPLORE

Understanding common themes and topics that resonate with authors can help you guide the conversation to meaningful territories. Here are some thematic areas to consider when learning how to interview an author.

THE CREATIVE PROCESS

AUTHORS OFTEN ENJOY DISCUSSING HOW THEY CREATE THEIR STORIES. QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR WRITING RITUALS, HOW THEY OVERCOME WRITER'S BLOCK, OR THE EVOLUTION OF THEIR DRAFTS CAN REVEAL FASCINATING BEHIND-THE-SCENES DETAILS. FOR EXAMPLE, "CAN YOU WALK ME THROUGH YOUR TYPICAL WRITING DAY?" OR "WHAT WAS THE MOST CHALLENGING PART OF WRITING THIS BOOK?"

INSPIRATION AND INFLUENCES

DELVING INTO WHAT INSPIRES AN AUTHOR CAN UNCOVER RICH INSIGHTS. ASK ABOUT THEIR LITERARY INFLUENCES, LIFE EVENTS, OR EVEN MUSIC AND ART THAT FUEL THEIR IMAGINATION. THIS NOT ONLY HUMANIZES THE AUTHOR BUT ALSO CONNECTS READERS TO THE CULTURAL CONTEXT OF THE WORK.

CHARACTER AND PLOT DEVELOPMENT

EXPLORING HOW CHARACTERS AND PLOTS COME TO LIFE CAN BE VERY ENGAGING. YOU MIGHT ASK, "WHICH CHARACTER DO YOU RELATE TO MOST?" OR "DID THE STORY CHANGE SIGNIFICANTLY FROM YOUR ORIGINAL IDEA?" SUCH QUESTIONS INVITE AUTHORS TO SHARE THE NUANCES OF STORYTELLING.

INDUSTRY AND PUBLISHING INSIGHTS

FOR READERS INTERESTED IN THE BUSINESS SIDE, QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PUBLISHING JOURNEY, MARKETING, OR EXPERIENCES WITH EDITORS PROVIDE VALUABLE PERSPECTIVES. FOR INSTANCE, "WHAT WAS YOUR EXPERIENCE LIKE WORKING WITH YOUR EDITOR?" OR "HOW DO YOU NAVIGATE THE CHALLENGES OF PROMOTING YOUR BOOK?"

PRACTICAL TIPS FOR CONDUCTING THE INTERVIEW

Knowing how to interview an author also involves practical considerations that ensure the interview runs smoothly and professionally.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT FORMAT

DECIDE WHETHER THE INTERVIEW WILL BE IN-PERSON, OVER THE PHONE, VIA VIDEO CALL, OR THROUGH EMAIL. EACH FORMAT HAS ITS PROS AND CONS; IN-PERSON INTERVIEWS OFTEN FEEL MORE PERSONAL, WHILE EMAIL INTERVIEWS ALLOW MORE TIME FOR THOUGHTFUL ANSWERS. TAILOR YOUR APPROACH BASED ON WHAT WORKS BEST FOR BOTH YOU AND THE AUTHOR.

SET CLEAR EXPECTATIONS

BEFORE THE INTERVIEW, COMMUNICATE THE FORMAT, LENGTH, AND ANY TOPICS YOU PLAN TO COVER. THIS TRANSPARENCY HELPS THE AUTHOR PREPARE AND FEEL MORE AT EASE.

RECORD THE INTERVIEW

WITH PERMISSION, RECORDING THE CONVERSATION ENSURES ACCURACY WHEN QUOTING THE AUTHOR LATER. WHETHER USING AUDIO OR VIDEO, HAVING A RECORDING ALLOWS YOU TO FOCUS ON THE DIALOGUE RATHER THAN FRANTIC NOTE-TAKING.

BE MINDFUL OF TIME

RESPECT THE AUTHOR'S TIME BY STICKING TO THE AGREED-UPON DURATION. IF THE CONVERSATION IS FLOWING WELL, YOU CAN ALWAYS ASK IF THEY'D LIKE TO CONTINUE, BUT AVOID OVERSTAYING YOUR WELCOME.

