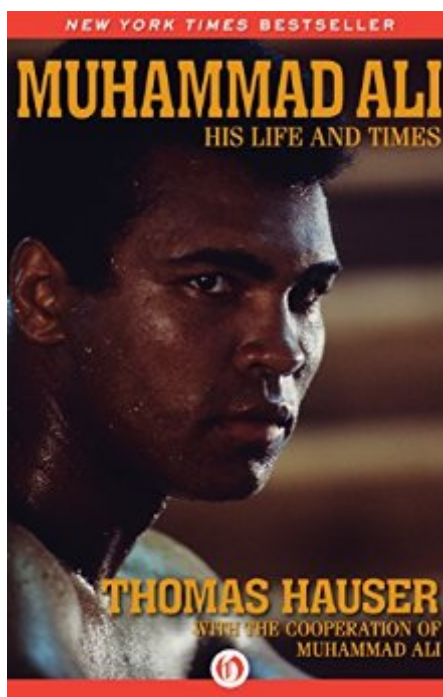


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Muhammad Ali: His Life And Times (Enhanced Edition)



Synopsis

A sweeping biography of one of the greatest and most provocative athletes of all time—a life that needs to be understood whether you care a whit about boxing or not. (The Boston Globe). Athlete, activist, rebel, poet, legend—Muhammad Ali stood larger than life in the imagination of hundreds of millions of people around the world. A gold medalist at the 1960 Olympics, he won the heavyweight championship at age twenty-two by conquering Sonny Liston in dramatic fashion. In the weeks after the upset victory, he confirmed his membership in the Nation of Islam and told reporters he would no longer answer to his slave name: Cassius Clay. The political establishment stripped him of his heavyweight title when he refused induction into the United States Army during the height of the war in Vietnam. Ultimately, Ali returned to reclaim his crown, prevailing in epic fights against the likes of Joe Frazier and George Foreman. His talent and charisma—and above all, his adherence to principle—made him a cultural icon and one of the most beloved sporting figures of all time. But that is only half the tale. *Muhammad Ali: His Life and Times* is also the story of Ali, the man. Author Thomas Hauser got closer to Ali than any previous biographer. His work—told in Ali's own words and those of hundreds of family members, friends, rivals, and others who interacted with "The Greatest" over the decades—reveals a deeply spiritual, complex man, whose public and private battles, including his struggle against the devastating effects of Parkinson's disease, gave new meaning to the word courage and changed forever our conception of what makes a champion. Heralded by the *New York Times* as "the first definitive biography of the boxer who transcended sports as no other athlete ever has," *Muhammad Ali: His Life and Times* is a must-read for anyone seeking to understand the legacy of one of the twentieth century's most charismatic and controversial superstars. This enhanced ebook includes rare video footage, audio clips, and photos authorized by Muhammad Ali Enterprises. A

Book Information

File Size: 2596 KB

Print Length: 423 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: B000SJMO4I

Publisher: Open Road Media (February 14, 2012)

Publication Date: February 14, 2012

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B006WP9NCS

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #616,433 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #63

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Sports & Outdoor > Boxing #117

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Sports > Individual Sports > Boxing #183

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Customer Reviews

I first really watched an Ali fight as a boy. Ali was fighting his second comeback fight against the Argentine brawler Oscar Bonavena. It was a gruelling 15 round fight. It was on ABC, and Howard Cosell made it sound much more dramatic than it actually was. It was competitive, but Ali was winning the fight when he dug deep, and dropped Bonavena three times in the final round for an automatic stoppage. This was not a feat to be taken lightly. Bonavena had fought Joe Frazier twice, Floyd Patterson, Jerry Quarry, Jimmy Ellis, and a host of others without being taken off his feet. In any case, over the years, I had read so much about Ali, that when a friend passed this book to me, I was unexcited at the prospect of reading another Ali chronicle. I was unexpectedly delighted at Hauser's coverage of this legend. He brings out what a transcendent figure Ali was (and remains). He uses the same technique that made Terry Pluto's LOOSE BALLS a classic sports story, in that he lets people from Ali's past do the talking. Former opponents, wives, associates, friends, trainers all take their turns. Many are insightful. Hauser is not beyond showing us Ali's warts. We see him as an unfaithful husband, as a cruel tormentor at times, as a foolhardy spendthrift (chump), and for once, as a confused and angry young man, as he transitions into his Muslim persona. But he evolves as an incredibly special human being. As his skills begin to erode in the ring, his humane qualities flourish. He becomes a man of deep, contented faith. He performs acts for ordinary people that show him to be a worthy idol. As his career ends, he confronts his diminishing health and vitality by once again looking to his faith.

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