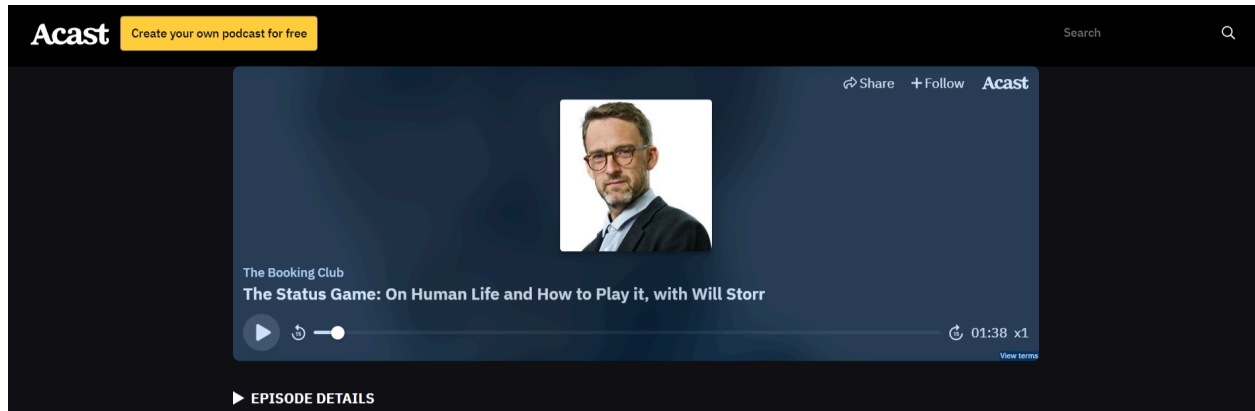


The Booking Club - The Status Game: On Human Life and How to Play it, with Will Storr



<https://play.acast.com/s/thecornertable/the-status-game-will-storr>

CLIPS AVAILABLE HERE -

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/8kaiu5v2jtn4r7c2twqd/ANzxGH-JerT9ePuYDCQtzIs?rlkey=x4bogtrgsoub5w4j10hnwku6z&st=qba7u91b&dl=0>

Thoughts

Pros

- Well branded availability
- Nice music, production etc.
- Available on many platforms

Missing

- YouTube Channel Not Utilised
- Timestamps
- Transcript

Suggested Titles

1. Exploring Status Games in Society with Will Storr
2. The Pursuit of Status: A Deep Dive with Guest Will Storr
3. Status and Society: Insights from Will Storr on Modern Day Power Games
4. The Hidden Force of Status in Politics and Personal Life
5. What Is Status with Will Storr
6. Will Storr on the Pursuit of Prestige and Political Power
7. The Impact of Status on Health and Society, Featuring Will Storr
8. Status Obsessions: Will Storr Discusses Politics, Fame, and Health
9. The Booking Club: Status, Narcissism, and Society with Will Storr
10. From Politics to Personal Impact: Status Games Examined with Will Storr

Suggested YouTube Tags

status games, politicians, narcissism, violence, health effects of status, loneliness, social justice movements, dominance, prestige, Will Storr, Jack Aldane, Paralyrn restaurant, L'Enclume, Noma restaurant, food criticism, human behaviour, evolutionary history, Paul McCartney, Yoko Ono, China, national identity, Will Smith slap, Helen Mirren, status anxiety, Samaritans, suicidal support, Beatles, Boris Johnson, Rishi Sunak, Gordon Brown

Timestamps

- 00:00 Introduction - Restaurants and dining out
- 08:32 Professor Hood on human behaviour and validation
- 10:04 Humans pursue status through virtue and competence
- 13:25 Politics balances virtue and competence between left and right
- 17:38 Analysis of dangerous people: narcissistic, physically violent
- 20:13 Elite intellectuals' destruction, Elliot Rogers' narcissism, Germany

