

Television journalist Jane Pauley is the host of *CBS Sunday Morning*. She was a correspondent and co-anchor for *NBC's Today*, and also started the weekly magazine series *Real Life with Jane Pauley*, which was later renamed *Dateline*.

The following interview appeared on the *CBS Sunday Morning* news show September 10, 2017.

CBS Sunday Morning

Hillary Clinton Speaks

Hillary Clinton: This is not the outcome we wanted or we worked so hard for, and I'm sorry that we did not win this election for the values we share and the vision we hold for our country.

Jane Pauley: Hillary Rodham Clinton delivering her concession speech the day after losing last year's presidential election. She looks back on her campaign in a new book out this week – *What Happened*, published by Simon and Schuster, a CBS company.

On Friday I sat down for a talk with Mrs. Clinton at her suburban home outside New York City.

Jane Pauley: So I'm wondering, how are you?

Hillary Clinton: I think I am good. But that doesn't mean that I am complacent or resolved about what happened. It still is very painful. It hurts a lot.

10 *Jane Pauley:* Hillary Rodham Clinton has spent the last 10 months trying to figure out why she isn't President of the United States.

Jane Pauley: Can we talk about election day? Did you have any clue what the outcome of that day would be?

Hillary Clinton: No.

15 *Jane Pauley:* As the polls closed, Clinton's supporters gathered in a New York City convention center, expecting to see history being made. But as the returns came in, the celebratory mood began to fade.

Hillary Clinton: I just kinda went in the bedroom, laid down on the bed, just thought, "Okay. I just have to wait this out." But then, midnight, I decided, "Well, uhh you know, looks like it's not gonna work."

20 *Jane Pauley:* After midnight, she called Donald Trump, the president-elect. And then she called the White House.

Jane Pauley: You called the President?

Hillary Clinton: I did. I felt like I had let everybody down.

Jane Pauley: Morning came, and the nation was waiting to hear from her.

25 *Hillary Clinton:* I had not drafted a concession speech. I'd been working on a victory speech.

Our best days are still ahead of us.

Jane Pauley: And then, on what she thought would be her first day as president-elect, Hillary and Bill Clinton headed back home to Chappaqua, New York.

30 *Hillary Clinton: I just felt this enormous letdown, just kind of loss of feeling and direction and sadness. And, you know, Bill just kept saying, "Oh, you know, that was a terrific speech," tryin' to just kinda bolster me a little bit. Off I went, into a frenzy of closet cleaning, and long walks in the woods, playing with my dogs, and, yoga, alternate nostril breathing, which I highly recommend, tryin' to calm myself down. And – you know, my share of Chardonnay. It was a very hard transition. I really struggled. I couldn't feel, I couldn't think. I was just gob-smacked, wiped out.*

35 *Jane Pauley: Weeks passed. But she couldn't remain in seclusion forever.*

Hillary Clinton: You know, after the first of the year, I had a big decision to make. Was I going to go to the inauguration?

Jane Pauley: Well, defeated candidates don't necessarily show up, but...

Hillary Clinton: No...

40 *Jane Pauley: But you're a former first lady, and former presidents and first ladies show up. It's part of the demonstration of the continuity of our government. And so there I was, on the platform, you know, feeling like an out-of-body experience. And then his speech, which was a cry from the white nationalist gut.*

Donald Trump: This American carnage stops [right here and right now].

45 *Hillary Clinton: What an opportunity to say, "Okay, I'm proud of my supporters, but I'm the president of all Americans." That's not what we heard at all.*

Jane Pauley: Clinton had been so sure she'd be the one giving that inaugural speech.

Jane Pauley: You specifically bought this house for a reason.

Hillary Clinton: I did.

50 *Jane Pauley: And this was to be...?*

Hillary Clinton: Well, I know a lot about what it takes to move a president. And I thought I was going to win.

Jane Pauley: The Clintons had acquired the house next door, to accommodate White House staff and security during a second Clinton Administration.

55 *Jane Pauley: And doesn't it kind of haunt you that...?*

Hillary Clinton: No I'm very happy we did it.

Jane Pauley: At a dining room table in that house, she wrote about "What Happened".

Hillary Clinton: I couldn't get the job done, and I'll have to live with that for the rest of my life.

60 *Jane Pauley: So: What did happen? Hillary Clinton was supposed to make history as the first woman president of the United States.*

Hillary Clinton: I started the campaign knowing that I would have to work extra hard to make women and men feel comfortable with the idea of a woman president. It doesn't fit into the – the stereotypes we all carry around in our head. And a lot of the sexism and the misogyny¹ was in service of these attitudes. Like, you know, “We really don't want a woman commander in chief.”

