

### In Memoriam: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)

Posted by aubin on Monday, September 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM (EDT)



Legendary punk poet Jim Carroll has passed away at 60. The cause was a heart attack, said Rosemary Carroll, his former wife.



Carroll was well-known in the mainstream for the film, *The Basketball Diaries*, which starred Leonardo DiCaprio and covered his youth. His poetry and music was very influential, with [Patti Smith](#) saying:

*I met him in 1970, and already he was pretty much universally recognized as the best poet of his generation, The work was sophisticated and elegant. He had beauty.*

His fans included Allen Ginsberg, Ted Berrigan and Jack Kerouac and he contributed dialogue for Andy Warhol's films. Jim collaborated with musicians Lou Reed, Blue Öyster Cult, Boz Scaggs, Ray Manzarek of The Doors, Pearl Jam, and Rancid. One of his poems is the source of the phrase "... And Out Come the Wolves" which inspired the [album of the same name](#) and also featured his voice.

Our deepest condolences to his friends, family and fans.

(41 comments |

### Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)

by [AndyPonch](#) on 2009-09-14 00:02:31

<http://www.myspace.com/rebelsoundrecordsthestore>

A true legend and one of the most amazing artists to ever emerge from punk rock. His work will live on for generations to come.

By the way, that new Muse ad fucking sucks.

### NEVER BUY ANYTHING FROM MUSE

by [PCS19](#) on 2009-09-14 06:01:50

they need to realize crazy shitty ads like that just piss people off and make them not want to buy there shit.

### Re: NEVER BUY ANYTHING FROM MUSE

by [UNTJosh](#) on 2009-09-14 06:59:35

...or visit their site. As it were.

### Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)

by [2Kings](#) on 2009-09-14 08:03:29

<http://www.last.fm/user/TwoKings/>

firefox + adblocker

yada yada

### Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)

by [mikexdude](#) on 2009-09-14 00:10:13

:o

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [BigP](#) on 2009-09-14 00:11:18

<http://www.myspace.com/heartattackmission>

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First time I've ever seen something posted after Navel Gazing. I guess it's technically the day after.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [punkbytheounce](#) on 2009-09-14 00:53:53

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More important than Navel Gazing.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [Hasheesh](#) on 2009-09-14 00:11:40

<http://www.myspace.com/franknearest>

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...but Beyonce had the greatest poetry of all time! ...THE GREATEST POETRY OF ALL TIME!

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [MilesQToast](#) on 2009-09-14 09:44:05

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this was nice work outta you.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [justthetip](#) on 2009-09-14 00:22:43

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their the people who died died... their the people who died died... they were all my friends and they died... R.I.P.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [PaC](#) on 2009-09-14 08:02:52

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That song is the best part of the movie E.T.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [David5345](#) on 2009-09-14 00:29:06

<http://apunkrockblog.blogspot.com/>

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Jim Carroll wasn't supposed to die, that's lame.

Also how could he have been born in 1950 and been 60?

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [Misanthropee](#) on 2009-09-14 00:42:34

<http://www.ubuntu.com/>

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Ginsberg's name is misspelled too...

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [thomassawyer](#) on 2009-09-14 00:34:47

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two days of no news and the first post is a death. whose bringing in the bad karma

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [DrewXFishy](#) on 2009-09-14 01:58:43

<http://www.myspace.com/bottom40radio>

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take is easy

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [bill\\_stickers](#) on 2009-09-14 05:40:06

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No, blame Eazy.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [ChadReligion](#) on 2009-09-14 00:37:52

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Totally sucks. I remember seeing the Basketball Diaries at the movie theater because the girl I was going out with at the time had a thing for Leo D..., but I walked out of there wanting to know more about him. He even appears in the movie, which is also cool. The soundtrack had some really awesome songs on it too, one that he wrote with pearl jam, and probably the best Soundgarden song ever. RIP man

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [Archangel](#) on 2009-09-14 00:52:00

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Quick question: Who the fuck is Alan Ginsberg?

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [David5345](#) on 2009-09-14 01:19:44

<http://apunkrockblog.blogspot.com/>

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A member of NAMBLA.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [kcramone](#) on 2009-09-19 17:00:55

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Are you sure about that?

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [TraumaSponge](#) on 2009-09-14 02:10:21

<http://www.marvel.com>

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Beat poet. Wrote "Howl".

