

The Fight

By Norman Mailer



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In 1974 in Kinshasa, Zaïre, two African American boxers were paid five million dollars apiece to fight each other. One was Muhammad Ali, the aging but irrepressible "professor of boxing." The other was George Foreman, who was as taciturn as Ali was voluble. Observing them was Norman Mailer, a commentator of unparalleled energy, acumen, and audacity. Whether he is analyzing the fighters' moves, interpreting their characters, or weighing their competing claims on the African and American souls, Mailer's grasp of the titanic battle's feints and stratagems—and his sensitivity to their deeper symbolism—makes this book a masterpiece of the literature of sport.

Praise for The Fight

"Exquisitely refined and attenuated . . . [a] sensitive portrait of an extraordinary athlete and man, and a pugilistic drama fully as exciting as the reality on which it is based."—*The New York Times*

"One of the defining texts of sports journalism. Not only does Mailer recall the violent combat with a scholar's eye . . . he also makes the whole act of reporting seem as exciting as what's occurring in the ring."—GQ

"Stylistically, Mailer was the greatest boxing writer of all time."—Chuck Klosterman, *Esquire*

"One of Mailer's finest books."-Louis Menand, The New Yorker

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"[Norman Mailer] loomed over American letters longer and larger than any other writer of his generation."—*The New York Times*

"A writer of the greatest and most reckless talent."-The New Yorker

"Mailer is indispensable, an American treasure."—The Washington Post

"A devastatingly alive and original creative mind."-Life

"Mailer is fierce, courageous, and reckless and nearly everything he writes has sections of headlong brilliance."—*The New York Review of Books*

"The largest mind and imagination [in modern] American literature . . . Unlike just about every American writer since Henry James, Mailer has managed to grow and become richer in wisdom with each new book."—*Chicago Tribune*

"Mailer is a master of his craft. His language carries you through the story like a leaf on a stream."—*The Cincinnati Post*

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- Sales Rank: #393652 in eBooks
- Published on: 2013-09-17
- Released on: 2013-09-17
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

There are sporting events that transcend the world of sports, and the 1974 heavyweight title fight in which Muhammad Ali regained his crown by improbably kayoing George Foreman in the middle of the African night was certainly one of them. Metaphorically, it was a writer's dream: two imposing black warriors, one all grace, the other brute force, one the iconoclast, the other the blind patriot, battling each other. Fatefully, the appropriate writer threw his pen into the ring. Norman Mailer's masterful account goes far beyond the ropes to capture the primal ethos of the sport, the larger social canvas this particular fight was drawn on, and the remarkable cast of personalities--not the least of which is Mailer himself--who converged to make this "Rumble in the Jungle" a landmark in sports history and a clear knockout in Mailer's journalistic portfolio.

From Library Journal

The "fight" is the 1975 world heavyweight championship bout in Zaire between then reigning king of the ring Muhammad Ali and up-and-coming George Foreman. Mailer relays the events of the actual fight and includes the observations of George Plimpton, Hunter S. Thompson, and others. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review **Praise for** *The Fight*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Brian Price:

Now a day people who Living in the era just where everything reachable by interact with the internet and the resources in it can be true or not require people to be aware of each data they get. How many people to be smart in getting any information nowadays? Of course the correct answer is reading a book. Reading a book can help persons out of this uncertainty Information specifically this The Fight book as this book offers you rich information and knowledge. Of course the details in this book hundred pct guarantees there is no doubt in it everbody knows.

Mary Todd:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book can be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the e-book untitled The Fight can be very good book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

Tammi Rosado:

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The e-book lovers usually prefer to choose book like comic, quick story and the biggest one is novel. Now, why not seeking The Fight that give your entertainment preference will be satisfied by means of reading this book. Reading behavior all over the world can be said as the means for people to know world much better then how they react to the world. It can't be claimed constantly that reading practice only for the geeky person but for all of you who wants to always be success person. So , for every you who want to start reading through as your good habit, you can pick The Fight become your personal starter.

Lisa Alaniz:

That publication can make you to feel relax. This particular book The Fight was multi-colored and of course has pictures on the website. As we know that book The Fight has many kinds or style. Start from kids until teens. For example Naruto or Investigation company Conan you can read and believe you are the character on there. So, not at all of book usually are make you bored, any it offers you feel happy, fun and rest. Try to

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