AFTER THE INTERVIEW: FOLLOW-UP AND PRESENTATION

HOW YOU HANDLE THE INTERVIEW AFTER IT'S DONE IS JUST AS IMPORTANT IN MAINTAINING A GOOD RELATIONSHIP AND DELIVERING QUALITY CONTENT.

SEND A THANK-YOU NOTE

A SIMPLE THANK-YOU MESSAGE EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR THEIR TIME AND INSIGHTS GOES A LONG WAY. IT'S A COURTEOUS GESTURE THAT STRENGTHENS PROFESSIONAL TIES.

REVIEW AND EDIT THOUGHTFULLY

When preparing the interview for publication, edit for clarity and flow while preserving the author's voice. Avoid altering meanings or taking quotes out of context.

SHARE THE FINAL PIECE WITH THE AUTHOR

IF POSSIBLE, SEND THE AUTHOR THE FINAL DRAFT BEFORE PUBLISHING. SOME MAY APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUGGEST MINOR CORRECTIONS OR CLARIFICATIONS.

PROMOTE THE INTERVIEW

Once published, share the interview through your platforms and encourage the author to do the same. This collaborative promotion benefits both parties and reaches a wider audience.

THE ART OF CONVERSATION BEYOND THE QUESTIONS

Ultimately, how to interview an author is about more than just ticking off questions. It's about creating a space where writers feel heard and appreciated. Genuine curiosity, respect for their craft, and a willingness to explore unexpected tangents can transform an interview from a routine QfA into a memorable storytelling experience. Whether you're talking to a debut novelist or a seasoned literary figure, embracing the human element in your conversation will always bring out the best in the dialogue.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW SHOULD I PREPARE BEFORE INTERVIEWING AN AUTHOR?

RESEARCH THE AUTHOR'S BACKGROUND, READ THEIR WORKS, UNDERSTAND THEIR WRITING STYLE AND THEMES, AND PREPARE THOUGHTFUL QUESTIONS THAT REFLECT YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND CURIOSITY ABOUT THEIR WORK.

WHAT ARE SOME EFFECTIVE QUESTIONS TO ASK AN AUTHOR DURING AN INTERVIEW?

Ask about their inspiration, writing process, challenges they faced, character development, and future projects. Open-ended questions like 'What motivated you to write this story?' encourage detailed responses.

HOW CAN I CREATE A COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE AUTHOR DURING THE INTERVIEW?

START WITH CASUAL CONVERSATION, BE RESPECTFUL AND ATTENTIVE, AVOID INTERRUPTING, AND SHOW GENUINE INTEREST IN THEIR ANSWERS TO BUILD RAPPORT AND MAKE THE AUTHOR FEEL AT EASE.

WHAT TECHNIQUES CAN HELP ME KEEP THE INTERVIEW ENGAGING AND INFORMATIVE?

USE A MIX OF PREPARED AND SPONTANEOUS QUESTIONS, LISTEN ACTIVELY TO FOLLOW UP ON INTERESTING POINTS, AND BALANCE BETWEEN PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL TOPICS TO MAINTAIN A DYNAMIC CONVERSATION.

HOW DO I HANDLE SENSITIVE OR CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS WHEN INTERVIEWING AN AUTHOR?

