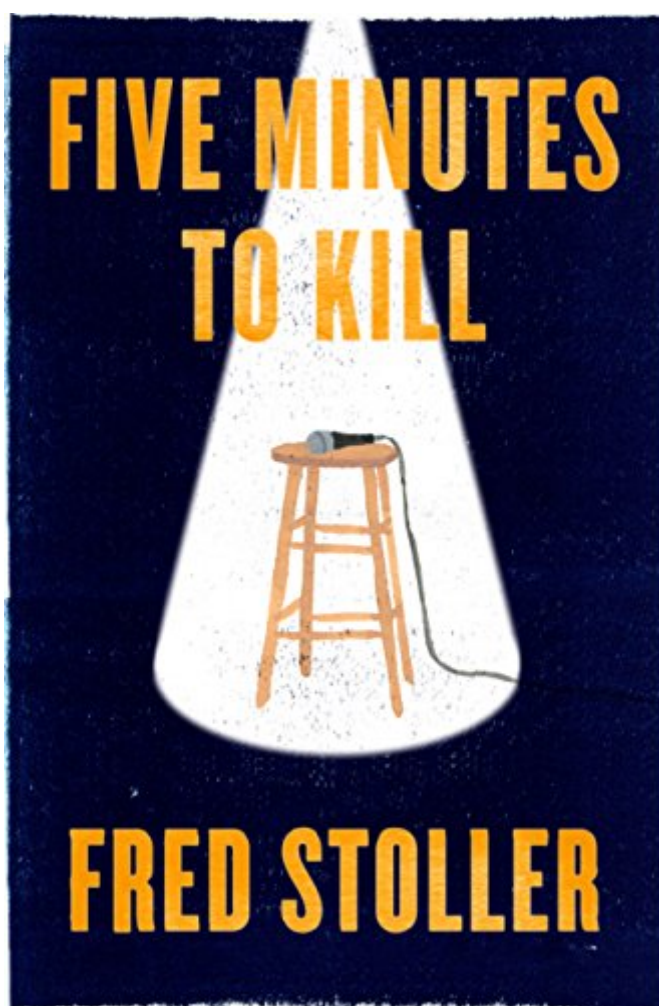


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Five Minutes To Kill: How The HBO Young Comedians Special Changed The Lives Of 1989's Funniest Comics (Kindle Single)



Synopsis

My Seinfeld Year author Fred Stoller returns with a memoir about life, death, and stand-up. In the 1980s and the 1990s, HBO's annual Young Comedians Special was the ultimate launching pad for emerging comics looking to break into the world of show business. The Young Comedians Special produced some of the most recognizable and bankable comedic stars of all time, including Sam Kinison, Bob Saget, Jerry Seinfeld, and Judd Apatow. But what about the ones who didn't exactly make it? In Five Minutes to Kill, actor and comedian Fred Stoller—the Kindle bestselling author of 2012's My Seinfeld Year—tells the story of the Young Comedians Special in 1989. He and five other talented, then-unknown comics took the stage with the hopes that their five-minute sets would propel them to fame and fortune. Some, like David Spade and Rob Schneider, hit it big; others didn't. By turns hilarious and heart-wrenching, Five Minutes to Kill is the bittersweet story of what happened to six of America's funniest people after their first big breaks.

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Customer Reviews

Clever idea to check back with the other stars of HBO's 13th Annual Young Comedians Special to see how things unfolded after this event. I very much enjoyed Mr. Stoller's story-telling, though the stories weren't always pleasant. After reading this I couldn't wait to start searching for clips of these comedians and had a good time watching them. Even though everyone didn't end up as household names, they did contribute to the entertainment industry in significant ways, and that was satisfying to learn. Mr. Stoller's observations about the comedy industry then vs. now were interesting. Mostly, though, a good biography of several very different people who all had the same wish. Really a good read.

Fred Stoller has been one of my favorite comedians since I saw his standup routine on the HBO's Young Comedians Special way back when. This Kindle Single checks back in with the other 5 comedians in the special to see what paths their lives went down (the most famous being David Spade and Rob Schneider) and it's funny, sad, surprising and thoroughly fascinating. I'm not sure why it's only \$1.99 but I would have paid much more for this. Fred is not only a talented comedian and actor, but an exceptional author as well. He's a fair narrator, not out to make himself look good or anyone look bad. So quit reading these reviews and spend the two bucks on this single because it's more than worth it.

Fred Stoller appeared on the prestigious HBO YOUNG COMEDIANS SPECIAL. Dennis Miller hosted and Stoller was one of six comedians in the bill. This book is a look at what happened to all six. It's a fascinating read. All six get out of the starting gate at the same time but their lives and careers take them on wildly different paths. Stoller narrates with a sure, life-affirming voice. He cares about the other 5, regardless of their success or lack of. I don't want to say anything else because I don't want to give anything away. But you'll come away looking at a comedy in a way you never have before.

Fred Stoller's unique persona and humor made him a stand-out during the 80s comedy boom. Now, his humor and voice come through in the written word as well. This funny and wonderfully written "where are they now" story is required reading for fans of comedy. It's poignant and touching without being maudlin, and honest without being disrespectful. I thoroughly enjoyed Fred's earlier books, and hope he has more in the pipeline.

I wasn't sure what to expect, I expected to chuckle and learn some interesting trivia. I did not expect to be moved several times throughout the story. Very enjoyable read covering the journey of six promising young comedians on different paths. I highly recommend it.

I like Stoller's writing and the premise of this book is great: following the Young Comedians from the HBO special the year that he was on it and seeing how their careers panned out. Unfortunately, he hasn't kept in contact with all of them over the years and a couple of them have passed away since, so there isn't much to say. With the breakout success of comedians like David Spade and Rob Schneider, it can sometimes read like sour grapes. Stoller has found his niche in Hollywood but would like the mainstream success that the others have found, so parts of the book read like a bit of a jealousy journal. But overall it's still interesting to see what happens to a batch of comedians following a special like this.

Terrific insider's account of the 1989 HBO Young Comedians and what happened to them all afterwards. It's a breezy good read done from the point of view of a Hollywood's #1 bit-player, Fred Stoller. He along w/ David Spade, Rob Schnieder, Jann Karam, Drake Sather & Warren Thomas were the comics featured on the seminal show in 1989 hosted by Dennis Miller. The story of the career arcs after their collective "big night" takes up the major part of this Kindle Single. Bittersweet & real it's another heartfelt effort from the author of My Seinfeld Year & Maybe We'll Have You Back. It's cheap, so buy it & have something quite pleasing & diverting to read on your Kindle.

Great read about the six special comedians from a famous HBO special, and their stories following that amazing night. Some find more success than others, but all have an interesting story that the reader can take something from. Stoller does a great job keeping it personal, and his background in the scene gives us an interesting behind-the-scenes perspective of someone who broke bread with some of the big names we know today. Stoller found a certain level of success in his career, but he reveals that the pursuit is perhaps about something more than making money. Overall very glad I bought this book. It was a very quick read, and I recommend it to any person pursuing a creative path.

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