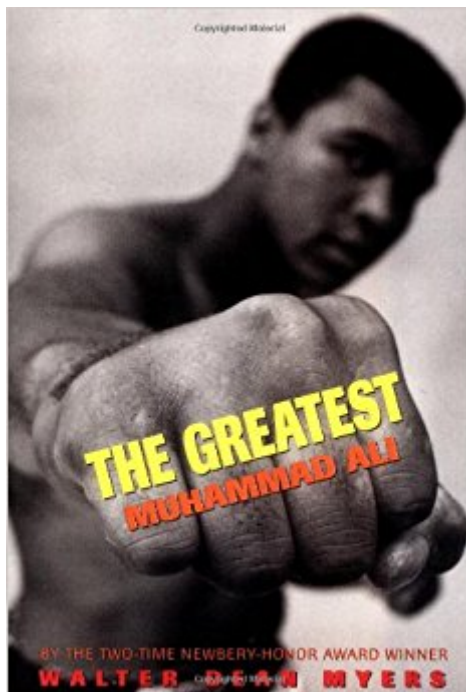


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# The Greatest: Muhammad Ali



## Synopsis

An award-winning author presents a riveting account of the extraordinary career and accomplishments of boxer Muhammad Ali. This biography chronicles Ali's impact on race relations inside and outside the sports world.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1030 (What's this?)

Series: The Greatest

Paperback: 172 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks (December 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0590543431

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Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.5 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 44 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #76,108 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Biographies > Sports](#) #23 in [Books > Teens > Sports & Outdoors](#) #29 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Biographies > Cultural Heritage](#)

Age Range: 12 - 15 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Up-An introduction to Ali's life from his childhood to the present day, focusing on his career and the controversies surrounding him. Both his talent in the boxing ring and his showmanship earned him international fame, while his refusal to accept the stereotypical role of a black athletic star in the 1960s and his membership in the Nation of Islam brought him notoriety. Myers interweaves fight sequences with the boxer's life story and the political events and issues of the day. He doesn't shy away from reporting on the brutality of the sport and documents the toll it has taken on its many stars. Ample black-and-white photographs of the subject in and out of the ring illustrate the book. Covering Ali is a daunting task, especially since dozens of books and hundreds of articles have been written about him in the last 40 years. Fortunately, young adults have their own award-winning author, one with the perspective of being a young African American in Harlem during the height of the boxer's fame, to tell his story. Myers's writing flows while describing the boxing action and the

legend's larger-than-life story.-Michael McCullough, Byron-Bergen Middle School, Bergen,  
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Binding edition.

Gr. 6-10. Myers tells the familiar story of Muhammad Ali's life and career in such a way as to inspire a new generation of readers, young people whose first glimpse of Ali may have come at the 1996 Olympics, when the Parkinson's-stricken former heavyweight champion lit the Olympic torch. Focusing on race, politics, religion, and boxing--"the arenas in which Ali's mark was indelible in . . . the national consciousness"--Myers vividly re-creates the life of the young Cassius Clay, from his childhood in segregated Louisville in the 1950s, through his Olympic triumph in 1960, to his rise as a professional fighter, culminating with the stunning victory over Sonny Liston in 1964. Then comes the dramatic second act of the Ali story--the transformation of young Clay into Muhammad Ali, a committed Black Muslim who would sacrifice his heavyweight title and face imprisonment by refusing to serve in the army during the Vietnam War. Myers succinctly summarizes the furor surrounding Ali's political activism, and he captures the excitement that Ali created in a generation of young African Americans (including Myers himself), who found in the brash, young boxer a new kind of hero. And, perhaps most vividly, Myers describes Ali the fighter, explaining his technique and offering a perceptive overview of the troubled business of boxing and the great physical risks the sport entails. This is finally a story about a black man of tremendous courage, the kind of universal story that needs a writer as talented as Myers to retell it for every generation. Bill OttCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the School & Library Binding edition.

It is written in plain language, friendly to new readers. It tells about everything related to Ali's boxing career, not so much about before or after (I doubt he did little after retirement). I'm glad to get to know the Greatest Ali through this book. But I feel there is too much repeated information, e.g. about his choice of religion and the decision about not joining the army, etc. They are important. They are what defines Ali. But there is, to me, just too much places talking about the same things over and over.

My teenage son loved this book. A lens in to the world of boxing and how the father of smack-talking catapulted an industry.

It was nice to understand better the political struggles he went through, as well as the personal courage he displayed.

This is a perfect book for a kid 14 or 13 years old and younger - it's a fantastic introduction to Muhammad Ali - I just bought it for my friend's son - he's 12 - not that familiar with Muhammad Ali - just a basic knowledge of the myth and legend - he knows "Float Like a Butterfly - Sting Like A Bee!" This is a great way to show a youngster that in addition to being the Greatest Of All Time that he was (and is) one of the most influential, courageous and important figures of the 1960's and up - It gently shows and explains the race issues of the 60's without overwhelming a child or blasting it in their face - it's very difficult for a kid these days to understand that as little as 40 years ago (which is actually lifetime to a kid) that if you were black then you had to sit at the back of the bus - or couldn't drink from certain water fountains or had to "know your place" and how Muhammad Ali shattered that mold - I'm hoping that this actually creates a dialogue with parent and child - anyway - it shows Muhammad as the Champ both in and out of the ring. The book goes over some of the famous fights and rivalries - from Liston to Frazier - once again I found myself excited about the blow by blows of these fights - no matter how many times I read it I'm just awe struck about the Rumble in the Jungle - I highly recommend this for any child as a great introduction to The Greatest Of All Time - Muhammad Ali!

Great book, but my son kept complaining about the pages falling out. Literally half the book of pages fell out by the time he finished with it. I guess we won't be donating this book to the library.

Relatively simple book, but it's a great introduction for someone who is just learning about Ali, or as an intro to a more complete biography.

Was very interesting learn a lot about boxing and the civil rights movement .

Our 10 year old son is reading it and enjoys learning about the Greatest.

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The Muhammad Ali Story: The Inspiring Life and Journey of the 'Greatest of All Time' Muhammad Ali (Includes: 150 Muhammad Ali Quotes) The Greatest: Muhammad Ali Muhammad Ali Unfiltered: Rare, Iconic, and Officially Authorized Photos of the Greatest Muhammad Ali's Greatest Fight: Cassius Clay vs. the United States of America Greatest Of All Time: A Tribute to Muhammad Ali

The Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center 100 Questions & Answers About Parkinson Disease (100 Questions & Answers) Muhammad Ali: His Life in Pictures Rey del mundo: Muhammad Ali y el nacimiento de un héroe americano (Spanish Edition) Who Was Muhammad Ali? Blood Brothers: The Fatal Friendship Between Muhammad Ali and Malcolm X King of the World: Muhammad Ali and the Rise of an American Hero Muhammad Ali: His Life and Times Sting Like a Bee: Muhammad Ali vs. the United States of America, 1966-1971 Drama in the Bahamas: Muhammad Ali's Last Fight Ghosts of Manila: The Fateful Blood Feud Between Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier Muhammad Ali: A Thirty Year Journey Muhammad Ali: The King of the Ring: A Graphic Novel (Campfire Graphic Novels) Muhammad Ali: The Worlds Champion Muhammad Ali (Pb) (New Directions) Louisville, Kentucky: Including its History, The Muhammad Ali Center, The Kentucky Center, and More

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