APPROACH SENSITIVE TOPICS WITH RESPECT AND TACT, PHRASE QUESTIONS NEUTRALLY, BE PREPARED TO PIVOT IF THE AUTHOR IS UNCOMFORTABLE, AND PRIORITIZE MAINTAINING A POSITIVE AND PROFESSIONAL TONE.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR: A PROFESSIONAL GUIDE TO CRAFTING INSIGHTFUL CONVERSATIONS

HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR IS A SKILL THAT DEMANDS PREPARATION, CURIOSITY, AND A DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF BOTH THE WRITER'S WORK AND THEIR CREATIVE PROCESS. WHETHER YOU ARE A JOURNALIST, PODCASTER, BLOGGER, OR LITERARY ENTHUSIAST, CONDUCTING AN EFFECTIVE AUTHOR INTERVIEW REQUIRES MORE THAN JUST ASKING SURFACE-LEVEL QUESTIONS. IT INVOLVES CREATING A DIALOGUE THAT REVEALS UNIQUE INSIGHTS ABOUT THE AUTHOR'S MOTIVATIONS, INFLUENCES, AND THE NUANCES BEHIND THEIR PUBLISHED WORKS. THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES THE ESSENTIAL STRATEGIES AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR CONDUCTING INTERVIEWS THAT ENGAGE AUDIENCES AND PROVIDE MEANINGFUL PERSPECTIVES ON THE LITERARY WORLD.

UNDERSTANDING THE PURPOSE OF THE INTERVIEW

BEFORE DIVING INTO THE LOGISTICS OF HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR, IT IS CRUCIAL TO CLARIFY THE PURPOSE OF THE INTERVIEW ITSELF. DIFFERENT CONTEXTS CALL FOR DIFFERENT APPROACHES: A PROMOTIONAL INTERVIEW FOR A NEW BOOK LAUNCH WILL DIFFER FROM A CRITICAL, IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS FOR AN ACADEMIC JOURNAL. DENTIFYING THE GOAL HELPS SHAPE THE QUESTIONS AND TONE.

INTERVIEWS CAN SERVE VARIOUS PURPOSES:

- PROMOTIONAL: HIGHLIGHTING THE AUTHOR'S NEW RELEASE TO ATTRACT READERS.
- ANALYTICAL: EXPLORING THEMES, NARRATIVE TECHNIQUES, AND LITERARY SIGNIFICANCE.
- BIOGRAPHICAL: UNDERSTANDING THE AUTHOR'S BACKGROUND AND INFLUENCES.
- INDUSTRY INSIGHT: DISCUSSING PUBLISHING TRENDS, WRITING CHALLENGES, AND THE AUTHOR'S PROFESSIONAL JOURNEY.

A SUCCESSFUL INTERVIEW BALANCES THESE ELEMENTS DEPENDING ON THE PLATFORM AND AUDIENCE, ENSURING RELEVANCE AND ENGAGEMENT.

PREPARATION: THE FOUNDATION OF A QUALITY INTERVIEW

RESEARCHING THE AUTHOR AND THEIR WORK

One of the critical steps in learning how to interview an author effectively is thorough preparation. This begins with reading the author's works, especially the book or content that will be the focus of the interview. Familiarity with the text allows interviewers to ask informed questions and engage in meaningful discussion rather than relying on generic queries.

BEYOND THE PRIMARY TEXTS, RESEARCHING THE AUTHOR'S BIOGRAPHY, PREVIOUS INTERVIEWS, AND CRITICAL RECEPTION

PROVIDES CONTEXT. UNDERSTANDING THEIR CAREER TRAJECTORY, LITERARY STYLE, AND RECURRING THEMES ENABLES THE INTERVIEWER TO FRAME QUESTIONS THAT UNCOVER FRESH PERSPECTIVES.

DEVELOPING THOUGHTFUL QUESTIONS

CRAFTING QUESTIONS IS AN ART IN ITSELF. OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS ENCOURAGE EXPANSIVE ANSWERS AND STORYTELLING, WHILE CLOSED QUESTIONS CAN BE USEFUL FOR CLARIFICATIONS OR SPECIFIC DETAILS. WHEN CONSIDERING HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR, IT IS BEST TO AVOID CLICH? OR OVERLY BROAD QUESTIONS SUCH AS "WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR IDEAS?" INSTEAD, FOCUS ON PERSONALIZED AND DETAILED QUERIES.

