

## People &amp; Places

## People

## Winfrey picks 7 books

## 'Ignorance no excuse for unconscious bias'

LONDON, Oct. 27, (AP) — Britain's Prince Harry said it took him many years and the experience of living with his wife, the former Meghan Markle, to understand how his privileged upbringing shielded him from the reality of unconscious bias.

Harry talked about racial inequality and social justice in a video discussion with the Black Lives Matter activist Patrick Hutchinson as part of the GQ Heroes Conference, which is being broadcast this week.

"Unconscious bias, from my understanding, having had the upbringing and the education that I have, I had no idea what it was," Harry said. "I had no idea it existed and then, sad as it is to say, it took me many, many years to realize it, especially then living a day or a week in my wife's shoes."

Harry, the grandson of Queen Elizabeth II, was raised in the royal family and educated at the exclusive prep school Eton before serving in the British Army. He married Meghan, a biracial American TV star, in 2018 in a church filled with royalty and celebrities.

The couple stepped away from royal duties earlier this year, saying they wanted to become self-sufficient. In August, they moved to a multi-million dollar estate in California's Santa Barbara County.

The prince described the social justice movement as train that "has left the station" and said now is the time for everyone to do their part to make the world a better place.

"You can't really point fingers, especially when it comes to unconscious bias," Harry said. "But once you realize or you feel a little bit uncomfortable, then the onus is on you to go out and educate yourself because ignorance is no longer an excuse."

## Praised

Hutchinson, a personal trainer, was thrust into the spotlight in June when he was photographed at a Black Lives Matter protest in London carrying an injured counter-protester to safety.

Harry, speaking from his home in California, praised Hutchinson for his selflessness.

"You just came in, you did what was necessary and you saved a life," Harry said. "And in doing so, you have changed the narrative for those protests."

Hutchinson said he attended the protest to make sure the protesters didn't do anything they would regret.

"So it wasn't just us down there protecting the young Black protesters, it was us protecting everybody. And as it turned out, somebody on the other side," he said.



With Election Day approaching and the pandemic ongoing, Oprah Winfrey is setting aside her usual book club recommendations and instead citing seven personal favorites, ranging from James Baldwin's landmark essays in "The Fire Next Time" to Mary Oliver's poetry collection "Devotions."

Winfrey is calling her choices "The Books That Help Me Through," works she values for "their ability to comfort, inspire, and enlighten."

"It's a mix of fiction, poetry, non-fiction and spirituality, books I know and trust and revisit time and again," she said in a statement Monday.

Her new list, announced in partnership with Apple, includes Eckhart Tolle's spiritual guide "The Power of Now" and a classic novel she picked in 1996 for her book club, Toni Morrison's "Song of Solomon." Winfrey also chose Ta-Nehisi Coates' prize-winning book on race and police violence, "Between the World and Me"; historian Jon Meacham's "The Soul of America: The Battle For Our Better Angels"; and an anthology edited by US poet laureate Joy Harjo, "When the Light of the World Was Subdued, Our Songs Came Through: A Norton Anthology of Native Nations Poetry."

Winfrey will "dive deeper into each book" on Instagram, according to Monday's press announcement, but will not be airing any interviews on Apple TV Plus as she has done with other picks since she signed with Apple in 2019. Winfrey had planned a new choice every two months; her previous selection, Isabel Wilkerson's "Caste," was announced in early August.

Winfrey spokesperson Chelsea Hettrick said the seven books announced Monday would serve as "a bridge between selections," and that no firm timeline had been set for future choices.

"This year has brought such unprecedented change overall. We will re-evaluate in the coming weeks the selection plan and timing for the remainder of 2020," she said.



You can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant. But it appears we've seen Arlo Guthrie tell us that in person for the last time.

In lengthy posts on his Facebook page and website, the 73-year-old folksinger announced Friday he is retiring from performance immediately. He's canceled numerous shows he had planned around the country for the next year and said he won't be booking any more.

## Decision

"It's been a great 50-plus years of being a working entertainer, but I reached the difficult decision that touring and stage shows are no longer possible," he said in the statement titled "Gone Fishing."

Guthrie did not respond to email and phone messages asking to elaborate but indicated in his statement that health issues played a major role. He said he'd suffered two strokes in recent years, including a serious one that hospitalized him for several days last year.

