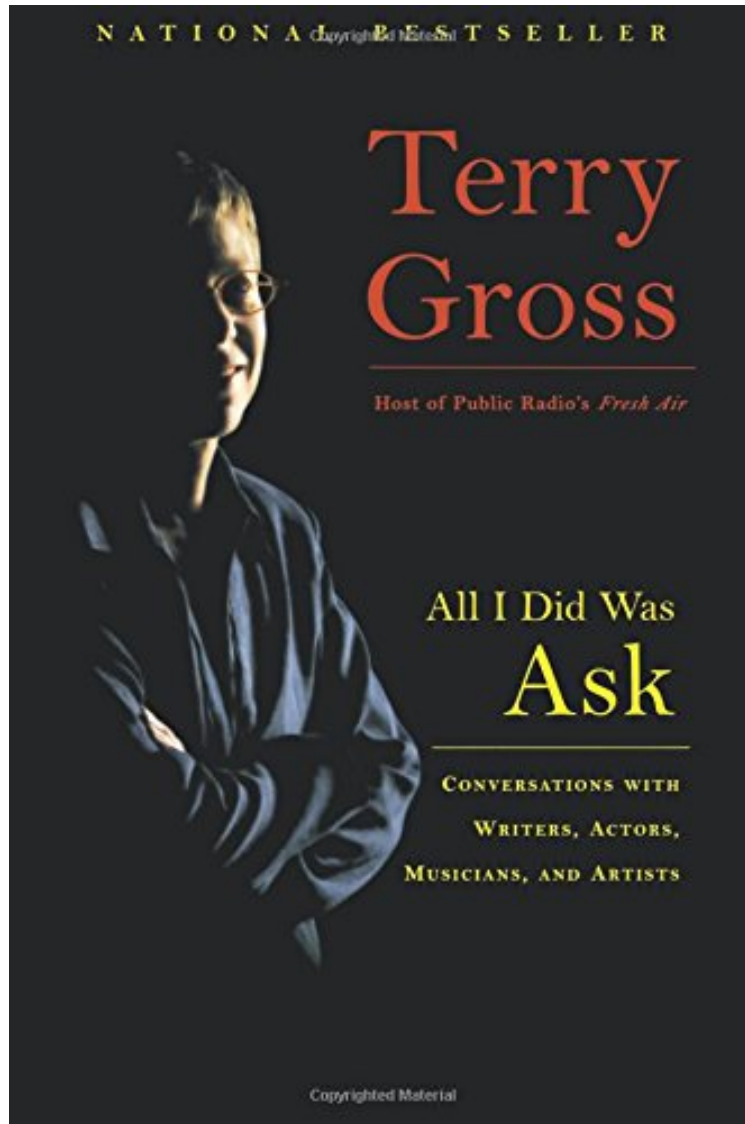


[Library ebook] All I Did Was Ask: Conversations with Writers, Actors, Musicians, and Artists

All I Did Was Ask: Conversations with Writers, Actors, Musicians, and Artists

Terry Gross

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Terry Gross : All I Did Was Ask: Conversations with Writers, Actors, Musicians, and Artists before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised All I Did Was Ask: Conversations with Writers, Actors, Musicians, and Artists:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Love it. By Megan Farmer So this might sound weird... but when I

am going to bed, I can't read anything that is too plot driven. Otherwise I can't get to sleep! So I've started reading interviews with people, or autobiographies, since I already know what's going to happen for them. This book is lovely. It's a great way to get perspective in many different ways about celebrities or icons, and truly view them as fellow humans. I love Terry's in depth and fearless questions. This will be a forever bedtime book for me. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Love conversation? Need to bone up on interview skills? Buy this book. By audio lover Arrived on time in condition advertised. This is a great read. The interviewer asked great questions and the interviewees were candid and open. As an artist, it helped me see how other artists in various fields approach their lives and work. It was also of benefit because, since I'm newly being interviewed myself, I can hear what makes an interesting and enlightening talk. I recommend this book highly. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A must have read for NPR and Fresh Air dorks. By E. Serrano I'm digging the book so far. Terry Gross is a personal hero of mine, I wish I can interview just like her. Although it's not the same as hearing the interview because you can't tell the nuance of the interviewee's voice. But I believe that can be fixed by finding the interview in the archives. Nevertheless, I like how she provides context on the interview that she decides to showcase in this book. I wish there will be second volume of the interview because this book was written 10 years ago and more people have been through Fresh Air. She doesn't explicitly tell you how to interview people but it is inferred through the introductory paragraphs for each interview section. I guess the readers can learn that by close analysis of the transcript. If they do decide to make volume 2. I hope that through the ease of the digital age, they will provide links of said interviews. Also support your local public radio station. I feel that I just have to mention that.

