

Joe Louis Hard Times Man

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Joe Louis defended his heavyweight boxing title an astonishing twenty-five times and reigned as world champion for more than eleven years. He got more column inches of newspaper coverage in the 1930s than FDR did. His racially and politically charged defeat of Max Schmeling in 1938 made Louis a national hero.

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Joe Louis: Hard Times Man by Randy W. Roberts

Known as the Brown Bomber, Joe Louis defended his heavyweight title an astonishing twenty-five times. Through the 1930s, he got more column inches of newspaper coverage than President Roosevelt. At a time when the boxing ring was the only venue where black and white could meet on equal terms, Louis embodied Black America's hope for dignity and equality.

Amazon.com: Joe Louis eBook: Roberts, Randy: Kindle Store

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Joe Louis: Hard Times Man on JSTOR

Joe Louis was a titan, the undisputed heavyweight champion for more than twelve years (and a record 23 title defenses) and, probably, the greatest American hero of the twentieth century.

"Joe Louis: Hard Times Man" by Randy Roberts - Chicago Tribune

"Joe Louis: Hard Times Man" by Randy Roberts|Yale University Press, 308 pages, \$27.50Joe Louis was a titan, the undisputed heavyweight champion for more than twelve years (and a record 23 title ...

"Joe Louis: Hard Times Man" explores life of boxer ...

Told in fascinating detail, "Joe Louis: Hard Times Man", recounts the rise and fall of Joe Louis. Roberts, who is probably the greatest living boxing writer, places the story of Louis in the context of Jim Crow America. Sure to please any boxing fan and any student of 20th Century America.

Amazon.com: Customer reviews: Joe Louis: Hard Times Man

Yet, Joe Louis was a deeply troubled man. He was heavily and inextricably involved with the shabby elements of professional boxing. Although he earned astronomical sums for his day, Louis far overspent his means, lived deeply in debt and owed a huge tax liability to the I.R.S. which he could not hope to pay.

Joe Louis: Hard Times Man: Amazon.co.uk: Roberts, Randy: Books

Joe Louis: Hard Times Man, By Randy Roberts. Chris Maume @cmaume: ... In Roberts' wonderfully lucid exposition of Louis's times, sometimes the man himself seems elusive - as in life. His wedding ...

Joe Louis: Hard Times Man, By Randy Roberts | The Independent

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Joe Louis: Hard Times Man by Randy Roberts (9780300122220)

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"Joe Louis: Hard Times Man" by Randy Roberts - Chicago Tribune

Joe Louis was not a creation, however—a Frankenstein's monster that bent to the will of handlers only to become an icon by default. Louis was, by nature and intent, already the anti-Jack Johnson, crafted in that crucible of race, poverty, and masculinity that belied Ann Douglas's Terrible Honesty (1995).

Joe Louis: Hard Times Man | Journal of American History ...

Roberts is also the author of Papa Jack: Jack Johnson and the Era of White Hopes (Free Press) – a good biography of the most controversial champion in boxing history – and Joe Louis: Hard Times Man (Yale University Press), a valuable addition to the literature on Louis.

Through meticulous research and first-hand interviews, the author presents Joe Louis's impact on boxing and the U.S., revealing an athlete who carefully managed his public image and who actually had complex relationships with both the black and white communities, including mobsters.

A "humbling, inspiring . . . deeply emotional" biography of the boxing legend who held the heavyweight world championship for more than eleven years (Kirkus Reviews, starred review). Known as the Brown Bomber, Joe Louis defended his heavyweight title an astonishing twenty-five times. Through the 1930s, he got more column inches of newspaper coverage than President Roosevelt. At a time when the boxing ring was the only venue where black and white could meet on equal terms, Louis embodied Black America's hope for dignity and equality. And in 1938, his politically charged defeat of German boxer Max Schmeling made Louis a national hero on the world stage. Through meticulous research and first-hand interviews, acclaimed biographer Randy Roberts presents a complete portrait of Louis and his outsized impact on sport and country. Digging beneath the simplistic narratives of heroism and victimization, Roberts reveals an athlete who carefully managed his public image, and whose relationships with both the black and white communities—including his relationships with mobsters—were deeply complex. "Roberts is a fine match with his subject. He supports with powerful evidence his contention that Louis's impact was enormous and profound." —The Boston Globe

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Nothing in the annals of sports has aroused more passion than the heavyweight fights in New York in 1936 and 1938 between Joe Louis and Max Schmeling — bouts that symbolized the hopes, hatreds, and fears of a world moving toward total war. Acclaimed journalist David Margolick takes us into the careers of both men — a black American and a Nazi German hero — and depicts the extraordinary buildup to their legendary 1938 rematch. Vividly capturing the outpouring of emotion that the two fighters brought forth, Margolick brilliantly illuminates the cultural and social divisions that they came to represent.

