



The War for Late Night: When Leno Went Early and Television Went Crazy

By Bill Carter

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The *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Late Shift* delivers "a boisterous, two-timing, high-stakes drama about the business of comedy" (*The Associated Press*).

No one is more uniquely suited to document television's latest late-night travesty than veteran media reporter and bestselling author, Bill Carter. NBC's CEO, Jeff Zucker, had it all worked out when he moved Jay Leno from behind the desk at *The Tonight Show*, and handed the reins over to Conan O'Brien. But as everyone knows, his decision was a spectacular failure. Ratings plummeted, affiliates were enraged-and when Zucker tried to put everything back the way it was, that plan backfired as well.

In candid detail, Carter charts the vortex that sucked in-not just Leno and O'Brien-but also Letterman, Stewart, Fallon, Kimmel, and Ferguson as frantic agents and network executives tried to manage a tectonic shift in television's most beloved institution.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Bill Carter joined *The New York Times* as a national media reporter in 1989. He is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *The Late Shift*, two other books on the television industry, *Monday Night Mayhem* and *Desperate Networks*, and has written numerous articles for *The New York Times Magazine* and other publications. He has been a guest on *Nightline*, *Today*, *CNN*, *Charlie Rose*, *NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams*, and many other shows. A graduate of the University of Notre Dame, he lives in New Jersey with his wife. They have two children.

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