

Jon Peters on Producing Batman, Casting Michael Keaton, and Jack Nicholson

The Joe Rogan experience Do you have a favorite of all the movies you've done Well I like Batman because it was one that was it broke Nobody had done anything like that before And I had a big affair with him Basinger over there and we fell in love and I hired all UFC fighters to fight my stuff There's no such thing as UFC fighter But those guys yeah Hit guys from the tongue sword guys you guys went to the hospital they got cut because I pushed the limit on the damn thing and we shot it on the table with the fight sequences with the with the with the the way we shot it Everything that we did It may not look like it today But in those days we we Tim Burton was gonna use a six inch knife I said no and we got the blade and we got the guys and they did the Michael Keaton was a great fucking ba genius He was a great fucking best cause he's the best actor in the world He's one of the top five actress that ever lived He's look at his career Look what he does look what he did on on on on on Quaal Lose or whatever it is on vulin or whatever it is that three hour pieces you know and I'm sure he's uh in the program I would have guessed a guess I know he did because I hired him out of a movie called Clean And Sober and I saw in his eyes he could fight because as a kid I got in so many fights but I would read your eyes before I'd even make a move If I saw something I didn't like I'd probably figure a way to get out of it you know and that's how I went from Hollywood to the chairman of Sony to biotech companies to this to that to the UFC Maybe it would have been great Um because I have good instincts and I have I I kind of have like ordinary taste let's say did people resist They resisted Michael Keaton as batman and they didn't like that idea that a comedian because he was a stand up comic Yeah they wanted a 6 ft three guy to come in with the big muscles I said no look in his eyes He's a killer He'll stab you five times in the neck before you even know what happened Is he your favorite batman Christian Bale is a pretty fucking good batman too That that guy is willing to do things that most people are not willing to do like he's willing to get fat he's willing to like almost die of starvation So they have a career Yeah It's just like if you watch that machinist which is not the best movie But what's interesting about the movie is just Christian Bale The fact that he's basically a skeleton He ate like a can of tuna and an apple a day And then six months later he was batman You have to be crazy You have to be to be Jack Nicholson is my

good friend and he's crazy as a loon but it has to be and a brilliant guy And thank God he kind of retired like 10 years ago Watch Chinatown I I love that guy Of course he's crazy How could he be that I'm I'm standing on a corner la against Santa Monica and with my wife at the time Leslie Anne Warren she's pregnant with my son This goes back 50 years ago maybe whatever It was four guys pulled by in the car and they go Cinderella sucks and they flip it off Now I'm from the valley So I said just wait she played Cinderella on television That was her thing So I said wait here I jumped in my car and I chased these guys down the street I caught them at a signal I came up next to him was about to hit him He said no no no I'm in her acting class man We're all actors that was a joke Whatever it is Many years later I do uh Witches of Eastbrook and we're going to meet Jack Nicholson And as I walk in he looks at me and says hey Cinderella sucks It was him It was his That's hilarious Holy shit Oh my God That's hilarious You almost beat up Jack Nicholson No but I mean that's hilarious and it's him all those years later I was defending what I thought was my pregnant lady How fucking good is he in the shining he's I watched that again recently too He's a he's a he's a genius There's a few of those guys that like they they have you ever seen the video I'm sure you have There's a video of him warming up for his scene where he goes through the bathroom door with the hatchet and he's just like jumping around the room and getting fired up He never knew how to fight but he's a tough guy He he he was an extraordinary talent There's there's people that just like captivate a story