

Ladies Who Punch

THE EXPLOSIVE INSIDE STORY OF THE VIEW



RAMIN
SETOODEH

THE GOSSIPY REAL-LIFE SOAP OPERA
BEHIND A SERIOUS SHOW

When Barbara Walters launched *The View*, network executives told her that hosting it would tarnish her reputation. Instead, within ten years, she'd revolutionized morning TV and made household names of her cohorts: Joy Behar, Star Jones, Meredith Vieira, and Elisabeth Hasselbeck. But the daily chat fest didn't just comment on the news. It became the news. And the headlines barely scratched the surface.

Based on unprecedented access, including stunning interviews with nearly every host, award-winning journalist Ramin Setoodeh's book takes you backstage, where the stars really speak their minds. Here's the full story of how Star, then Rosie, then Whoopi tried to take over the show, while Barbara struggled to maintain control of it all, a modern-day Lear with her media-savvy daughters. You'll read about how so many cohorts had a tough time fitting in, suffered humiliations at the table, then pushed themselves away, feeling betrayed — one nearly quitting during a commercial. Meanwhile, the director was being driven insane, especially by Rosie.

Setoodeh uncovers the truth about Star's weight loss and wedding madness, Rosie's feud with Trump, Whoopi's toxic relationship with Rosie, and Barbara's difficulty stepping away. Plus, all the unseen hugs, snubs, tears — and one dead rodent.

Ladies Who Punch shows why *The View* can be mimicked and mocked, but it can never be matched.

RAMIN SETOODEH, an award-winning journalist, is the New York bureau chief for *Variety*. He was formerly a senior writer at *Newsweek* and has also written for *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and *U.S. News & World Report*, among other publications. *Ladies Who Punch* is his first book. He lives in New York City.

READ BY THE AUTHOR



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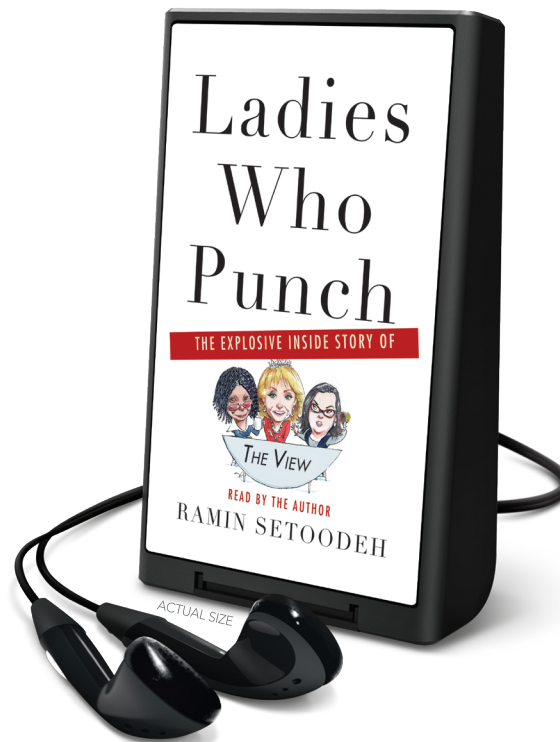
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