23:41 Discussing politics, personality types, the rise of celebrities
28:30 Social status impacts mortality rates significantly
31:52 Human psychology seeks to win and have more
32:42 Communism, utopia, and new hierarchies
38:10 Suicide and status
41:14 Paul McCartney's status problem
43:22 Questioning names, subconscious mind, status game cautionary

Key Quotes

1. "I am a bit of a restaurant nerd, actually. It's what I like to do to spoil myself." | 00:01:35.148 - 00:01:41.236
2. "We need to feel connected to other people, but we also need to feel valued by other" people | 00:09:36.622 - 00:09:40.374
3. Political Perspectives and Values: "Politics is interesting because it's one of those game universes where it's pretty balanced between virtue and competence, you could argue, and I think it's probably true to say that the left is a bit more focused on virtue and the right is a bit more focused on competence, success." 00:13:2500:13:43
4. Exploring Human Nature through Dominance and Prestige: "that chimpanzee status is very much about dominance, you know, but humans, and it defines our humanity, really. I think humans are combat these other ways of pursuing status, virtue and success, competence." 00:10:1100:10:24
5. Health and Social Status: "The higher you were in the pecking order, the lower your mortality." 00:28:3000:29:14
6. Human Nature and Competition: "people will prefer to have less for themselves if it means that they win a competition with their rival." 00:31:5200:32:42
7. Understanding Utopian Failures: "It's a beautiful idea, but it's completely contrary to human nature, as is evidenced by what actually happened under communism, which is the most insanely hierarchical society. All they did was they flipped the hierarchy. Before the communist revolution, it was the tsar, then the bourgeoisie, then the workers and the peasants, and then it just flipped. So the peasants were at the top and then the workers, you know, so, so, and the bourgeoisie and the family, the descendants of the former bourgeoisie, the most miserable, they were killed, they were tortured, they were openly discriminated against, they were bullied at school, they were held back in their careers. And I think that's true of utopians generally. They say they want utopia, but what they actually want is a new hierarchy with themselves at the top. And I also think it's true of social justice movements." 00:32:4200:33:30
8. The Power of Giving Recognition: "People die for their status, but the incredible thing about this resource is it's free. Like, we get our status from other people. We look to other people to find out how much status we have. So we all have unlimited amounts of this status to give other people." 00:35:4600:36:05

9. Impact of Emotional Connection on Mental Health: "And when I'm speaking to suicidal people, people who are suicidal, in my experience as a samaritan, it's either because they've had a recent bereavement or enduring chronic pain. Those, that, those are two which you get occasionally, but the most common are a chronic lack of connection or status, usually both. So people who I speak to suicidal mostly are saying, I don't feel loved and I don't feel valued." 00:38:3400:38:59

LinkedIn Post

🎙️ A brand new episode of The Booking Club has just dropped, we were fortunate enough to catch Will Storr for a dive into the very nature of what drives us. The pursuit of status. Forget lust, greed, or desire for power. Will believes that status is what drives us above all.

Recorded at the cosy Parrillan in Borough Yards, Will talks about status, narcissists, working for Samaritans, and Paul McCartney's status problem!

🔑 Key Takeaways:

- Status as a Fundamental Human Drive: The pursuit of status influences a wide range of human activities, from the inner workings of political arenas to the competitive dynamics in modern culinary arts. Understanding this can enrich our interpretations of human behaviour in various social contexts.
- The Risks of Narcissism: Behavioral patterns in narcissistic individuals and nations show a tendency towards revenge when feeling humiliated, which can lead to destructive outcomes. Drawing parallels between individuals like Boris Johnson, and other historical figures, Will provides a stark reminder of the consequences of unchecked narcissism.
- Impact of Status on Health and Society: Higher status has been scientifically linked to better health outcomes, emphasising the profound effects of social standing on physical and mental health. Furthermore, the social dynamics that guide status interactions shape our collective experiences and can propel movements that strive for change or dominance.

Join us for this fascinating conversation on The Booking Club podcast, find out which Prime Minister Will thinks was in it for the status, and explore this underestimated force shaping our lives, nations, and history.

