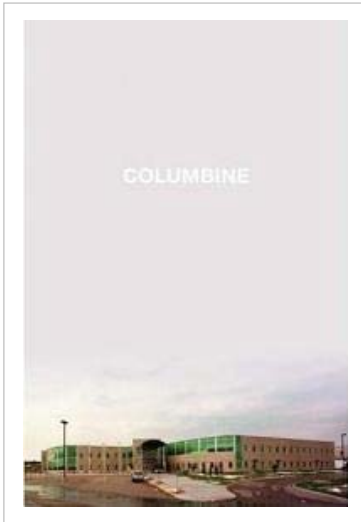
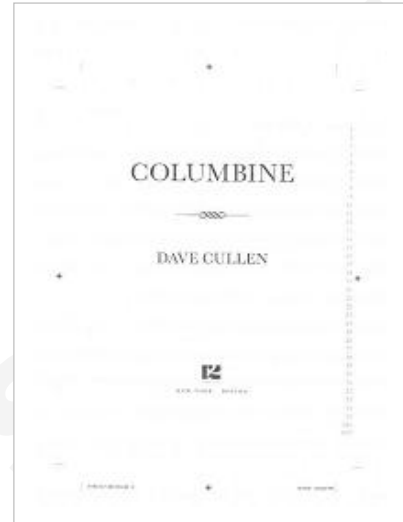


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## **THE DC CHRONICLES: DAVE'S BOOK & BROKEN ANKLE SAGAS**



Forum Founder Dave Cullen has just opened a new thread to talk about recent events in his life—including a broken ankle that might have sidelined him physically, but did nothing to dampen his excitement over the **upcoming release of his new book: Columbine<sup>(1)</sup>**



"I started covering Columbine for Salon the day it happened, April 20, 1999. I've written on lots of other things since then—and started this site and took a

part-time day-job to stay afloat for awhile--but my primary occupation most of the time for the nine and a half years since then has been this book. It's finally done.

"It will be published April 6, 2009—fourteen days prior to the tenth anniversary. My editor and publisher is Jon Karp, for Twelve, which does just one big book a month. Mine will be their April book.

"Now that the book is finally almost birthed, I figured it was time to put up a thread for anyone interested to follow along. It took me a couple weeks to figure out how to make the thread work, hence the delay.

**"Whenever I post a major new installment** of some milestone or development, I will TRY to get my ass back to Post #2 **and add an entry to the Table of Contents, with a link.**

"That way, **anyone who wants to can write as much or as little as they want on the thread** and hopefully people who want to join in late and catch up on the storyline can do it that way."

### **Key Developments** (in chronological order)

1. The Columbine book: The first nine years
2. Breaking my ankle: September 2008
3. Typeset!: October 2008
4. Ankle Update: Out of the cast (coming): October 2008



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5. First appearance on Amazon: Nov. 10, 2008

6. Ankle Update: Approved for walking down the hall: Nov. 14, 2008

Visit Dave's Chronicles [here](#)<sup>(2)</sup>.

<sup>(1)</sup> <http://astore.amazon.com/davecullencom-20/detail/0446546933/180-4265515-9781606>

<sup>(2)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=31636.0>

## CELEBRATING THE FILM'S THIRD ANNIVERSARY

Three years ago today, a film called *Brokeback Mountain* was released by Focus Features in cinemas in New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

On December 28, 2005, Forum Founder Dave Cullen started a thread called **How Brokeback affected me**<sup>(3)</sup>:

"We have seen such an outpouring of the ways *Brokeback* has affected people here--sometimes like a fist to the skull the first time you saw it or read it, sometimes it snuck up on people and overwhelmed them gradually.



"Whatever you have experienced, we want to hear about it."

- "It has made me feel lonely for the first time since 1992."
- "It devastated me and made me cry."
- "I've very rarely felt so close to any character in a film or story as I do to these two guys."
- "It just cuts little holes in my heart."
- "This is going to be the type of movie that, like the story itself, slowly creeps into our lives. I have a number of straight friends who while curious about the good reviews this film is getting, are not too comfortable going to see, whether by some straight man anguish or what. I think, eventually, the movie will become mainstream and its message is so powerful that it will become a rallying point as to how not to live your life as a lie...but... people are still afraid of things they do not understand."
- "So I just got back from my Christmas Eve family

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thing, and mentioned I had spent most of the day getting this site to go live, and they were quite perplexed about why or how a movie! could or would rate all this interest. I tried to explain, and it just didn't sink. And my brother--who does get out of the house occasionally--asked 'What the hell is *Brokeback Mountain*? 'I finally resorted to, 'The gay cowboy movie? You've heard about 'The gay cowboy movie?'"

