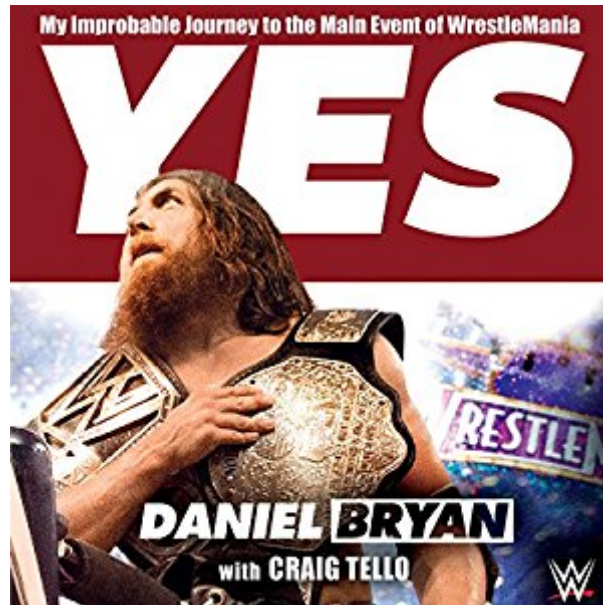


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# Yes!: My Improbable Journey To The Main Event Of WrestleMania



## Synopsis

One of WWE's most unlikely champions of all time and also one of its most popular, Bryan has proved to the world and to all of WWE that looks can be deceiving. Just ask anyone who's ever underestimated him...right before he went out and whipped the WWE universe into a frenzy. This is Bryan's behind-the-scenes story told for the first time ever by the "YES!" Man himself - from his beginnings as a child wanting to wrestle to his ten years circling the globe on the independent circuit and his remarkable climb to the upper ranks of WWE. As the biggest week of his life unfolds, Aberdeen, Washington's bearded son reflects in full detail on his incredible path to the top and gives his take on the events that have shaped him. With his Bryan-ized blend of modesty and surprising candor, Daniel pulls no punches (or martial arts kicks) as he reveals his true thoughts on his evolution as a performer, his various roles in WWE versus the independent years, life on the road, at home, and much more. And of course, get the untold story surrounding the "YES!" chant that evolved to full-fledged movement, skyrocketing his career. This audiobook chronicles all the hard work, values, influences, unique life choices, and more, leading to his watershed week at WrestleMania 30. You won't want to miss it. Yes! We're sure about this.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

My decision to buy and read this book was made on impulse shortly after I became aware of its existence. Despite being an avid professional wrestling/sports entertainment/whatever you want to call it fan for most of my life, I don't read these sorts of books often (the last one was by Adam

Copeland, better known as Edge, and was published in 2004), though I do enjoy them. Pro wrestling, on the other hand, I haven't always enjoyed, and I don't think I would have gotten back into it or bought this book were it not for the WWE Network, which has allowed me to relive my favorite moments (mostly from the Attitude Era) and become acquainted with others from the past (like early Wrestlemanias) and present (like pretty much every match on NXT). My subscription to the Network is really recent, which is important in the context of this review because sometime before The Great Khali became the "Punjabi Playboy" and up until the subscription, I stopped watching WWE programming, so many of the wrestlers and events mentioned in this book were ones I never saw, only heard about, since I kept somewhat up-to-date on my favorites (finding out that The Streak had ended was devastating; seeing it end on the Network a couple of weeks ago was worse) as their appearances declined along with my interest in storylines. The talent currently known as Daniel Bryan was someone I didn't understand. I admired the beard but couldn't wrap my head around the popularity of the YES Movement or its leader, who was completely unknown to me (I've never had an interest in the indie scene, and I blame that on never knowing there was one until two years ago) in terms of what he had done or could do. That was my mindset before buying the book, of course, and I am glad I decided to change it.

In this David vs. Goliath life story, little Aberdeen, Washington boy Bryan Danielson gets hooked on wrestling from watching The Ultimate Warrior, Bret Hart, Chris Benoit, and Dean Malenko on TV. He became so passionate about it that after graduating high school, he got in his car and traveled to San Antonio, Texas to learn how to wrestle. He went from wrestling in Wal-Mart parking lots to the Tokyo Dome, from high school gyms to reputable American arenas, from English carnivals to his ultimate destination, the New Orleans Superdome, where he won the WWE World Heavyweight Championship by defeating three future Hall of Famers in one long, grueling night. What makes this life story so amazing is that nobody expected the now christened Daniel Bryan to make it as far as he did. There are hundreds of thousands of wrestlers all over the world and only a select few of them achieve universal fame and fortune. Daniel Bryan is way under six feet tall, only slightly north of 200 lbs., and has more facial hair than a Serengeti lion. Against much bigger opponents, Daniel seemed like the ultimate underdog. He took a lot of beatings and suffered many horrific injuries along his path to success, but that's what paying your dues in the wrestling industry is all about. Not only had Daniel Bryan paid his dues, but he paid 100% interest. Daniel is the kind of person you want to see succeed and part of it is because of his personality. If you were to approach this man on the streets, you would find him to be a friendly, laidback, humble human being. He knows wrestling

doesn't owe him anything, in fact, he owes wrestling everything. Underneath all of that modesty is a fiery passion that pushes him through the worst obstacles in his life.

I really enjoyed this book. I liked getting to learn more about Bryan. He talks about his life before wrestling, his time on the independents, his relationship with Brie Bella and what it was like for him to get to WWE. The book was written before he was forced to retire due to his injuries. Yes! is really an expanded version of the WWE 24/7 article chronicling what his life was like in the week leading up to his match against Triple H for the WWE World Heavyweight Championship at WrestleMania 30 in 2014. Each chapter starts with a black and white photo, a date and time, and a description by Craig Tello from WWE.com. After that, Bryan starts his story. I liked the format, but there is a lot of text per page. Craig's parts are kind of cheesy since he tried to fit as many of Bryan's nicknames in there as possible (Yes Man, Bearded Superstar, The Beard, etc). There's also a photo of Bryan on the bottom of the pages that does the Yes! chant when you flip them. I thought that was really neat. Bryan comes across as being a very humble guy from modest beginnings who just really loves wrestling. You can feel how passionate he is about it and how much he loves going out there and having a great match, no matter how many people are in the audience. The way he talks about his wife, Brie, is very sweet. I learned more about her through this book too. I loved getting more insight into moments that I saw on TV, like his time in NXT. I remember how excited I was when they asked him what he was going to do since he lost the show and he said "Daniel Bryan might be done, but Bryan Danielson--God knows what's going to happen to him." I've been a fan of his since 2003 when I saw him in Ring of Honor, so it was very cool to me that he used his real name.

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