The son of folk music legend Woody Guthrie rose to overnight fame in 1967 with the release of "Alice's Restaurant Massacre," a hilarious 18-minute talking blues ballad about how his Thanksgiving Day 1965 arrest for littering kept him out of the Army during the Vietnam War.

As he finger-picked a maddeningly memorable tune over and over on his acoustic guitar, Guthrie related how he'd mocked the local police chief who arrested him, appeared before a blind judge who couldn't see the photos submitted as evidence against him and berated his draft board for concluding he "wasn't moral enough to join the Army and burn women and kids' houses and villages after being a litterbug."

He's gone on to record more than 30 albums, write several children's books and occasionally appear in television shows and films, including playing himself in the 1969 movie "Alice's Restaurant."



Bruce Springsteen performs during the closing ceremonies of the Invictus Games in Toronto on Sept. 30, 2017. Springsteen's latest album, 'Letter To You' was released on Oct. 23. (AP)



Danish actor Mads Mikkelsen and his wife Hanne Jacobsen attend the premiere of his film 'Falling' in Copenhagen, Denmark, Monday Oct. 26, 2020. 'Falling' is Mortensen's debut as director and screenwriter and the film opens in Danish theatres on Nov. 4. (AP)



Ma



Barenboim

## Variety

**DEARBORN HEIGHTS, Mich:** In what most people would consider a lucrative mistake, a Detroit-area man who accidentally bought an extra lottery ticket has won two \$1 million jackpots.

Samir Mazahem, 56, of Dearborn Heights said he was saving numbers on a lottery app after buying a \$2 ticket for the June 9 Mega Millions game. He then realized that he had purchased a second ticket with the same numbers. "I was a little bummed but didn't think much about it," Mazahem said.

Until he recently logged onto the app and found he had two \$1 million winners.

"I couldn't believe it was real," Mazahem said. "It took several days for the reality to set in that my mistake had paid off to the tune of \$2 million!" (AP)



**LOS ANGELES:** With much of the classical music industry shuttered by the novel coronavirus pandemic, one of the leading management agencies has been acquired by an unusual buyer in an unconventional transaction.

The San Francisco Conservatory of Music announced that it had purchased Opus 3 Artists, which represents about 250 musicians and attractions, a group that includes conductors Daniel Barenboim, James Conlon, Christoph Eschenbach and cellist Yo-Yo Ma.

David Stull, president of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, would not reveal the monetary details of purchasing the management agency. Opus 3 president David Foster said the coronavirus pandemic — which brought live performances to a halt in March — led the agency to evaluate the future.

"As the COVID thing hit and we had to reduce our staff," Foster said, "it became clear we were going to have much reduced income.

## Music

## 'Last Man Standing' brought out the emotions

## The Boss pens 'Letter' to his friends

NEW YORK, Oct. 27, (AP) — Last year as Bruce Springsteen reflected on the death of his friend and teenage bandmate George Theiss, who died in 2018, he grabbed his guitar and pen and began writing a song about being the sole living member of his first band.

He wrote about the New Jersey clubs where the Castiles played their first shows. And the flannel shirts and thrift store jeans he and his bandmates wore onstage. Reminiscing about his first musical experiences as well as his long-time friends who have died, 71-year-old Springsteen sings the refrain: "Somewhere deep into the heart of the crowd/I'm the last man standing now."

"Last Man Standing" brought the emotions out of The Boss, and after writing it, more songs came. The album "Letter to You," released last week, was born. "It was the key to the rest of the record," Springsteen said of "Last Man Standing," the first song he wrote for his new album. "My friend George passed away. Him and I were the last guys from my first band, which meant it left me sort of on my own."

Alone, he wrote songs about his off-and-on friendship with Theiss, who invited a teenage Springsteen to join the Castiles as its guitarist six decades ago. Tension rose in the young band as Springsteen began to move to the front of the stage, outshining Theiss. The group eventually broke up.

They connected later on in life, but then Theiss became ill and died.

Springsteen said penning lyrics about his friend wasn't an easy process. Of the track "Ghosts," he says: "Quite a storm to write."

