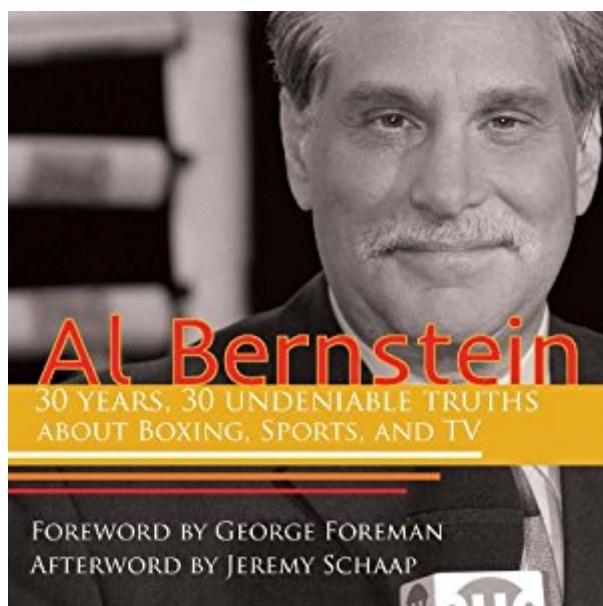


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Al Bernstein: 30 Years, 30 Undeniable Truths About Boxing, Sports, And TV



Synopsis

For just over 30 years Al Bernstein has been one of the most recognizable and respected sportscasters in America. In those three decades, the "voice of boxing" reported the funny, poignant, and bizarre events that helped shape sports television, ESPN, boxing, Las Vegas, and Showtime. With an eclectic cast of characters that includes every big name in boxing, including Marvin Hagler, Mike Tyson, Floyd Mayweather, and Manny Pacquiao, as well as such names in the entertainment world as Rodney Dangerfield, Sylvester Stallone, Russell Crowe, Jerry Lewis, and Jack Nicholson, Bernstein's memoir will have you in stitches.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As an avid boxing fan I had to pick this up. I enjoyed it very much, although it wasn't what I expected. It's a bit less about boxing and more about Al, broadcasting, and sports but it still entertains. Al's writing style is jovial and funny and definitely worth checking out.

This book is firmly in Al Bernsteins's voice. While typically positive, he offers some criticism of his profession, but thankfully limits the sordid naming of names. The book is at times humorous and at times a bit cheesy. But there are enough interesting stories to make it worth a read. Plus, I'm a fan of Al's public persona, and the book is true to it.

What lessons does one learn from having the greatest job in the world? There is a subsection of us in fistiana, who might agree with this. Al Bernstein cut his teeth as the tuxedo clad commentator of

ESPN's Fights. The series had its' growing pains at first, but hit its' stride during the 1990's while popular comebacking ex-champs like George Foreman and Larry Holmes and Roberto Duran were fighting often, and drawing off the charts numbers. Bernstein had a host of co-hosts during this time, but became known for his knowledge of the fighters, his candor, and his enthusiasm. And in a sport that sometimes stinks like a cheap cigar, his integrity. Here, Bernstein tells some pretty good stories, reflects on a thirty year career which is still going strong, and shares his lessons learned with the reader. This is a fast-moving, breezy read. There will one day soon be a great book written about ESPN, but Bernstein presages it in telling his take on the evolution of the network, and the state of it right now. Bernstein has departed ESPN for Showtime, which is in the middle of a boxing renaissance. (Boxing is, as well). Like an old pair of slippers, Al Bernstein is a comfort to see calling a broadcast. His professionalism and knowledge of the sport brings the viewer through the fight rationally regardless of the bizzarity of the outcome.

Al's book gives you a great insight into boxing, ESPN and broadcast TV. As a boxing fan Al has always been one of my favorites. This book opens up an insider door to the early crazy days of ESPN, his broadcasting partners and the boxers who filled the cards. It is fun to read about the past and revisit the early days. Even cooler to read the behind the scene stories that the viewers never knew was going on. Must read.

Funny, informative and a great read. You don't have to be interested in sports or television to enjoy this well written book. It's gentle good humor, colorful characters and original viewpoints makes it an enjoyable, and memorable, experience as many of Al Bernstein's stories and recollections resonate long after you've finished this original autobiography.

Slender attempt at drawing lessons from a lifetime of covering fights. A better idea would have been to recount inside knowledge of the events and personalities he has known over the more than 30 years of bringing us first-rate commentary on the most elemental of all sports. Al seems too nice a man, however, to be overly critical of anyone, so probable incapable of writing anything harsh, or exposing the seamy underbelly of this unregulated sport. I will, however, continue to watch him bring us fine broadcasts on T.V.

As long as the buyer of this book realizes that it is a short light read they will be pleased. Mr. Bernstein has written a witty little book about his many years in the business that is fun and quick

even if it is a bit too cheesy at times. At only about 170 pages do not expect too much.

I have always been a big boxing fan, so when I saw this title on Kindle, I picked it up. An interesting read, from a very versatile person. He does shows in Las Vegas and around the country, Singing and some comedy. Liked the parts about his father and wife and child the best. A very knowledge boxing analyst and has good insights into some of the famous names of the last 30 years. Also, was at ESPN at the very beginning and those stories are pretty funny. Certainly worth a read if you are a boxing fan.

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