EXAMPLES OF EFFECTIVE QUESTIONS INCLUDE:

- "How did your personal experiences shape the protagonist's journey?"
- "WHAT CHALLENGES DID YOU FACE DURING THE WRITING PROCESS OF THIS NOVEL?"
- "CAN YOU DESCRIBE YOUR RESEARCH PROCESS FOR THE HISTORICAL SETTING IN YOUR BOOK?"
- "HOW DO YOU BALANCE CREATIVE FREEDOM WITH THE EXPECTATIONS OF YOUR READERSHIP?"

INCORPORATING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE AUTHOR'S CRAFT, INFLUENCES, AND PHILOSOPHIES ON WRITING ENRICHES THE CONVERSATION.

CONDUCTING THE INTERVIEW: TECHNIQUES AND BEST PRACTICES

CREATING A COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT

AN AUTHOR'S WILLINGNESS TO OPEN UP IS OFTEN INFLUENCED BY THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE INTERVIEW. WHETHER THE FORMAT IS IN-PERSON, PHONE, OR VIDEO CALL, ESTABLISHING RAPPORT AND TRUST IS ESSENTIAL. STARTING WITH LIGHT, INFORMAL CONVERSATION CAN EASE TENSION AND BUILD CONNECTION.

RESPECTING THE AUTHOR'S TIME AND PREFERENCES ALSO MATTERS. SOME AUTHORS MIGHT PREFER A STRUCTURED INTERVIEW WITH A CLEAR AGENDA, WHILE OTHERS THRIVE IN SPONTANEOUS DIALOGUES. BEING ADAPTABLE AND ATTENTIVE TO VERBAL AND NON-VERBAL CUES HELPS MAINTAIN A PRODUCTIVE EXCHANGE.

ACTIVE LISTENING AND FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS

EFFECTIVE INTERVIEWING IS AS MUCH ABOUT LISTENING AS IT IS ABOUT ASKING QUESTIONS. ACTIVE LISTENING ALLOWS THE INTERVIEWER TO PICK UP ON INTRIGUING POINTS THAT WARRANT DEEPER EXPLORATION. RATHER THAN RIGIDLY STICKING TO A PREPARED LIST, RESPONDING DYNAMICALLY KEEPS THE CONVERSATION AUTHENTIC AND INSIGHTFUL.

FOR EXAMPLE, IF AN AUTHOR MENTIONS A SURPRISING INSPIRATION OR A DIFFICULT WRITING MOMENT, PROBING THESE AREAS WITH FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS CAN REVEAL COMPELLING STORIES THAT RESONATE WITH AUDIENCES.

BALANCING DEPTH AND ACCESSIBILITY

When exploring literary themes or technical aspects of writing, it is important to balance complexity with clarity. An interview should be accessible to a broad audience, including readers who may not have specialized knowledge. Clarifying Jargon or abstract concepts through the author's explanations enhances understanding and keeps readers engaged.

POST-INTERVIEW CONSIDERATIONS: MAXIMIZING THE INTERVIEW'S IMPACT

TRANSCRIBING AND EDITING

AFTER THE INTERVIEW, THE TRANSCRIPTION AND EDITING PROCESS PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN SHAPING THE FINAL PRODUCT.

ACCURACY IN CAPTURING THE AUTHOR'S VOICE AND INTENT IS PARAMOUNT, BUT SO IS READABILITY. EDITORS MUST DECIDE
HOW MUCH TO CONDENSE OR REORGANIZE RESPONSES WITHOUT COMPROMISING AUTHENTICITY.

ENSURING CORRECT ATTRIBUTION AND VERIFYING QUOTES WITH THE AUTHOR CAN PREVENT MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND BUILD TRUST FOR FUTURE INTERACTIONS.

