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Introducing Real Leaders, stories of crisis leadership

New from HBR's **IdeaCast podcast**: "Real Leaders," a special series examining the lives of compelling leaders, past and present, who offer lessons in effective crisis management.

"Real Leaders" is cohosted by HBR Editor in Chief **Adi Ignatius** and Harvard Business School professor and historian **Nancy Koehn**.

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Episode 1: Ernest Shackleton Leads a Harrowing Expedition

What a famously disastrous polar mission can teach us about building a team, learning from bad bosses, and cultivating empathy.

Episode 2: Rachel Carson Seeds the Environmental Movement

One woman takes on some of the world's most powerful chemical companies. Carson's story demonstrates how to strengthen your resilience, gather your energy and skills for a coming challenge, and why caretaking is an act of leadership.

Episode 3: Abraham Lincoln and the Power of Emotional Discipline

Lincoln's guidance of the U.S. through its greatest crisis demonstrates how to learn continuously, communicate values, and exercise emotional self-control when the stakes are high.

Episode 4: Oprah Winfrey and the Power of Empathy

Winfrey's leadership of her self-built media empire offers lessons on how to cultivate self-awareness, manage mistakes, and responsibly wield influence.

Your feedback is welcome at podcasts@hbr.org.