65 *Donald Trump:* I will be the greatest jobs President that God ever created, I tell you that.

Jane Pauley: Her opponent – real estate billionaire and reality TV star, Donald Trump, a political novice who had previously defeated 16 GOP² primary³ challengers.

Donald Trump: We will make America great again.

70 *Hillary Clinton:* He was quite successful in referencing a nostalgia that would give hope, comfort, settle grievances, for millions of people who were upset about gains that were made by others...

Jane Pauley: What you're saying is millions of white people.

Hillary Clinton: Millions of white people, yeah. Millions of white people.

75 *Jane Pauley:* And then the Russians. American intelligence began picking up signals that Moscow was attempting to influence the election in Trump's favor – both by hacking into Democratic National Committee e-mails and by spreading false information online.

Hillary Clinton: The forces that were at work in 2016 were unlike anything that I've ever seen or read about. It was a perfect storm. [...]

Jane Pauley: But Hillary Clinton looks inward too, acknowledging a tone that didn't fit the political landscape of 2016.

80 *Hillary Clinton:* I understood that there were many Americans who, because of the financial crash, there was anger. And there was resentment. I knew that. But I believed that it was my responsibility to try to offer answers to it, not to fan it. I think, Jane, that it was a mistake because a lot of people didn't want to hear my plans. They wanted me to share their anger. And I should've done a better job of demonstrating “I get it”.

85 *Jane Pauley:* There were some memorable verbal gaffes, too:

Hillary Clinton: [from a speech]: You could put half of Trump's supporters into what I call the basket of deplorables.

Jane Pauley: Why do you think that word deplorable had been circulating in your mind?

90 *Hillary Clinton:* Well, I thought Trump was behaving in a deplorable manner. I thought a lot of his appeals to voters were deplorable. I thought his behavior, as we saw on the “Access Hollywood” tape, was deplorable. And there were a large number of people who didn't care. It did not matter to them. And he turned out to be a very effective reality TV star.

Jane Pauley: But you fell into that row when you said basket of deplorables, you energized...

¹ hatred of women that is felt by some men

² Grand Old Party, nickname for the Republican Party

³ primary election in which the field of candidates is narrowed

Hillary Clinton: No, but they were already energized...

95 *Jane Pauley:* But you offended some people who... who didn't personally feel deplorable at all.

Hillary Clinton: Well, I don't buy that. I don't buy that. I'm sorry I gave him a political gift of any kind.

Jane Pauley: That was a gift.

Hillary Clinton: But I don't think that was determinative.

[footage with Trump's campaign bus and his sexist remarks]

100 *Jane Pauley:* As the campaign entered its final month, the now infamous Access Hollywood tape surfaced. Two days later, Clinton and Trump meet in their second debate.

Hillary Clinton: After we heard him admitting and laughing about sexually assaulting women and being able to get away with it because if you're a star, you can do anything. So in my debate prep⁴, we practiced this. The young man playing Trump would stalk me. And I practiced keeping my composure. I practiced not getting rattled. Well, it's one thing to practice it. It's another thing to be
105 in front of, you know, 50 million, 60 million, 70 million people and having him scowling and leering and moving up on me. And – it – it was so discombobulating⁵.

Hillary Clinton: And so while I'm answering questions, my mind is going, "Okay, do I keep my composure? Do I act like a president?" Or do I wheel around and say, "Get outta my space. Back up, you creep"? Well, you know, I didn't do the latter. But I think in this time we're in, particularly in this
110 campaign, you know, maybe I missed a few chances.

Jane Pauley: Is your political career over?

Hillary Clinton: Yes, as an active politician it's over.

Jane Pauley: You'll never be a candidate again for office...?

115 *Hillary Clinton:* No, I am done with being a candidate. But I am not done with politics because I literally believe that our country's future is at stake.

Hillary Clinton: You represent the best of America and being your candidate has been one of the greatest honours of my life.

120 *Jane Pauley:* In the end, Hillary Rodham Clinton still seems gob-smacked by what happened. She dishes out blame and she accepts responsibility. But while she's proud of her effort, she writes she was running a traditional presidential campaign, while Trump was running a reality show.

Hillary Clinton: We have a reality show that leads to the election of a president. He ends up in the Oval Office. He says, "Boy, it's so much harder than I thought it would be. This is really tough. I had no idea." Well, yeah, because it's not a show. It's real. It's reality for sure.

(2017)

⁴ preparation

⁵ confusing, making you nervous