"I'm Terry Gross and this is Fresh Air . . ." Now available in paperback--a selection of revealing interviews from the award-winning National Public Radio show Originating from WHYY-FM in Philadelphia and heard on more than 450 NPR stations, Fresh Air with Terry Gross has become a daily habit with millions of listeners nationwide--a must for anyone hoping to keep up with what's happening in the arts. Over the last twenty years, Terry's guests have included our most significant writers, actors, musicians, comics, and visual artists. For her first collection, Terry has chosen more than three dozen timeless interviews that prove to be as lively on the page as they were on the radio. Her questions--probing yet sensitive--encourage revelations from figures as diverse as John Updike, Isabella Rossellini, Conan O'Brien, Samuel L. Jackson, Johnny Cash, and Nicolas Cage. And in her introduction, the generally self-effacing host of Fresh Air does something she wouldn't dream of doing on the air--she reveals a thing or two about herself.

From Publishers Weekly Conducting a good interview requires exhaustive research, good timing, the ability to steer the interview back on course when it meanders, a knack for close listening and thinking about the next question, flexibility and editing skills. Gross, the polite and generous host of NPR's Fresh Air, is a pro, and here she collects some of her favorite interviews with people in the arts. The result is a wide-ranging and entertaining look into the creative process. With a few exceptions, the interviews are from the show's national broadcast debut year in 1987, but they never seem dated, as many of the guests are still active or well known, and the topics are timeless. Whether she's asking Johnny Cash about the difference between a singer and a song stylist, discussing the role of class in British actor Michael Caine's life or examining the eternal intricacies of the human face with Chuck Close, Gross remains sensitive, engaged and informed. The two notable exceptions are her interviews with cable opinion-slinger Bill O'Reilly and Kiss front man Gene Simmons, whose pugnacity and sexism, respectively, unseat the usually collected host and challenge her to summon interview skills she rarely exercises. Overall, however, this is an often funny and completely fascinating anthology. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist In the first print collection of her justifiably famous interviews, Gross, host of the exceedingly popular National Public Radio interview program Fresh Air, admits to being nervous before every recording session. She also reveals the enormous amount of prep work involved. Writing with the directness and insight that make her such a magnet for listeners, Gross takes readers behind the scenes of her Philadelphia-based Peabody Award-winning program. She has wisely chosen to focus strictly on people in the arts, presenting 39 judiciously selected interviews that span the last two decades, conversations that, no matter the date, are, indeed, fresh, probing, and compelling. The book will prove newly revelatory to listeners (radio broadcasts are, after all, ephemeral), and engage everyone interested in how artists view their lives. Gross is at once extremely well informed and darn near guileless in her willingness to pose personal questions. She asks Chris Rock, for instance, if being skinny influenced his work (absolutely), gets Sonny Rollins to talk about drugs, and elicits many reminiscences about loving mothers. Wonderfully eclectic, she extracts intriguing disclosures from Johnny Cash, Grandmaster Flash, Nick Hornby, Jodie Foster, James Baldwin, John Updike, painters Chuck Close and Frank Stella, thoughtful Divine, and Kiss's absurdly crass Gene Simmons. It's a boon to have these priceless exchanges preserved in print, along with Gross' candid commentary. Donna Seaman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "An encore presentation of Gross most entertaining NPR Fresh Air interviews." -- Vanity Fair "If interviewing people is like picking locks, Terry Gross . . . holds a master key." -- Los Angeles Times "In a splendid new book NPR's ace interviewer Terry Gross

collects her most provocative conversations." -- O, The Oprah Magazine