



# Muhammad Ali: The People's Champion

*By Walter Dean Myers*

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**This acclaimed picture book biography is a perfect introduction to the late great Muhammad Ali**

*New York Times* bestselling author Walter Dean Myers explores Muhammad Ali's life and recounts his most famous fights in this celebrated picture book biography.

Myers examines the depth and complexity of the larger-than-life legend and heavyweight champion of the world, and the bold, vibrant art of Alix Delinois reflects the beauty and power of the man who could "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee."

Reviewers praised this book as "powerful," "action-filled," and "dramatic."

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## **Muhammad Ali: The People's Champion By Walter Dean Myers Bibliography**

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## Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

The curious mix of bravado and humility constituting the life of Muhammad Ali receives a sensitive exploration in this vibrantly illustrated biography. The quotes that cover the endpapers run the gamut, from his get used to me black pride to the more reflective words of his later years: God gave me Parkinson's to remind me that I'm not the greatest. He is. Myers takes a snapshot approach, moving swiftly from Ali's Kentucky childhood to his Olympic victory to his refusal to serve during the Vietnam War. The relative scarcity of pugilistic play-by-plays is purposeful; Myers sails through boxing milestones even as he lingers upon such events as Ali's conversion to Islam. Delinois is with Myers every step, using wild splotches of paint and scribbles of chalk not only to capture the velocity of a punch but also fill in contextual blanks (Myers' brief words on racism find a stronger counterpart in Delinois' protester holding a sign reading No More Jim Crow Now). Unexpectedly far reaching, this is a Muhammad Ali for the thinking child. Grades 1-3. --Daniel Kraus

Review

"Exuberant. Delinois's painterly illustrations express the famous boxer's energy as well as the political upheaval around him." (The Horn Book)

"Unexpectedly far reaching, this is a Muhammad Ali for the thinking child." (ALA Booklist)

"Artwork, rendered in a painterly style, is dramatic and enhances the boldness of this boxing superstar." (School Library Journal)

"This artful biography of Muhammad Ali begins with his childhood in Louisville, Ky.—he started learning how to fight after his bicycle was stolen—and offers snapshots of his hard-earned career in the world of boxing. Visually striking." (Publishers Weekly)

"Delinois's emotive style packs a prismatic punch of its own. The total effect is energetic and disorienting, getting to the raw emotional impact of victory, loss, confrontation and peace." (Kirkus Reviews)

"Illustrations in oils in rich browns, shades of grays, and white highlights show the fighter Muhammad Ali in many action poses exhibiting his strength and lightning speed. Sure to provide inspiration for young readers." (Booklist)

From the Back Cover

"I am America. I am the part you won't recognize. But get used to me. Black, confident, cocky; my name, not yours; my religion, not yours; my goals, my own; get used to me."

He was born Cassius Marcellus Clay, Jr., in Louisville, Kentucky. His very first boxing coach, former police officer Joe Martin, told him, "You better learn how to fight before you start challenging people." Once considered the underdog, Cassius, later known as Muhammad Ali, would eventually win the title of heavyweight champion of the world. Acclaimed author Walter Dean Myers recounts the champ's most famous fights and examines the depth and complexity of the larger-than-life legend Muhammad Ali. The bold, vibrant art of Alix Delinois reflects the beauty and power of the man who could "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee."

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Verline Custer:**

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book is usually option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the book untitled Muhammad Ali: The People's Champion can be great book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

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#### **Bobby House:**

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#### **Kevin Blais:**

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