Final stats for *Brokeback Mountain* from Box Office Mojo:

- Domestic: \$83,043,761
- Foreign: \$95,018,998
- Worldwide: \$178,062,759

Rank in various genres:

- Controversy: 7
- Gay / Lesbian: 3
- Romantic Drama: 8
- Western: 6

Listen to a Mini Marquee review of the film by Jeffrey Rosado: **here**<sup>(4)</sup>: "...teaches you the value of following your heart. One of the most moving and emotional cinematic experiences. When you find true and unconditional love, hang on to it."

<sup>(3)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=101.0>

<sup>(4)</sup> <http://www.dvdbijou.com/showarticle.php?id=61>

## **THANKFUL FOR *BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN***



**San Francisco - March 2008**



**Wyoming Road Trip, June 2008**

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*Brokeback Mountain's* unique impact on CellarDweller115 (Chuck)

**Why are you grateful for *Brokeback Mountain* ~ what changes have taken place in your life that are in some way related to the film. Have friendships grown as a result?**

"*Brokeback Mountain* set me into motion. For a very long time, I was all about the status quo. Change was bad. It was when I saw Ennis alone in that trailer at the end of the movie, that I realized the status quo was not helping me in any way. I've become more of a participant in life, instead of a voyeur. I've become more outspoken, more self-assured, more focused on issues. I allowed myself to have my first real relationship; I've become politically motivated and canvassed neighborhoods on behalf of the Obama campaign. I also attended the 'No on Prop 8' rallies on Nov. 15th.

"Friendships have been fantastic here [on the forum] for me. I've met people from around the globe, and plan on meeting more. There is a kinship here for me that I feel on some level was missing from my life. While I do have great friends here in New Jersey with me, they are straight, and while they are supportive of me, I feel the members of the forum are not only supportive, they truly understand my feelings."

**Are your family and friends supportive of changes that you've made over the last 3 years ~ are they aware of the impact that the movie has had on your life?**

"My family and friends have known about the Dave Cullen Forum since I first joined. They were initially worried about my involvement, my friends joked about hosting an 'intervention', but since they've seen the pics and videos and heard stories of all the places I've gone in the almost 3 years since the movie has come out, they are 100% supportive.

"I have posted this story before, rather recently, but I'll tell it here again. When the Texas BBQ was about to happen, my mother couldn't understand how close we all were. She admitted that she didn't 'get it.' Not long after that event, DCF member Conny sent me a copy of her DVD of that event. The day it arrived, I played it on my computer. Mom happened to be around, and she sat down and watched it with me. She watched the 'hellos' and hugs, and all the



**NYC Gathering October 2008**

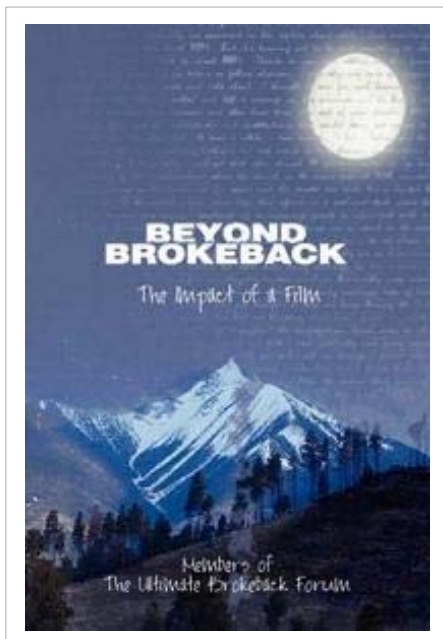


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laughing and drinking and dancing. Then the goodbyes came, and she watched us holding on to each other and crying. I turned to her, and could see tears in her eyes, and this was her response:

“I’m crying watching this, and I wasn’t even there. I can’t imagine what you all went through. I didn’t ‘get it’ before, but now I do.”