"That song was specifically written, I'd say, using my memories of George and my youth and what it felt like if you

had a close friend who you knew all the clothes they wore, the books they read, the records they listened to and all of those things meant something to you," he said. The 12-track "Letter to You," Springsteen's 20th album, has the rock star looking to the past as he sings about the ones he's lost, including Theiss, E Street Band players Clarence Clemons and Danny Federici as well as his long-time assistant Terry Magovern. Album opener "One Minute You're Here" finds Springsteen singing about being on his own. He soul searches on the title track. And on "I'll See You In My Dreams," which closes the album, he's ready to "meet and live and laugh again" with his late pals.

"Clarence is never out of our thoughts and neither is Danny. They'll always be in the E Street Band.... They're an ongoing living part of our spirits," Springsteen said. "The record also did encompass the thoughts of losing them and how that feels at this point in time. That was a part of the journey of this particular record."

## Recorded

"It was heavy. It was emotional. We've all had to learn our life inside the band and outside the band, how to co-exist with the joy of life and the sadness of loss," added E Street Band player Nils Lofgren. "This album - Clarence was with us every track sitting on all of our shoulders and it shows. So is Danny."

Reflecting on his first band excited Springsteen about the E Street Band, who he last performed with in 2016. This time, they recorded a full-length album in just days.

"We cut one song every three hours. In four days, we were done. The fifth day we sat around, drank and listened to them," Springsteen explained. "The

band is at its very best. We've learned our lessons over the years."

The recording process was captured last November for the black-and-white Apple TV+ documentary "Bruce Springsteen's Letter to You," also released last week. It includes funny and tender moments between Springsteen and his long-time friends.

It is also emotional. As Springsteen plays "I'll See You In My Dreams," his manager Jon Landau breaks down.

"The funny thing was - I didn't realize it happened until I saw the film. I was sitting behind him and I was just listening to the track and I went, 'Hey, that's pretty good' when it was done," Springsteen said. "I knew the song was very intense. It's about people who have passed on ... I'm glad that he agreed to leave it in the film."

Springsteen called writing the new album "a cathartic experience," explaining that he wrote nine of the 12 tracks in seven to 10 days at his home (three of the songs were written in his early twenties but were never recorded for an album).

Writing about death has Springsteen thinking differently about life - sort of. When asked if he wished he had done things differently, he says: "At my age I feel like that every day."

"I'm kind of a little bit thankful for every day that's passing by. I have no regrets about things that I did or didn't do. I feel like I gave my full shot at what I was best at. I don't think I have any regrets about any particular moment in my work life. I had to struggle to get a good personal life together. That took a long time and a lot of work. I'm lucky that I got a great home and a great family right now. That's been a great blessing. I have to thank my lovely wife, Patti Scialfa, for all of that," he said.

So the question is then, what do you do?"

Foster said he received inquiries about selling.

"There were approaches from commercial entities and then David Stull called," he said,

"and the more I thought about it, the more interesting I thought a combination with a conservatory would be because in the broadest possible context, it's very, very important, crucial indeed that the message of classical

music and the access to classical music and classical performing arts, not just classical music and live performing arts, become available to as many people on Earth as possible, and I thought this might be a way to further that mission."

Stull had been discussing with a donor the possibility of funding an agency takeover. He is not identifying the donor or the amount now but says he hopes to reveal the identity at some point.

"We could have, I think, made a partnership with another commercial enterprise but that wouldn't have given us the breadth of possibility, both for the artists and in a broader sense to the art form," Foster said.

Foster said the agency would have an arms-length relationship with students at the San Francisco conservatory and will continue to recruit clients from Juilliard, Curtis, Eastman and elsewhere. The transaction was needed because the pandemic made future income streams unpredictable.

"Will the public come back and in what numbers?" he said. Columbia Artists Management Inc., one of the leading agencies, announced on Aug. 29 that it was shutting down. Foster worked for CAMI from 1972-94.

The conservatory, which serves about 500 students, broke ground two years ago and is in the process of opening the Boves Center building in San Francisco. Opus 3 has 27 employees, and there are cost savings in combining back-of-house, administrative and recording functions. (AP)



Musician Jon Bon Jovi performs at a campaign event for Democratic presidential candidate former Vice President Joe Biden at Dallas High School in Dallas, Pa., Saturday, Oct. 24. (AP)