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## About Stuart Dill

Author of *Murder on Music Row:  
A Music Industry Thriller*

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**Stuart Dill** is the youngest of four siblings, the son of a United Methodist preacher. He spent his childhood writing songs and wondering how to get out of Mobile, Ala., and into show business.

Dill graduated from American University in Washington, D.C., in 1984. One year later, he saw a poster for the Jim Halsey Company, a music industry consulting and management firm that was looking for unpaid interns. Dill walked into the Jim Halsey office and was greeted by Bob Burwell, who asked one simple question: “Do you want to be an agent or a manager?” Dill didn’t know the difference. Sensing his hesitation, Bob, who would become Dill’s first boss, replied, “You want to be a manager!” And just like that, Dill began a career in the music business that has lasted 25 years and beyond.

Six months after his hiring, Dill became Freddy Fender’s day-to-day manager and began traveling the world beside renowned artists twice his age. From there, the snapshots are endless: he watched Minnie Pearl work on jokes backstage at The Nashville Network; sat in the private teepee of William Lee Golden of the Oak Ridge Boys; played some really bad golf with Michael Martin Murphy; and took a phone call from Dwight Yoakam, who was stuck in a hotel without enough money to pay for a cab to the airport. On his very first day in Hollywood, Dill was introduced to Robert Redford. He sat on a conference-room floor with Wynonna Judd while she watched videos; wondered why Lee Greenwood had a shower in his office; and stood alone in a greenroom with Willie Nelson at *Austin City Limits* with nothing to say. Dill hitched a ride home from Missouri with Dottie West; had a fairly normal conversation with Vince Gill while the singer wore women’s clothing on a video set; saw Ronnie Dunn of Brooks & Dunn win a talent contest as an unknown singer; and got great seats at the Grammys. He was in Dallas, Tex., when Selena was murdered and heard a horrible rumor that his client Emilio had killed her (he hadn’t); flew on his first private jet with Jo Dee Messina; shook Bill Clinton’s hand the night he became president; and watched tearfully as Freddy said goodbye to Minnie on her deathbed.

Bob Burwell was right—Stuart Dill wanted to be a manager. And inspired by these experiences, Dill created his first novel, *Murder on Music Row: A Music Industry Thriller*.

Dill is a longtime member of Leadership Music and a member of the Academy of Country Music and the Country Music Association. He lives in Brentwood, Tenn., with his wife and two children.