## ‘BEYOND BROKEBACK’S ONGOING IMPACT



Selected from among the most compelling writing on The Ultimate Brokeback Forum, the stories in *Beyond Brokeback: The Impact of a Film* convey the remarkable power of the film *Brokeback Mountain* to affect the lives of all sorts of people—straight and gay, old and young, male and female—on six continents. Ranging from the amusing to the emotionally devastating, the pieces collected in *Beyond Brokeback* crystallize the deep, frequently life-changing reactions of its often-unsuspecting viewers.

Amazon.com Sales Rank: #130,906 in Books

Popular in these categories:

#11 in Books > Gay & Lesbian > Literature & Fiction > Literary Criticism

#20 in Books > Gay & Lesbian > History

#61 in Books > Gay & Lesbian > Biographies & Memoirs

Buy the book in the Forum’s Amazon store [here](#)<sup>(5)</sup>.

Watch a video about the book [here](#)<sup>(6)</sup>.

Read more about the book and its contributors [here](#)<sup>(7)</sup>.

<sup>(5)</sup> <http://astore.amazon.com/davecullencom-20/detail/1595941223/188-7720309-5996222>

<sup>(6)</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LdmF1awN224>

<sup>(7)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/brokeback/book/>



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## **HOLIDAY SHOPPING IDEAS**



**The Ultimate Brokeback Collection**<sup>(8)</sup> at Cafepress has a huge variety of Brokeback-related items, from mousepads to magnets, shirts to coffee mugs, hats to teddy bears. Here are a few ideas for Brokies on your list:

Auntie's Diner Sticky Rectangle Magnet  
▶ <http://www.cafepress.com/bbmforum.61645684>

Jack Nasty Messenger Bag  
▶ <http://www.cafepress.com/bbmforum.54241406>

Beyond Brokeback Wall Clock  
▶ <http://www.cafepress.com/bbmforum.128031110>

Fishin' Buddies Button  
▶ <http://www.cafepress.com/bbmforum.54219436>

**Order early to ensure on-time delivery!**

<sup>(8)</sup> <http://www.cafepress.com/bbmforum/2851573>

## **FOCUS ON THE FAMILY FOCUSES ON HOMOSEXUALS**

"For a decade, Focus on the Family has delved into what it believes is the biblical truth about sexual behavior through its 'Love Won Out' conferences.

"Focus says the conferences started a national conversation on the origins of homosexuality and have nurtured thousands of troubled families and helped hundreds of former gays and lesbians 'escape the lifestyle.'

"But pro-gay activists and many psychology experts denounce attempts to change people's sexual orientation through religious mediation or other so-called reparative therapies. They say it causes people great harm in an attempt to fix something that isn't broken." ..

"These programs give us the tools and weapons to go to war against ourselves,' said Peterson Toscano, founder of the support group Beyond Ex-Gay.

"Failed attempts to change sexual orientation take a tremendous toll on people's psychological,

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emotional, spiritual, financial and physical well-being, he said.

"I've talked to more than 1,000 ex- gay survivors whose lives have been devastated — their close relationships destroyed,' Toscano said. 'Because of one of these conferences, my mother died feeling she had failed me.'

"University of Minnesota researchers recently published a study in the Journal of Homosexuality showing that among homosexual men, the best predictor of poor mental and sexual health, including depression, drug use and sexually transmitted diseases, is a negative attitude toward homosexuality, not being a homosexual.

"Focus on the Family founder and psychologist James Dobson has said that homosexuality is a disorder, despite the contrary opinion reached by the American Psychiatric Association in 1973.

"Dobson also said there is no conclusive evidence that homosexuality is inherited, although he concedes there might be a biological predisposition."

Read more **here**<sup>(9)</sup>.

Source: The Denver Post

<sup>(9)</sup> [http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci\\_10788844?source=pop\\_section\\_news&\\_requestid=5756944](http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_10788844?source=pop_section_news&_requestid=5756944)



## **MTV HOLDS ITS FIRST AFRICAN MUSIC AWARDS**

Kenyan artist Wahu received the best female artist award during the MTV Africa Music Awards in Abuja, Nigeria Saturday, Nov. 22, 2008.

"Two Nigerian singers won top awards Saturday as MTV held its first-ever music award program for Africa, with acts from across the world's poorest continent being nominated for prizes.

"Nigerian singer D'banj won the artist of the year award, while his compatriot, Naeto C, took the laurels for the best new African act, it was announced at the ceremony in Abuja, Nigeria's capital.

"Winners were selected by fans sending text messages, said Alison Reid, a spokeswoman for MTV Networks Africa.