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [Archangel](#) on 2009-09-14 02:16:13

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Woosh, guys.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)**

by [punkbytheounce](#) on 2009-09-14 00:53:10

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Such an awesome dude. RIP

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [PitchforkWriter](#) on 2009-09-14 01:26:19

<http://www.pitchfork.com>

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Goddamn. I just finished putting my book about the beat generation down and came to check pn one last time and saw this. Horrible.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [drugmoney](#) on 2009-09-14 19:47:42

<http://www.vbs.tv/shows.php?show=412470155>

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Hey asshole i wasn't able to respond to your comment about me last night, because I had to wake up a 5am for work. So, trailer park? ha dude I'm 25, married, have a great daughter and live in my own house. This "moron" has a pretty good career, I make atleast \$2,500 a week doing what I do. So fuck you, I just like getting underneath the skin of a overly obsessed cowboy fan. You're just a piece of shit that likes to run his dick lips. So "holla" at me whenever you're successful in something besides failing at life asshole. FUCK YOU

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [SlackMFr](#) on 2009-09-14 07:02:22

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His writing & music were great. There's a huge void on the planet now. He was great doing spoken word tours as well. I saw him twice live & his delivery was perfect. R.I.P. Jim,

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [johnrambo](#) on 2009-09-14 08:31:24

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he's a person that died, died.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [kevgren](#) on 2009-09-14 08:33:12

<http://www.cheapshotphilly.com/>

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I've only ever heard "People Who Died," and I was just reading an article about him in Paste praising his album, Catholic Boy. Was planning on finally checking it out. I also heard "People Who Died" on WMMR last week and was very happy to hear it played on the radio. This is a shame.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [necktattoo](#) on 2009-09-14 08:58:41

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damn. basketball diaries is great.

junkie man tell me what your story is

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [MattRamone](#) on 2009-09-14 09:51:42

<http://www.thekidsarealdead.blogspot.com>

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It's a bummer that he's dead, but I never feel too bad about losing another baby boomer, especially one inspired by the Beats.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [RattusNorvegicus](#) on 2009-09-15 00:56:25

<http://www.myspace.com/ryanmudd>

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you will never create anything of value in your entire life

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [Greenman23](#) on 2009-09-14 11:09:31

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Wow,someone dies,who did art,that was respected by the people who started punk, and you decide to lump him in with the Boomers he rejected. Class act. And if you don't like the Beats, throw out all your punk records.

Ginsberg in NAMBLA? If he was in that, then so was Grant Hart, so throw out your Husker Du discs and everything they influenced.

Being a drunk jackass doesn't make you punk,other wise all hair metal is punk then.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [MattRamone](#) on 2009-09-14 12:01:33

<http://www.thekidsarealdead.blogspot.com>

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[http://farm2.static.flickr.com/1002/1019746574\\_4301f97ccb.jpg?v=0](http://farm2.static.flickr.com/1002/1019746574_4301f97ccb.jpg?v=0)

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [kevgren](#) on 2009-09-14 13:00:01

<http://www.cheapshotphilly.com/>

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I don't think the Beats were punk at all. They were spoiled hipsters. Just because Jim Carroll, Patti Smith, and Richard Hell liked them

doesn't mean that punk rock owes them a debt of gratitude.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [manincognito](#) on 2009-09-14 12:54:18

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wow, this is really sad news. RIP. his contributions and influence were vast, and his poems were always a personal favourite.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [LushJ](#) on 2009-09-14 13:14:29

<http://thefrisk.com/>

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I've always loved his music more than his writing- the 2 albums to get (in order) are

Catholic Boy (has "People Who Died") then Dry Dreams.

Elsewhere I've called it a mix of The Saints "Eternally Yours" with a downtown NYC Lou Reed/Patti Smith feel.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [brilldo](#) on 2009-09-14 16:35:50

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RIP...You Will be Missed...

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [smits](#) on 2009-09-14 16:59:46

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Excellent writer, my pops gave me a copy of Basketball Diaries when I was about 14. That book has had a lasting affect on my life. Sad day. R.I.P.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [LawnDay](#) on 2009-09-14 18:11:35

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Whoa, holy shit, RIP. One of the greats.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [RattusNorvegicus](#) on 2009-09-15 00:57:41

<http://www.myspace.com/ryanmudd>

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R.I.P.

**Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)**

by [kcramone](#) on 2009-09-19 16:48:27

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RIP that he died died. He was a writer; first and foremost and a great writer at that. The music came later...