SEO OPTIMIZATION FOR ONLINE PUBLISHING

FOR INTERVIEWS PUBLISHED ONLINE, SEO OPTIMIZATION ENHANCES VISIBILITY AND REACH. STRATEGICALLY INCORPORATING KEYWORDS RELATED TO HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR, BOOK TITLES, GENRES, AND RELEVANT LITERARY TOPICS IMPROVES SEARCH ENGINE RANKING.

Additionally, using descriptive headings, engaging introductions, and multimedia elements like images or audio clips enriches user experience. However, SEO efforts must not detract from the natural flow or professionalism of the article.

CHALLENGES AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN AUTHOR INTERVIEWS

INTERVIEWING AUTHORS CAN PRESENT UNIQUE CHALLENGES. SOME AUTHORS MAY BE RESERVED OR RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS PERSONAL MATTERS, REQUIRING SENSITIVITY AND RESPECT FOR BOUNDARIES. OTHERS MAY HAVE CONTROVERSIAL OPINIONS OR SENSITIVE TOPICS THAT DEMAND CAREFUL HANDLING.

ETHICAL INTERVIEWING INVOLVES TRANSPARENCY ABOUT THE INTERVIEW'S PURPOSE, OBTAINING CONSENT FOR PUBLISHING, AND AVOIDING MISREPRESENTATION. MAINTAINING PROFESSIONALISM ENSURES THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTERVIEWER AND AUTHOR REMAINS POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE.

COMPARING DIFFERENT INTERVIEW FORMATS

THE FORMAT OF THE INTERVIEW—BE IT WRITTEN, AUDIO, OR VIDEO—ALSO INFLUENCES THE APPROACH. WRITTEN INTERVIEWS ALLOW FOR MORE THOUGHTFUL, EDITED RESPONSES, WHILE LIVE OR RECORDED CONVERSATIONS CAPTURE SPONTANEITY AND TONE. EACH FORMAT HAS PROS AND CONS REGARDING DEPTH, AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT, AND TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS.

ENHANCING THE INTERVIEW EXPERIENCE FOR READERS

To enrich the audience's experience, integrating background information, contextual analysis, and visual elements alongside the interview can be effective. For instance, linking to the author's previous works, providing summaries, or including relevant excerpts gives readers a fuller understanding.

INCORPORATING DIVERSE QUESTION TYPES AND VARYING THE PACING OF THE INTERVIEW MAINTAINS INTEREST. A WELL-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW CAN ILLUMINATE THE AUTHOR'S CREATIVE UNIVERSE AND INVITE READERS INTO A DEEPER APPRECIATION OF LITERATURE.

MASTERING HOW TO INTERVIEW AN AUTHOR IS A DYNAMIC PROCESS THAT COMBINES PREPARATION, SENSITIVITY, AND ADAPTABILITY. BY APPROACHING INTERVIEWS WITH PROFESSIONALISM AND INSIGHT, INTERVIEWERS CAN UNCOVER STORIES AND PERSPECTIVES THAT RESONATE DEEPLY WITH READERS AND CONTRIBUTE MEANINGFULLY TO LITERARY DISCOURSE.

How To Interview An Author

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how to interview an author: The Art of the Author Interview Sarah Anne Johnson, 2005 A practical guide to one of the most rewarding forms of literary journalism.

how to interview an author: To Save Her Life Dan Saxon, 2007-05-21 Members of the Guatemalan army abducted Maritza Urrutia after she took her son to school one morning in 1992. [book title] describes her ordeal. After days of interrogation and torture, Maritza was ultimately spared because her family was able to contact influential intermediaries, including [author], who was in Guatemala working for the Catholic Church's Human Rights Office. Here [author] brings to life the players who achieved Maritza's release: the church, the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Congress, numerous NGOs, guerrilla groups, politicians, students, and the media. The book is a study of the complex and often cruel politics of human rights, and its themes reverberate from Guatemala to Guantánamo to Iraq.--Back cover.

how to interview an author: Reopening the Frontier Brian Q. Cannon, 2009 The first ever history of the post-World War II homesteading program that provided frontier land to returning veterans. Reveals the many challenges they faced--and how they helped change our perceptions of the modern American West.