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"Africa has long featured a vibrant music scene, but artists have had difficulties breaking into overseas markets. Famous African artists include Senegal's Youssou N'dour, Nigerian legend Fela Kuti and South African impresario Miriam Makeba, who died this month.

"MTV hopes the awards can offer the artists more exposure and celebrate the continent's artistry." ...

"African music is highly varied, reflecting myriad tastes in the vast continent. Included across the many genres are call-and-response chanting and heavy drumming, drawing on pre-colonial modes of communication among villages.

"Since independence movements swept the continent in the 1960s, African music also has increasingly been open

to outside influence, incorporating salsa rhythms, rock beats and, increasingly, hip hop and R&B styles.

"Many of the new Nigerian acts nominated feature heavy beats pioneered by American rappers and hip-hop artists. The lyrics often reflect the desire of many Nigerians to escape poverty and corrupt governance."

Read more [here](#)<sup>(10)</sup>.

Source: Associated Press (via msn.tv)

<sup>(10)</sup> <http://tv.msn.com/tv/article.aspx?news=340901&pkw=PI&vendor=Paid+Inclusion&OCID=iSEMPI>

## **INVESTMENT FIRM SLAMS GAMES**

"The Timothy Plan, an investment firm based in Florida, has released a statement warning parents of the 30 'most offensive' games out this Christmas.

"The 'conservative Christian' investment firm (yeah we know, go figure) has outlined the reasons these games are offensive. Most are understandably offensive to a 'Christian' or any other religiously inclined individual or organisations, such as GTA IV, Saints Row 2 and the like. Others are a little more zany, such as World of Warcraft: The Burning Crusade. Let's be thankful they haven't seen the 'torture quests' of the newest WoW expansion, reports gamepolitics.

"In addition to slamming games for their content, the firm also takes umbrage with games like



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Army of Two...not because of the violence, but because of the 'homosexual encounters' and 'homoerotic undertones between the two main characters.'" ...

"Many, if not most, parents who buy their kids video games really don't know the extent of sex and violence imbedded in them. From drug use, prostitution, murder and mayhem to vulgar profanity and blasphemy these games have become a powerfully negative influence on our kids..." ...

"I believe, if parents would take a moment to look at the report we've created, their game selections would be quite different,' he continues.

"We believe not. We'd suggest that parents look at the rating before buying the game.

"We've sent him a copy of *Brokeback Mountain* and our review copy of GTA IV for his Christmas celebrations."

Read more [here](#)<sup>(11)</sup>.  
Source: IncGamers.com

<sup>(11)</sup> <http://www.incgamers.com/News/14457/Investment-Firm-Slams-Games>

## **FOLLOW THE RAINBOW BRICK ROAD AT AMAZON UK**



AmazonUK is offering up to 70% off new and classic gay and lesbian DVD gems.

Read more [here](#)<sup>(12)</sup>.

<sup>(12)</sup> [http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/feature.html/ref=amb\\_link\\_82658953\\_7/278-2836403-9328565?ie=UTF8&docId=1000193673&pf\\_rd\\_m=A3P5ROKL5A1OLE&pf\\_rd\\_s=center-2&pf\\_rd\\_r=0890VNKJ5KSQ7N2N8G39&pf\\_rd\\_t=101&pf\\_rd\\_p=464241633&pf\\_rd\\_i=168710011](http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/feature.html/ref=amb_link_82658953_7/278-2836403-9328565?ie=UTF8&docId=1000193673&pf_rd_m=A3P5ROKL5A1OLE&pf_rd_s=center-2&pf_rd_r=0890VNKJ5KSQ7N2N8G39&pf_rd_t=101&pf_rd_p=464241633&pf_rd_i=168710011)

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## **HOLLYWOOD MEMORABILIA AUCTION**

Profiles in History is the nation's leading dealer in guaranteed-authentic original historical autographs, letters, documents, vintage signed photographs and manuscripts. On Thursday, Dec. 11, Profiles in History will host an Entertainment Auction (Auction #33).

### **LOT #511**

#### **Heath Ledger original screen-worn elk skin jacket from *The Lords of Dogtown***

(Columbia, 2005). Original vintage 1974 custom made elk skin jacket by Robert Warner for Skip Engblom. Lent by the 'real' Skip Engblom to Heath who played his on-screen character. Highly detailed blue elk skin with real silver dollars as buttons and Indian head nickels on the sleeves. Detailed with rhinestones on the lapel and sleeves with a lone star on the right shoulder. Accompanied by a letter of authenticity signed by Skip Engblom.