#Podcasts #TheBookingClub #WillStorr #SocialDynamics #Narcissism #PoliticalBehavior #HealthAndSociety #StatusGames

👉 Listen to the full episode here: [Podcast Link]

How do you think status impacts your day-to-day life? Drop your thoughts below 🙌 or share this post to continue the discussion in your network!

Newsletter

Subject: Unlock the Secrets of Status with Will Storr on The Booking Club

Greetings Booking Clubber,

It's that time of the week again! Yes, we've got a brand new episode of The Booking Club for you! We had the pleasure of hosting the insightful Will Storr, who brought his profound knowledge and engaging stories to our discussion table at the charming Paralyn in Borough Yards.

Throughout history, the intricacies of human behaviour have been dissected and analysed through the lens of sex, power, and money. However, in his groundbreaking new book, "The Status Game", bestselling author Will Storr challenges this conventional wisdom.

Storr proposes that our relentless pursuit of status, not sex, money, or power, is the true driving force behind our actions and identities. From ancient hunter-gatherer societies to the modern-day landscape of global economies and now the digital world, the quest for status has remained an innate aspect of human nature.

Research indicates that our perceived level of status significantly impacts, not just our happiness and well-being, but also our physical health. Without adequate status, we are prone to illness and a shorter lifespan.

But what exactly makes status such an irresistible prize? What happens when it's stripped away from us? And how does our insatiable thirst for status manifest in phenomena like cults, social media dynamics, and contemporary cultural clashes?

Discover all this and more on the latest episode of The Booking Club. Listen to the full episode [\[here\]](#) and join us as we uncover the layers of status that shape our world.

Warm regards,

Jack Aldane, The Booking Club Podcast

P.S. We love hearing from you! Share your thoughts on the episode or tell us what topics you'd like us to explore in the future by replying to this email.

Twitter Thread

🧵 1/ Hang onto your hats, folks! 🎩 Bestselling author Will Storr just dropped into the Paralyn grill house with some sizzling insights on society's juiciest game: the Status Game! It's like Monopoly, but with more drama and fewer top hats. Get ready for a wild ride! 🎮🔥

Here's a thread on status and our chat with Will Storr

#StatusGames

🧵 2/ For centuries, we've thought that our desire for money, sex, and power were the main driving forces in human nature. Our greed drove everything. It turns out Will Storr doesn't think that's the case! He believes it is our drive for status.

We'll find out which politician was thirsty for that sweet, sweet spotlight. Rishi? Liz? Dave? Boris, we're looking at you! 🗣️🎤 #SpotlightSeekers

🧵 3/ Storr keeps dropping truth bombs about narcissism that'll make your head spin! It has influenced everyone from infamous figures like Ted Kaczynski to the entire nation of Germany, it's a cautionary tale worth heeding. It has cost the lives of millions over the years, and the more powerful the victim, the worse the fallout can be! 💣⚠️

🧵 4/ Feeling a bit low? According to Storr, your status might be to blame! Ever wonder why some high-status individuals seem more lonely than a hermit crab on a deserted island? Storr's got the scoop—it's all about the perils of social isolation at the top.

🧵 5/ Utopian ideas are just new hierarchies. Storr explains why modern day left-ists are not seeking equality, rather they are seeking to up-end the current hierarchy to their own benefit!

"As is evidenced by what actually happened under communism, which is the most hierarchical, insanely hierarchical society. All they did was they flipped the hierarchy."