how to interview an author: <u>To Educate a Nation</u> Carl F. Kaestle, Alyssa E. Lodewick, 2007 Eleven stimulating essays--using case studies of major cities and their schools--suggest what might be done to better foster equity and diversity in educating American public schoolchildren, highlighting the complications inherent in today's education system, and providing a framework for grappling with these problems.

how to interview an author: <u>Life at Four Corners</u> Carol Coburn, 1992 Defined less by geography than by demographic character, Block, Kansas, in many ways exemplifies the prevalent yet seldom-scrutinized ethnic, religion-based community of the rural Midwest. Physically small, the town sprang up around four corners formed by crossroads. Spiritually strong and cohesive, it became the educational and cultural center for generations of German-Lutheran families. In this book Carol Coburn analyzes the powerful combination of those ethnic and religious institutions that

effectively resisted assimilation for nearly 80 years only to succumb to the influences of the outside world during the 1930s and 1940s. Emphasizing the formal and informal education provided by the church, school, and family, she examines the total process of how values, identities, and all aspects of culture were transmitted from generation to generation.

how to interview an author: Want to Start a Revolution? Dayo F. Gore, Jeanne Theoharis, Komozi Woodard, 2009-12 The story of the black freedom struggle in America has been overwhelmingly male-centric, starring leaders like Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and Huey Newton. With few exceptions, black women have been perceived as supporting actresses; as behind-the-scenes or peripheral activists, or rank and file party members. But what about Vicki Garvin, a Brooklyn-born activist who became a leader of the National Negro Labor Council and guide to Malcolm X on his travels through Africa? What about Shirley Chisholm, the first black Congresswoman? From Rosa Parks and Esther Cooper Jackson, to Shirley Graham DuBois and Assata Shakur, a host of women demonstrated a lifelong commitment to radical change, embracing multiple roles to sustain the movement, founding numerous groups and mentoring younger activists. Helping to create the groundwork and continuity for the movement by operating as local organizers, international mobilizers, and charismatic leaders, the stories of the women profiled in Want to Start a Revolution? help shatter the pervasive and imbalanced image of women on the sidelines of the black freedom struggle. Contributors: Margo Natalie Crawford, Prudence Cumberbatch, Johanna Fernández, Diane C. Fujino, Dayo F. Gore, Joshua Guild, Gerald Horne, Ericka Huggins, Angela D. LeBlanc-Ernest, Joy James, Erik McDuffie, Premilla Nadasen, Sherie M. Randolph, James Smethurst, Margaret Stevens, and Jeanne Theoharis.

how to interview an author: Changing Urban Education Clarence Nathan Stone, 1998 With critical issues like desegregation and funding facing our schools, dissatisfaction with public education has reached a new high. Teachers decry inadequate resources while critics claim educators are more concerned with job security than effective teaching. Though urban education has reached crisis proportions, contending players have difficulty agreeing on a common program of action. This book tells why. Changing Urban Education confronts the prevailing naivete in school reform by examining the factors that shape, reinforce, or undermine reform efforts. Edited by one of the nation's leading urban scholars, it examines forces for change and resistance in urban education and proposes that the barrier to reform can only be overcome by understanding how schools fit into the broader political contexts of their cities. Much of the problem with our schools lies with the reluctance of educators to recognize the profoundly political character of public education. The contributors show how urban political contexts vary widely with factors like racial composition, the role of the teachers' union, and relations between cities and surrounding metropolitan areas. Presenting case studies of original field research in Baltimore, Chicago, Houston, and six other urban areas, they consider how resistance to desegregation and the concentration of the poor in central urban areas affect education, and they suggest how cities can build support for reform through the involvement of business and other community players. By demonstrating the complex interrelationship between urban education and politics, this book shows schools to be not just places for educating children, but also major employers and large spenders of tax dollars. It also introduces the concept of civic capacity—the ability of educators and non-educators to work together on common goals—and suggests that this key issue must be addressed before education can be improved. Changing Urban Education makes it clear to educators that the outcome of reform efforts depends heavily on their political context as it reminds political scientists that education is a major part of the urban mix. While its prognosis is not entirely optimistic, it sets forth important guidelines that cannot be ignored if our schools are to successfully prepare children for the future.

