



Cross Rhodes: Goldust, Out of the Darkness

Dustin Rhodes , Mark Vancil (with)

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He first burst onto the scene in the nineties, covered in gold face paint and exhibiting a one-of-a-kind flamboyant style that bewildered his foes and thrilled his fans. Inside the ring, Goldust is as tough as they come, known for using outrageous mind games and taking down his opponents with unparalleled ruthlessness. It's no surprise, then, that wrestling is in his blood; Goldust is the son of Dusty Rhodes, "The American Dream."

What is it like to be the son of a wrestling icon and follow him into the same profession? In this no-holds-barred account, Dustin Rhodes speaks frankly and openly about his journey. He talks about being a young boy who desperately missed his dad. A young man who only wanted to follow in his father's footsteps and threw aside a football scholarship to eke out a meager existence in regional wrestling. A green wrestler struggling to prove to his peers that his work, not his name, had gotten him to where he was. Rhodes describes how, in the midst of a painful five-year estrangement with his father, he finally made a name for himself as Goldust and then let it all go, tumbling into a descent of self-medication that led him away from a red-hot career as a WWE Superstar and nearly cost him his life.

When he finally hit bottom, Rhodes knew where to look for help from the family he always had: his father and World Wrestling Entertainment. When he got clean and sober and was offered the chance to wrestle for WWE, he snapped up the offer. The everyday existence of life on the road, working with and watching the new Superstars—like his brother Cody Rhodes—has reminded Rhodes of why he loves being a wrestler.

Cross Rhodes is an intimate portrait of one man's road to redemption and a unique glimpse into one of the most famous families in WWE.

Cross Rhodes: Goldust, Out of the Darkness Details

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From Reader Review Cross Rhodes: Goldust, Out of the Darkness for online ebook

Cindy says

This is a prime example of a wrestling biography that is tossed together in probably three days, published the day after and all with the main goal of getting wrestling fans to fork over money.

This book is filled with vague details, quick stories and a bunch of blah blah drugs, blah blah blah, can't live up to my dad's rep. Blah blah.

Overall, huge disappointment.

Benoit Bilodeau says

Not too many insight into the world of wrestling, more a book about painkillers and vodka

Jesse says

This book was awesome, he let you into his life & his struggle with addiction. If you are addicted to drugs alcohol etc. I would recommend you reading this. He expressed himself well. Really easy read.

Tim Dunn says

Pretty decent book, but too short a read and not enough back stories, very vague. There needed to be a lot more to it than this. Almost like a summary of what should be his actual book.

Guin says

The style of this book was interesting. It was more like sitting down with Dustin in his living room and listening to him tell the stories of his life and career than it was like reading a memoir or autobiography. I enjoyed it, but not everyone will like the stream-of-thought way it is written.

Ben says

A pretty good biography, but not nearly as good as most of the other wrestling biographies. Definitely lacking on wrestling and much more of a "daddy's issues" and "road to hell through drugs/alcohol and redemption" story than anything else. Still a quick and fun read overall.

Bryson McCheeseburger says

A nice read about the rise and fall of Goldust in the world of wrestling. As a fan of his, I have to give the book a higher rating just for the fact that you know more and feel closer to him, but I can't give five stars as compared to other wrestlers' biographies this one is a little thin on details. Some of the story is told as if you already know the details and Dustin is just reminding you. The story is supposed to be more about his addictions and his fall, but he treats some of that as an aside to talking about his father and his path through the business... but at the same time those stories are glossed over pretty quickly leaving you wanting to know more (like in Chris Jericho's books) about certain matches, times and wrestlers.

Still an interesting read from Dustin and a real wrestling fan, and a fan of Goldust will find it interesting to read no matter what.

Eric Kennedy-smith says

Great autobiography for any wrestling fan! Couldn't put the book down! Very well written and informative.

Delbert says

Starting with the negatives, the biggest flaw here is that this book reads like a rush-job, and I found myself skimming parts here and there because it was very clear where the story was going and there wasn't much purpose in reading closely. There isn't a lot of content; the print is double-spaced and about 16 point font, and every 5th page is a photo, and the thing still clocks in at only about 200 pages.

Wrestling is homoerotic and homophobic, whether or not most of the industry or the fans care to recognize it. Goldust's work illuminated/exploited these aspects of the artform in inventive and interesting ways, but there seems to be little introspection going on about that. OK, fine, this thing wasn't ghostwritten by Camille Paglia, but shit, Dustin is a good ol' boy from Texas, you'd think there might be a little more elaboration on how he dealt with becoming famous for being a taboo-smashing pan-sexual weirdo, but, as another reviewer mentioned, the prose is really really vague. It's almost as if he wasn't paying attention during the most important parts of his career and/or wasn't paying attention when this was written.

This book has a few things going for it, though, and it's a quick enough read to make it worth your while if you're a big Goldust fan. I also enjoyed that the book offers some insights about the famous Rhodes family itself from the elder son's perspective. Finally--and I don't think this is a spoiler--the title implies that Rhodes found religion or something and luckily this isn't really a part of the narrative arc, which follows the more traditional addiction-memoir format.

As an official WWE bio, it conforms to most of the conventions of the company's Soviet-style party line and I'm sure plenty of stuff is being left out or spun a little differently than it actually shook out, but I personally find that the WWE doublespeak makes these books more interesting anyway, so this isn't really too much of a negative, just something that should be mentioned.

