# Hardcore History: The Extremely Unauthorized Story of ECW

#### by John Pollock and Wai Ting

ECW was a professional wrestling promotion that operated from 1992 to 2001. Based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, ECW was known for its extreme style of wrestling, which featured high-impact moves and copious amounts of blood. ECW also became known for its rabid fanbase, who were known as the "ECW Originals".



#### **Hardcore History: The Extremely Unauthorized Story of**

**ECW** by Mobile Rik

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4.2 out of 5

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Hardcore History: The Extremely Unauthorized Story of ECW is an in-depth look at the rise and fall of ECW. The book is written by John Pollock and Wai Ting, two of the most respected wrestling journalists in the world. Pollock and Ting have interviewed dozens of former ECW wrestlers, including The Sandman, Tommy Dreamer, and Paul Heyman. The book also includes never-before-seen photos and documents.

Hardcore History is a must-read for any fan of professional wrestling. The book provides a comprehensive look at one of the most influential and controversial wrestling promotions in history. Pollock and Ting's writing is engaging and informative, and they provide a unique perspective on ECW.

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#### **Chapter 1: The Birth of ECW**

ECW was founded in 1992 by Tod Gordon, a former promoter for the National Wrestling Alliance. Gordon's vision for ECW was to create a promotion that would be different from anything else in the wrestling world. ECW would be a place where wrestlers could push the boundaries of what was possible in the ring.

ECW's early years were a struggle. The promotion had a small budget and a limited roster of wrestlers. However, ECW quickly gained a cult following among wrestling fans who were tired of the same old stale wrestling product. ECW's unique style of wrestling and its rabid fanbase helped the promotion to grow in popularity.

### **Chapter 2: The Rise of ECW**

ECW reached its peak in the mid-1990s. The promotion was running soldout shows in Philadelphia and was starting to expand into other markets. ECW also had a successful television deal with TNN, which helped to introduce the promotion to a wider audience.

During this time, ECW was home to some of the most popular wrestlers in the world. The Sandman, Tommy Dreamer, and Sabu were just a few of the stars who helped to make ECW a must-watch promotion.

#### **Chapter 3: The Fall of ECW**

ECW's success was short-lived. The promotion began to decline in the late 1990s. ECW's financial problems mounted, and the promotion was forced to close its doors in 2001.

There were many factors that contributed to ECW's downfall. One factor was the rise of the World Wrestling Federation (WWF). The WWF was a much larger and more powerful promotion than ECW, and it was able to outspend ECW on wrestlers and marketing.

Another factor that contributed to ECW's downfall was the promotion's own self-destructive tendencies. ECW was often involved in lawsuits and other legal troubles. The promotion also had a reputation for being a violent and dangerous place to work.

#### **Chapter 4: The Legacy of ECW**

Despite its short lifespan, ECW has had a lasting impact on the wrestling world. The promotion's unique style of wrestling and its rabid fanbase helped to change the face of the industry.

Many of the wrestlers who made ECW a success went on to have successful careers in other wrestling promotions. The Sandman, Tommy

Dreamer, and Sabu are just a few of the ECW alumni who have gone on to become stars in other promotions.

ECW's legacy is also evident in the way that other wrestling promotions have adopted some of ECW's elements. The WWF, for example, began to feature more extreme matches in the late 1990s. Other promotions, such as Ring of Honor and Impact Wrestling, have also adopted some of ECW's hardcore style.

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