When Joe Louis (1914-1981) knocked out the German boxer Max Schmeling in 1938 in two minutes and four seconds, the entire nation—black and white—celebrated the "fight of the century" as a victory of the United States against the ominous tide of Nazism. Never had an African-American received such universal praise across racial lines. Heavyweight champion for a record twelve years from 1937 to 1949, Louis opened the doors for such future black athletes as Jackie Robinson, Sugar Ray Robinson, and Muhammad Ali.Joe Louis depicts the prizefighter's life, and the times in which he lived, from his childhood in a sharecropper's cabin in Alabama and his formative years in Detroit, to his legendary career, his service in the Army, his stint as a professional wrestler after retiring from boxing in 1951, and his professional demise as an official greeter for a Las Vegas casino. Along the way, Richard Bak compassionately, yet evenhandedly, details Louis's private vices: incessant womanizing, reckless spending habits, massive debts to the IRS, and drug abuse. Filled with over one hundred photographs, including twenty-two in color, Joe Louis is the most comprehensive portrait yet written of one of the greatest African-American heroes who used his fists figuratively—and literally—to fight racism.

Born into extreme poverty in 1914, Jersey Joe Walcott began boxing at the age of 16 to help feed his hungry family. After ten years, without proper training and with little to show for his efforts beyond some frightful beatings, Walcott quit the ring. A chance meeting with a fight promoter who recognized the potential in his iron chin and hard punch turned Walcott's fortunes around, launching one of the greatest comebacks in boxing history. This biography details Walcott's youth, his dismal early career, and his legendary climb to become the heavyweight champion of the world at age 37, at the time the oldest man ever to win the coveted title. Along the way, he battled some of the most feared champions of his day, including Joe Louis, Ezzard Charles, and Rocky Marciano. With numerous period photographs and a foreword from Walcott's grandson, this work provides an intimate look at one of the grittiest, most determined boxers of the 20th century.

Illustrated by a two-time Caldecott Honor-winning artist, an evocative portrait of the boxing icon centers around his historic match against Germany's Max Schmeling on the eve of World War II, a fight that reflected international tensions and a triumph against racial barriers.

"A rousing celebration of a moment in history when college football was more than metaphor and entertainment, it was a gritty sidebar to real war." — Robert Lipsyte, author of An Accidental Sportswriter Each year the Army and Navy football teams meet for one epic game. Across the nation, fans tune in to see who will emerge victorious. But no game will ever match the one that was played on December 2, 1944. America was in the midst of World War II: soldiers and sailors were dying around the globe, and the home front suffered through shortages. But for one day, all that was forgotten. Navy's team was ranked number two, Army's number one and on the verge of becoming national champions. Everywhere, the war stopped as soldiers listened to the broadcast. Randy Roberts has interviewed the surviving players and coaches, bringing their stories to life. For three years, military upperclassmen graduated and joined the fight. For three hours, their alma mater gave them back one unforgettable performance. "The story of Army's celebrated 1944 national championship team is a fascinating one, and its victory over Navy that year is remembered as one of college football's greatest games. But Randy Roberts's A Team for America tells an even greater story. It is a story of our country. Of a time when college football — and this remarkable Army team — helped rekindle hope and confidence throughout the land." — Brigadier General Peter M. Dawkins, U.S. Army (Ret.), 1958 Heisman Trophy winner, West Point "Roberts brings a historian's thoroughness to the subject . . . A fascinating time in American collegiate sports history." — Kirkus Reviews

Beetle-browed, nearly bald, a head that rode his collarbones like a bowling ball returning on rails, his waist size more than half his five-foot-eight height. Two Ton Tony Galento appeared nearly square, his legs two broomsticks jammed into a vertical hay bale. By all measures he stood no chance when he stepped into the ring against the Brown Bomber, Joe Louis, the finest heavyweight of his generation, in Yankee Stadium on a June night in 1939. "I'll moida da bum," Galento predicted, and though Louis was no bum, Tony, the Falstaff of boxing, lifted him from the canvas with a single left hook and entered the record books as one of the few men to put the great Louis down. A palooka, a thug, a vibrant appetite of a man, he scrapped his way out of the streets and into the brightest light in American life. For two splendid seconds he stood on the canvas at Yankee Stadium, the great Joe Louis stretched out before him, champ of the world, the toughest man alive, the mythical hero of the waterfront, of Orange, New Jersey, of an American nation little more than a year away from war. Joe Monninger's spellbinding portrait of a man, a moment, and an era reminds us that sometimes it is through effort, and not the end result, that people most enduringly define themselves.

Of all the great paintings in the world, Picasso's Guernica has had a more direct impact on our consciousness than perhaps any other. In this absorbing and revealing book, Gijs van Hensbergen tells the story of this masterpiece. Starting with its origin in the destruction of the Basque town of Gemika in the Spanish Civil War, the painting is then used as a weapon in the propaganda battle against Fascism. Later it becomes the nucleus of the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the detonator for the Big Bang of Abstract Expressionism in the late 1940s. This tale of passion and politics shows the transformation of this work of art into an icon of many meanings, up to its long contested but eventually triumphant return to Spain in 1981.

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