how to interview an author: The One & Only - 101 Amazing Facts You Didn't Know G Whiz, 2014-06-27 Did you know that Giffin considered having Wall Street as the backdrop of the novel, since the story could work in a number of different settings. She came to the decision to write about Texas football because she is a huge fan of sports? Or, did you know that one question Giffin raises in The One & Only is if true love can truly conquer all, particularly if it is confronted with scrutiny of

other people? What are the amazing facts of The One & Only by Emily Giffin? Do you want to know the golden nuggets of facts readers love? If you've enjoyed the book, then this will be a must read delight for you! Collected for readers everywhere are 101 book facts about the book & author that are fun, down-to-earth, and amazingly true to keep you laughing and learning as you read through the book! Tips & Tricks to Enhance Reading Experience • Enter G Whiz after your favorite title to see if publication exists! ie) The One & Only G Whiz • Enter G Whiz 101 to search for entire catalogue! • Tell us what title you want next! • Combine your favorite titles to receive bundle coupons! • Submit a review and hop on the Wall of Contributors! "Get ready for fun, down-to-earth, and amazing facts that keep you laughing & learning! - G Whiz DISCLAIMER: This work is a derivative work not to be confused with the original title. It is a collection of facts from reputable sources generally known to the public with source URLs for further reading and enjoyment. It is unofficial and unaffiliated with respective parties of the original title in any way. Due to the nature of research, no content shall be deemed authoritative nor used for citation purposes. Refined and tested for quality, we provide a 100% satisfaction guarantee or your money back.

how to interview an author: After In-Yer-Face Theatre William C. Boles, 2020-04-29 This book revisits In-Yer-Face theatre, an explosive, energetic theatrical movement from the 1990s that introduced the world to playwrights Sarah Kane, Martin McDonagh, Mark Ravenhill, Jez Butterworth, and many others. Split into three sections the book re-examines the era, considers the movement's influence on international theatre, and considers its lasting effects on contemporary British theatre. The first section offers new readings on works from that time period (Antony Neilson and Mark Ravenhill) as well as challenges myths created by the Royal Court Theatre about the its involvement with In-Yer-Face theatre. The second section discusses the influence of In-Yer-Face on Portuguese, Russian and Australian theater, while the final section discusses the legacy of In-Yer-Face writers as well as their influences on more recent playwrights, including chapters on Philip Ridley, Sarah Kane, Joe Penhall, Martin Crimp, Dennis Kelly, and Verbatim Drama.

how to interview an author: The Founders Jimmy Soni, 2022-02-22 A definitive look at the origin of PayPal and its founding team--including Elon Musk, Amy Rowe Klement, Peter Thiel, Julie Anderson, Max Levchin, Reid Hoffman, and many others whose stories have never been shared. They have defined the modern world. This experience defined them--

how to interview an author: Eagles of the RAF Philip D. Caine, 1994-07 U.S. citizens fought and died in WW II long before the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Among them were the pilots of the Eagle Squadrons, three fighter squadrons of Britain's Royal Air Force manned by young U.S. flyers. This book tells how the Eagle squadrons were formed and summarizes the history of the units and evaluates their deeds, motivations, and contributions. Draws on interviews from more than 35 surviving Eagles, their letters and memoirs, and official records. Depicts their daily lives along with special heroes and amazing sacrifices. An important contribution to the study of American involvement in WWII. Highly recommended.

how to interview an author: *Historic Preservation & the Imagined West* Judy Mattivi Morley, 2006 She draws on extensive interviews, city council proceedings, and historic plats and photographs to construct a detailed picture of how these districts originally looked and were used, how they were renovated, and to what ends they were marketed.