🧵 8/ Ready to level up your status game? Storr's got one word for you: generosity. Learn how giving others a boost can skyrocket your prestige faster than you can say "king of the castle." 🏰🚀 #BoostYourStatus

Tune in to his podcast with Jack Aldane at Paralyn and unlock the secrets of the Status Game—it's a game-changer, folks! 🎮🔒 #GameOn

🎧🔗 [Podcast Link]

Promotional Tweets

1. Will Storr highlights status as a core human need. He contrasts politicians: those who serve vs. those who seek fame. Learn how this motivation impacts society's direction. Find out in this week's episode of #TheBookingClub [Episode Link]
2. Narcissism's dangerous edge: from personal vendettas to national conflicts. Exploring historical figures and countries, Storr sheds light on the destructive pursuit of status. Find out in this week's episode of #TheBookingClub [Episode Link]
3. Dr. Michael Marmot's research reveals that higher status can mean a longer life. But what happens when the pursuit of status leads to isolation and exacerbated health risks? Discover all this and more in this week's episode of #TheBookingClub [Episode Link]
4. The Booking Club dives into the intricacies of status games in politics. Where does the line blur between seeking justice and merely aiming for dominance? Understanding these motives can reshape our societal view. Find out more in this week's episode of #TheBookingClub [Episode Link]
5. 🌟 Dive deep into the labyrinth of status & power games with Will Storr on The Booking Club! 📖 Discover how politics, personal connections, and even our health are influenced by our quest for status. Listen now: [Episode Link] #TheBookingClub #WillStorr
6. 🔍 Will Storr reveals the shocking links between narcissism and violence in our latest podcast episode! Hear about why understanding status can literally be a matter of life and death. Tune in to The Booking Club: [Episode Link] #Podcast #DeepDive
7. 🍴 From the best steaks at Paralyt to disappointing dinners at Noma, join Will Storr as he critiques the culinary world through the lens of status games. Savour every moment on this week's The Booking Club episode: [Episode Link] #Foodie #StatusGames
8. 🎩 Ever wonder why some politicians seem more obsessed with fame than policies? Will Storr discusses the dangerous allure of status in politics on The Booking Club. Don't miss this eye-opening discussion: [Episode Link] #Politics #StatusObsession
9. 🧠 Status isn't just about wealth and fame—it can shape our health and happiness. Explore the profound effects of social status with Will Storr on The Booking Club, and discover ways to navigate this invisible force. Listen here: [Episode Link] #MentalHealth #Society

Blog Post/Article

Status Games: Power and Politics with Will Storr

Throughout history, the intricacies of human behaviour have been dissected and analysed through the lens of sex, power, and money. Now, in a revealing discussion on "The Booking Club" podcast, guest Will Storr explained why he believes that status drives us above all else and how this unseen force influences our world and our politics.

Will is a British author and journalist who has also worked as a photographer. His writing career includes long-form journalism and novels as well as pieces for the likes of The Guardian, The New Yorker, and The New York Times. He is also the author of six critically acclaimed books, including "The Science of Storytelling: Why Stories Make Us Human, and How to Tell Them" and "Selfie: How the West Became Self-Obsessed."

Beyond writing, Storr has experience as a contributing editor at magazines like Esquire and GQ Australia. He has also done ghostwriting and public speaking engagements. Storr's journalistic background includes diverse topics and he has even reported from war zones and refugee camps. His achievements include awards such as New Journalist of the Year and Feature Writer of the Year. In the interview, Will draws a stark distinction between those who strive for public service and those bewitched by the allure of recognition. Storr highlighted individuals like Boris Johnson, describing him as being "driven by an obsessive interest in himself and TV appearances," in contrast to leaders like Rishi Sunak and Gordon Brown, leaders "focused on solving problems rather than being narcissistic." Though I am somewhat sceptical that their motivations were purely altruistic.

Storr's critique also extends beyond individuals to the broader impacts of status games in politics. He touched upon the destructive paths chosen by humiliated narcissists, referencing notorious figures like the Unabomber, Ted Kaczynski, Elliot Rogers, and even the entire nation of post-war Germany. Status, or lack thereof, can be a violently powerful force that can spiral out of control, leading to actions driven by revenge or vendettas. When Hitler first rose to power, he was wildly popular and successful, *"People go mad for him. They love him because he said, 'I'm going to restore our status.' And he did exactly that... It was fascinating, this link between the narcissistic individual and the narcissistic nation and how when we feel entitled to status and we feel that somebody is unfairly robbing us of that status, we become extremely dangerous as animals."*

The dialogue also touched on the biological and societal implications of status. Citing Dr. Michael Marmot's studies, Storr illustrated how higher status correlates with lower mortality. It's not just lifestyle or access to better food or healthcare, strong social connections are crucial for mental and physical well-being, and their absence can contribute to poorer health outcomes.