\$2000 - \$3000



### **LOT #509**

#### **Heath Ledger's armor from *A Knight's Tale***



(Columbia, 2001) The armor worn by the late Heath Ledger as Sir William Thatcher / Sir Ulrich Von Lichtenstein of Gelderland in the 2001 action movie *A Knight's Tale*. This is the radical lightweight armor that the character receives from Kate the Farrier (Laura Fraser) late on in the movie. On screen a 'Nike' swoosh can be seen but this appears to have been a close up insert shot only, the markings are not present on the full suit when seen during the jousting tournaments. It is fabricated from a very tough, polyurethane which has been detailed to look like metal. This method of armor manufacture is now commonplace in production as it is both durable and lightweight. The material is also ideal for stunt performers as it is soft enough to absorb most impacts. The visor on the helmet is hinged and there is a reasonable amount of movement in the entire outfit for the actor. The most memorable costume from this popular feature film.

\$6000 - \$8000

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**LOT #462**

**Heath Ledger 'Joker' blood-spattered playing card from *The Dark Knight***

(Warner Bros., 2008) This Joker playing card features a jester standing atop a tiger with a large blotch of studio blood present at the lower right. In Heath Ledger's amazing performance as Batman's arch villain, the Joker, he would leave his macabre calling cards at the scene of the carnage he created. This particular prop card, measuring 2 ½ in. x 3 ½ in., was left in the streets of Chicago following a shoot that wrapped in the early morning hours. A wonderful relic from Ledger's final performance.



\$300 - \$500

Read more [here](#)<sup>(13)</sup>.

<sup>(13)</sup> [http://www.profilesinhistory.com/new/index.php?option=com\\_auctions&catid=33](http://www.profilesinhistory.com/new/index.php?option=com_auctions&catid=33)

## Forum Footnotes

### OUR FURRY FRIENDS



From Conny ~ sweet dreams



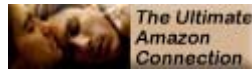
From Miaisland ~ Mother and son



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## 'TIS THE SEASON

Buying through Amazon? If so, remember to enter the store through our forum store! Just click the button below or the one at the bottom of each page. Thanks for your support of the forum!



► <http://astore.amazon.com/davecullencom-20/detail/0292714386/002-4993633-4191207>

## POST OF THE DAY

In the Gay Marriage Thread, **michaelflanagansf** posted this as part of a discussion about the repeal of the 18 Amendment to the US Constitution, which did away with Prohibition:



"Laws - especially bad ones - can be challenged and changed. This year in California we need to hear that - we need to keep it in mind. Even amendments to the United States Constitution can be repealed. We have had a defeat here, but we have not given up. And we know that we can make ground with the public on moral issues here as well - in the last election not one of the propositions related to restricting abortion passed. So by court or by ballot, we know this is not the end - and we know that we will not stop until we win.

"So in honor of the realization that it isn't good to create hostile minorities, that even stupidity at the highest levels can be overcome and that we haven't given up and will ultimately win I say cheers!"

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

**I believe that to meet the challenges of our times, human beings will have to develop a greater sense of universal responsibility. Each of us must learn to work not just for oneself, one's own family or nation, but for the benefit of all humankind. Universal responsibility is the key to human survival. It is the best foundation for world peace.**

~ H. H. The Dalai Lama ~



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## **PHOTO CAP OF THE DAY**



**"Do you want to know how I got these scars? My father..."**

Contributors: **Dave Cullen, Miaisland, KittyHawk, michaelflanagansf, CellarDweller115, Elena, Conny, BayCityJohn**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

If you have ideas about initiating a gathering, go to **Start Your Own Threads** and get the ball rolling to plan a get-together near you.

**4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BROKIE REUNION - ARIZONA SPRING FLING  
April 17-19, 2009**

<http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=29613.0>

**Let us know** of any events you'd like listed here

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Formatters/Researchers: **denim girl, gnash**

Forum Footnotes section produced by **Stilllearning**

Today's edition was formatted by **denim girl**

We count on you to send us your news items, questions, and nominations for posts of the day. If you have items you'd like to see published, send them to [tds@davecullen.com](mailto:tds@davecullen.com).

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