Justin Sylvia says

I wasn't quite sure what to expect from the "Bizarre One" known simply as.....Goldust. I was intrigued to discover that in this book, Dustin Rhodes, the grandson of a plumber, the son of the American Dream Dusty Rhodes, & brother to "Dashing" Cody Rhodes went through a lot of hills and valleys to achieve what he has achieved in his personal life. From what I could tell, it damn sure wasn't easy trying to live in the shadow of a man that America cheered and looked up to. From his early days as Dustin Rhodes, to Goldust and beyond Dustin struggled with his own life, his addictions, his career as a professional wrestler, all while trying to keep his family together, despite the fact that there was a long standing estrangement between him and his father. Through it, divorces, drug addiction, various life pit falls, Dustin came out on top. He seems like he is a better man for all that he went through. By the end of the book, I felt like he was in better spirits and in a better place in his life after enduring what he endured. My favorite part of this book, has probably got to be the fact that eventually Dustin and his pops finally made amends and started to be back in each others lives.

Mira Sun says

Mein erstes englisches Wrestlingbuch. Warum wurde es gerade Goldust? Weil Goldust einer der genialsten Charaktere ist, die es jemals im Wrestling gegeben hat. Er ist der Prince of Perversion und unter dem gold schwarzen MakeUp wirkt er wie ein sehr netter Mensch.

Ein großer Teil des Buches ist Dustins Bedauern und seine Drogenerfahrung. Ich weiß das einige Leser dieses "Gejammer" nervt. Es kann schon sehr anstrengend sein, aber sein Leben ist nun einmal so verlaufen. Es tut ihm jetzt leid, außerdem finde ich gut, das er immer wieder anspricht was für Probleme er hatte. Seine Geschichte hat mich gefangen genommen und ich konnte das Buch nicht zur Seite legen. Ich mochte den Sprachstil, es ist einfaches englisch und auch wenn es vermessen ist zu glauben das dieses Buch Dustin Rhodes komplett alleine geschrieben hat, man kann es zumindest glauben... darum geht es doch auch im Wrestling. Man weiß, es ist abgesprochen und alles... aber wie die Jungs im Ring sich bemühen, man möchte es ihnen einfach glauben!

Fazit:

Eine sehr offene Biographie über den Mann hinter dem goldenen Anzug! Ich gebe ihm und seiner Lebensgeschichte gerne die Note A!

Randy says

A quick read. Not only peers into the life of a pro wrestling superstar but more importantly overcoming personal demons.

Joseph Lopez says

Pretty good book. Really gave a inside look of the ups and downs of wrestling. He tackles his addiction to pain killers and drinking and how he came clean. Also he talks about how he had to step out of the shadows

of his Dad and become Goldust and how he is helping out the younger talent today in WWE.

Trey Nowell says

Loved his honesty throughout this book, really impressed by his new outlook on life and it obviously has paid off. Never knew the struggles he was having.

Eric Smith says

This is a very good autobiography! If you are a wrestling fan you will for sure appreciate this book! Tons of insight and information. I read this book front to back within 2 hours and could not put it down! One of the best wrestler autobiographies out there in my opinion.

Chris says

Interesting enough story about Dustin Rhodes', a.k.a. Golddust, road through addiction and back again. However, while it's far from the worst book ever written (I'm looking at you Wuthering Heights!) it is written in a style that is so informal that it's at times off putting. Although the journey itself is interesting, Rhodes seems to repeat himself quite a bit and I would have enjoyed more insights his feelings about the business and other wrestlers.

Ashley Kelly Walton says

When i first started this book i thought it was going to be weird and creepy but it turned out to be something way better. I've always liked Goldust plus the whole Rhodes family, so when i first red this is thought it was going to be nothing but Wrestling but it turned out to be something that made me respect Dustin so much more than i already did. He worked his ass off for what he's become and unlike some people it wasn't handed to him because of his famous father. It made me respect Dusty Rhodes even more because he didn't try to screw his way to the top for his son, he helped him along the way, sure, but he never, EVER, did anything for Dustin that he didn't server. This makes me respect the Rhodes family so much more.

Barry says

great information, horribly written.

Bowie V. says

'Cross Rhodes: Goldust, Out of the Darkness' is another in a long line of entertaining bios about WWE stars

that reveals their triumphs and demons on their road to pro-wrestling glory. Again, it's another example of how only the strong survive in the wrestling world. Travel, injuries, and running hard take its toll on many of the wrestlers, and Dustin was no exception. Thankfully, he kicked his mega-bad habit, and we still have him around.

Matt Murphy says

Of every wrestling book that has been released, I've looked forward to none as much as CROSS RHODES. Dustin Rhodes grew up the son of a wrestling legend, quickly became a star, and transformed into one of wrestling's greatest characters during the WWF Attitude era; I thought he would have an amazing story to tell.

I ordered the Kindle version today (release day, 12-14-2010) and read the whole thing in about three hours. It wasn't because the content was so captivating that I zipped through it--this book was very, very short. If the print version is 240 pages then it must be large-print or filled with photos.

Mick Foley's HAVE A NICE DAY: A TALE OF BLOOD AND SWEATSOCKS is the measuring stick in the pro-wrestling genre. His book was successful because it was honest, entertaining, and it made readers feel an intimate connection to the author after reading his story. What we got with CROSS RHODES was a brief overview of his career, a whole lot about his personal demons, and very little reading pleasure. There was so much omitted--Barry Windham and Ricky Steamboat were barely mentioned, Ric Flair's name appeared just once, he never mentions Terri's run in WCW as Alexandra York, etc.

I'm giving CROSS RHODES three stars because I'd recommend it to anyone battling addiction. The book is simply not what a reader thinks he's getting when he buys a wrestler's memoir.
