OPRAHHHHHHH

Oprah Winfrey is a riveting woman with an abundance of influence. She was first introduced to me by Josh Nichols, from Drake and Josh, with his heavy romanticism of her. That should’ve been my first warning about the fellowship Oprah formed. Her background as an American [media proprietor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Media_proprietor), talk show host, actress, producer, and [philanthropist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philanthropist) built up her empire.She is best known for her talk show [*The Oprah Winfrey Show*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Oprah_Winfrey_Show), which was the highest-rated program of its kind in history and ran from 1986 to 2011. Long time I know. Not only that, but according to Forbes, “she has been ranked the richest African-American of the 20th century, the greatest black philanthropist in American history, and is currently North America's one of two black billionaires.”[[1]](#footnote--1)

Oprah pledged to keep her show free of tabloid topics and her viewers respected her for that. But sneaky Oprah used her show to take over the world. Part of her talk show, "Oprah's Book Club," launched unknown authors to the top of the bestseller lists and her “Oprah’s 10 favorites” made shelves bare like it was grocery store during a natural disaster. Even her chef and personal trainer gained fame, after she lost 90lbs (that she would only yo-yo back and forth). But audiences nation wide glued their googly eyes to her even more, so Oprah responded with her narcissistic self and launched her monthly, O: The Oprah Magazine in 2000.

Soon Oprah’s well of motivating advice ran dry and more weight was gained. So what do you do once you retire your own television show? Debut a new channel of course! OWN was then formed four months later and began in 2012. Just to make sure people don’t forget about her, she continues to run her magazine, tour around with accompanying Oprah-worthy speakers, act/produce films, and even helped Obama during his campaign. To her success, Oprah is still relied as a master of naïve puppies. Even her Creative Director, Sheri Salata is engulfed to her mesmerizing and manipulative cult. “…she is the heart and soul…the spiritual leader of this organization. When you work at OWN, Winfrey’s voice isn’t just your product—it’s your guiding spirit.”[[2]](#footnote-0) Oprah really isn’t a goddess, but I like to keep that truth quiet from the worshipers just in case they attack me with their car keys from her audience car giveaway in 2004.

But I will give Oprah some slack. She did offer somewhat helpful advice, and gave touching, personalized advice like she was a medium knowing more than the average person. And she has used her large mass of money towards good such as “raising more than $51,000,000 for charitable programs, including girls' education in South Africa and relief to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.”[[3]](#footnote-1) So is Oprah Winfrey extremely exaggerated and sickly idolized? Heck yes. Her groupies should’ve moved on by now. Is she an antagonist? Not really.

1. "Oprah Winfrey." Wikipedia, n.d. Web. 1 Feb. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref--1)
2. McCorvey, J.J. "The Key To Oprah Winfrey's Success: Radical Focus." *Fast Company*. N.p., 12 Oct. 2015. Web. 1 Feb. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
3. "Oprah Winfrey." *Biography.com*. N.p., n.d. Web. 1 Feb. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)