Nonetheless, the privileges of high status come with their own burdens, as seen through the lens of celebrities who manage the daunting task of maintaining their pedestal. One of the starkest examples of this tightrope (and its pitfalls) was the now infamous Will Smith slap with host Jack Aldane commenting, "This man who I, by the way, grew up watching and admiring very much both as a musician and in movies, finally won this great status in the Oscar and in the same night made himself a pariah of the movie world."

This episode of The Booking Club offers both a rigorous exploration of status in its traditional and modern forms and a meaningful reflection on how we can move from dominating to acknowledging, and from competition to compassion.

Don't forget to tune in to "The Booking Club" wherever you get your podcasts and follow us on Twitter or Instagram to join the conversation about how status games shape our world.

Key Points

1. Introduction to Status in Politics

- Will discusses politicians' motivations for achieving status, distinguishing between altruistic and narcissistic goals.
- Examples like Boris Johnson, Rishi Sunak, and Gordon Brown illustrate different approaches to political status.

2. Characteristics of Narcissism

- Discussion on the behaviour and mindset of narcissists, including entitlement and vengeance.
- Case studies like Ted Kaczynski and Ed Kemper are analysed to understand the link between humiliation and violence in narcissistic personalities.

3. Narcissistic Nations and Historical Status

- The pre-war Germany scenario demonstrates how nations can adopt narcissistic tendencies.
- Jack Aldane discusses China's historical humiliations and their current impact on the nation's collective psyche and status games.

4. Health and Psychological Effects of Status

- Dr. Michael Marmot's research on status correlating to mortality in the British civil service.
- The psychological and biological impacts of having low status, including prolonged stress and vulnerability to health issues.

5. Societal Status Games

- Exploring the changing nature of status in modern society and its manifestations in various areas like politics and celebrity culture.

- The infamous Will Smith Oscar slap incident as an example of public status games.

6. Personal Relationships and Status

- The role of status in interpersonal relationships and personal well-being.
- How treating others with respect and valuing them can build status and foster positive relationships.

7. Evolutionary Perspectives on Status

- Discussion on how humans are evolutionarily predisposed to status but may not be designed to handle high status, particularly at young ages.
- The paradox of never feeling satisfied with one's status level despite its benefits to quality of life.

8. Social Justice and Status

- Analysis of how some social justice movements may be driven by a desire for dominance rather than true equality.
- The difference between dominance and prestige as forms of status, and how to transform one into the other.

9. Celebrity Influences and Media Examples

- Status dynamics in celebrity culture, with Paul McCartney and Yoko Ono's relationship as an example.
- Media's role in perpetuating status games and how it influences public perception.

10. Mental Health and Support Mechanisms

- Will Storr's experience with the Samaritans, emphasising the importance of building people's status to combat loneliness and depression.
- Strategies for acknowledging and valuing people's positive qualities to help them rebuild their self-worth.

11. Culinary World and Status

- Will Storr criticises modern chefs for prioritising critics over customers, illustrating another form of status game.
- Mention of Storr's restaurant experiences, including his disappointment with Noma, reflecting status games in the culinary industry.

12. Conclusion

- Reflecting on the diverse impacts of status in various societal contexts.
- Jack Aldane and Will Storr summarising key insights and emphasising the importance of being conscious of status games in daily life.

"Politics should be about solving problems, not just enhancing personal fame." – Will Storr

 Castmagic

"The key thing about the narcissist is that they don't feel they have to earn status. They think it's owed to them already." – Will Storr