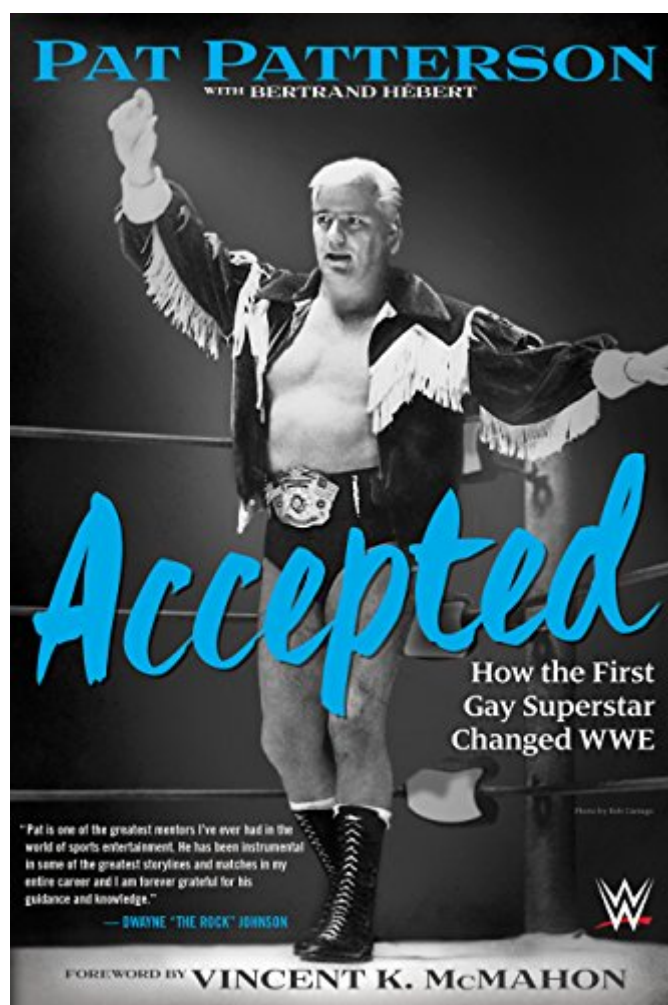


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Synopsis

“Pat is one of the greatest mentors I’ve ever had in the world of sports-entertainment.”
Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson
When Pat Patterson was 17 years old, he was asked to leave his home after telling his parents he was in love . . . with a man. Moving from Montreal to the United States in the 1960s, barely knowing a word of English, he was determined to succeed in the squared circle. Back when homophobia was widespread, Pat lived in the super-macho world of pro wrestling. In this fascinating and revealing memoir of revolutionary talent, pioneer, and creative savant Patterson recalls the trials and tribulations of climbing to the upper ranks of sports-entertainment as a performer and, later, as a backstage creative force. Many in the WWE Universe know Pat Patterson as a ring legend, the prestigious first holder of WWE’s Intercontinental Championship, a WWE Hall of Famer, and one of Vince McMahon’s stooges during the Attitude Era. But Patterson is no stooge. He has long been one of Vince McMahon’s trusted advisors. His impact and importance to the nascent stages of WWE are nearly comparable to that of the Chairman himself. Still active in WWE today, Pat delivers his no-holds-barred story of going from unknown to WWE luminary.

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Customer Reviews

Despite my 5-star rating, I'm not surprised by the low amount of reviews and/or the lack of higher rated reviews. Pat's prime as a performer and front office executive was before most current fans' time. And Pat Patterson strikes me like a lot of wrestlers do, huge fans of professional wrestling as kids, but once they became part of the business, developed a large amount of disdain for those that followed it. Anyone asking for an autograph or asking a question is a "mark." And how many times anywhere in his book does he thank the fans for his success? Because of this, he hasn't made much of a connection to fans. But Pat's enjoyment came from his interaction with the wrestlers and the personal thrill of being a part of a unique profession vs. working a 9 to 5 job, not from socializing with fans. I'm approaching my mid-40s and got hooked on professional wrestling when I was 10-years old; however, my fascination with professional wrestling has always been with the behind the scenes machinations vs. the actual in-ring product or story-lines. I don't wear shirts of the wrestlers or cheer or boo at live events; rather, I sit silently in my seat fascinated by all the logistics it took to put the event together. I'm definitely a closet fan. My guess is that Pat has been in the business for so long that he groups all fans into one category, people he wouldn't ordinarily hang around or want something from him or have preconceived notions about him that he doesn't want to publicly address. I missed Pat Patterson's heyday in San Francisco, AWA, and the WWF and did not have a full appreciation for his contributions until the mid-90s when I had access to the internet.

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