how to interview an author: *Streambank Protection for Landowners and Local Governments* United States. Army. Corps of Engineers, 1984

how to interview an author: The Southwestern Division Deward Clayton Brown, 1987 how to interview an author: Hegemony and Resistance Around the Iranian Nuclear Programme Moritz Pieper, 2017-04-21 This book is the first to provide comprehensive and comparative analyses to conceptualise the interaction between 'hegemonic structures' and those actors resisting them using the Iranian nuclear case as an illustration. It analyses the foreign policies of China, Russia and Turkey towards the Iranian nuclear programme and thereby answers the question to what extent these policies are indicative of a security culture that resists hegemony. Based on 70 elite interviews with experts and decision-makers closely involved with the Iranian

nuclear file, it analyses resistance to hegemony across its ideational, material and institutional framework conditions.

how to interview an author: Seeing Nature Through Gender Virginia Scharff, 2003 Environmental history has traditionally told the story of Man and Nature. Scholars have too frequently overlooked the ways in which their predominantly male subjects have themselves been shaped by gender. Seeing Nature through Gender here reintroduces gender as a meaningful category of analysis for environmental history, showing how women's actions, desires, and choices have shaped the world and seeing men as gendered actors as well. In thirteen essays that show how gendered ideas have shaped the ways in which people have represented, experienced, and consumed their world, Virginia Scharff and her coauthors explore interactions between gender and environment in history. Ranging from colonial borderlands to transnational boundaries, from mountaintop to marketplace, they focus on historical representations of humans and nature, on questions about consumption, on environmental politics, and on the complex reciprocal relations among human bodies and changing landscapes. They also challenge the ecofeminist position by challenging the notion that men and women are essentially different creatures with biologically different destinies. Each article shows how a person or group of people in history have understood nature in gendered terms and acted accordingly—often with dire consequences for other people and organisms. Here are considerations of the ways we study sexuality among birds, of William Byrd's masking sexual encounters in his account of an eighteenth-century expedition, of how the ecology of fire in a changing built environment has reshaped firefighters' own gendered identities. Some are playful, as in a piece on the evolution of snow bunnies to shred betties. Others are dead serious, as in a chilling portrait of how endocrine disrupters are reinventing humans, animals, and water systems from the cellular level out. Aiding and adding significantly to the enterprise of environmental history, Seeing Nature through Gender bridges gender history and environmental history in unexpected ways to show us how the natural world can remake the gendered patterns we've engraved on ourselves and on the planet.

how to interview an author: A History of Huntsville Division, U.S. Army Corps of Enginners Louis Torres, 1990

how to interview an author: The People's Choice Ray Boomhower, 2012-09 This first-ever biography of Congressman Jim Jontz examines his remarkable long-shot political career and lifetime involvement in local, state, and national environmental issues. As a liberal Democrat (he preferred the terms progressive or populist) usually running in conservative districts, Jontz had political pundits predicting his defeat in every election only to see him celebrating another victory with his happy supporters, always clad in a scruffy plaid jacket with a hood from high school that he wore for good luck. "I always hope for the best and fight for the worst," said Jontz. He won five terms as state representative for the Twentieth District (Benton, Newton, Warren, and White Counties), served two years in the Indiana Senate, and captured three terms in the U.S. Congress representing the sprawling Fifth Congressional District in northwestern Indiana that stretched from Lake County in the north to Grant County in the south. Jontz told a reporter that his political career had always "been based on my willingness and role as a spokesman for the average citizen." In his career Jontz also led an unsuccessful campaign to stop the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement with the Citizens Trade Campaign, helped protect the Endangered Species Act when it was under attack in the 1990s as director of the Endangered Species Coalition, campaigned to save old-growth forests as executive director of the Western Ancient Forest Campaign, and tried to foster progressive causes as president of the Americans for Democratic Action.

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