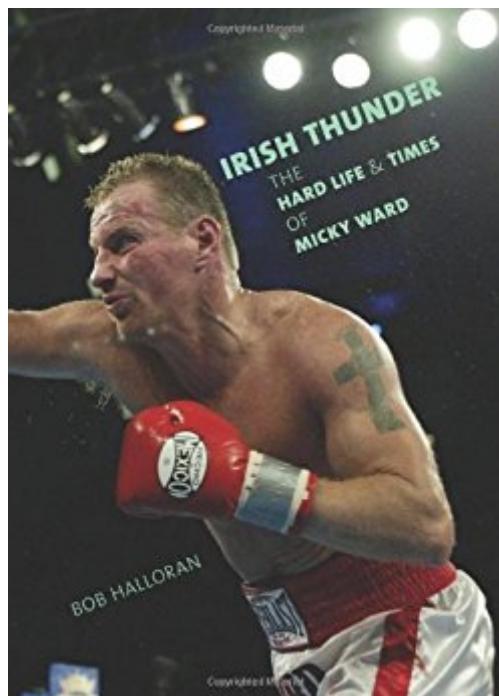


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Irish Thunder: The Hard Life And Times Of Micky Ward



Synopsis

"Irish" Micky Ward was a Golden Gloves junior welterweight from Lowell, Massachusetts, always known as the underdog but with an uncanny ability to suddenly drop his opponent late in a fight. After 15 years, a string of defeats, and even three years in retirement, Ward battled Arturo Gatti in 2002 in a bout that was described by many as the "Fight of the Century". Ten rounds of brutal action ended with Ward winning by decision, and reviving enthusiasm for a sport that had been weighted down by years of showboating and corruption. "Irish Thunder" recounts Ward's rise to hero status, his rivalry with his imprisoned brother, and the negotiations and betrayals that ultimately shaped a wild youth into a sporting champion.

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Customer Reviews

Perhaps my not enjoying the book too much was that I thought it was going to be just like the movie "The Fighter" and, in my opinion, was not. For instance I was disappointed not to read hardly anything about Charlene who was a strong character in the movie, they barely mentioned her until the very last pages and it was very brief, I thought she helped Micky a lot with his confidence and career and she only made one page?! Also I thought that the book would come with some pictures

of the family, I was curious too see what they really looked like in real life and there were no pictures, also some of the people depicted in the movie were very different in the book, George for example, and I wanted too read some more about Dickie and his struggles. I guess I just expected something different, more towards the movie theme, and more of family instead of boxing. That being said if you are a Micky Ward fan or a fan of boxing you will enjoy this book since that is basically what it is about, lots of boxing info and much about various other fighters, not a bad book, partially my fault I guess I expected something different and pictures would of been nice. If you love boxing its a great book to read!

Very interesting - nay, fascinating, story of how a true, still living warrior over came a number of serious disadvantages and set-backs to realize his dream of becoming a respected world champion. Much more detail than the movie (The Fighter). I am sure knowing (a bit) about the area and culture where this took place (Lowell, MA) made the read more "personal" and memorable (I remember back in High School going to dances at the old Commodore Ballroom in Lowell; more recently attending hockey games, Lowell Spinner minor league baseball, Golden Gloves competitions, eating SE Asian food at "Joe's"). But still, even without that background, Micky Ward's story is quite compelling and many of the circumstances tragic; at times tragi-comedic. The many characters that orbit in/out and around Micky's life cannot easily be made up. The tapestry they comprise around Micky's narrative is a wonder to absorb. After reading this astonishing bio you will want to head out to the Highland Tap in the hope of bumping into Micky - or his equally compelling step-brother Dickie Eklund - shake a hand or two in admiration, and get your copy autographed. Irish Thunder indeed! If you enjoy the bio, be sure to watch the Ward/Gatti trilogy. You can purchase them inexpensively here:[...](I have nothing to do with the above site. there are other sites too, just google: "ward gatti dvd")

Irish Thunder hits you like a Mickey Ward blow to the body, hard, quick and everlasting. I didn't know much about Mr. Halloran when I purchased the book, other than as a local TV personality and frequent radio guest. I was stunned by the quality of the writing and the interesting way he portrays the trials and tribulations of the Ward family. I really could not put it down. I liked the movie The Fighter, but I loved Irish Thunder. I put Irish Thunder in my personal pantheon of sports related books alongside, Moneyball by Michael Lewis and Seabiscuit by Laura Hillenbrand. A great book that will not disappoint and is not for boxing fans only!

I downloaded this e-book from .com to my Kindle Fire. The e-book is very well written and you can feel the passion coming off the pages. The Author Bob Halloran did an excellent job of translating how Micky Ward felt throughout his struggles, not only in boxing but with his family life. This e-book is inspirational. After reading Irish Thunder, I watched the movie and it made the experience even better. I have and would recommend this e-book to a friend.

The story of Micky Ward is an overwhelmingly positive story about a lifetime, through his boxing career, of negatives. You talk about a dysfunctional family.....! Ward's successes are done with the help of and despite his weird and most times surreal, family. A great read about the perseverance of a good man in an environment of stupidity and selfishness.

Ordered this book after reading an article which said the film was more fiction than fact & the book was factual. Honestly, this subject or type of book is not in my normal genre and ordered it thinking I could always give it to my brother who is a huge Micky Ward fan if I didn't like it. Surprisingly, I thoroughly enjoyed the book--a real page turner.

Irish Thunder: The Hard Life and Times of Micky Ward is a great biography of the blue collar boxer from Lowell, MA. Bob Halloran does an excellent job chronicling Micky's career and the trials and tribulations he faced to get there. Right from the beginning, Bob illustrates the vision of Lowell, a once proud boxing town that had become a haven for decadence and despair. Although Micky would fall not victim to the drugs that had claimed many before him, the obstacles presented to him were constant whether it was injured hands, his family, bad management, big fights falling through, or his own self confidence. The fact that Micky persevered to become a popular and well respected boxer personifies his character. Halloran gives you a rundown of his fights throughout the book and his vivid recollections of Micky's wars with Arturo Gatti, Emanuel Burton, Reggie Green, and others make you feel like you're watching the fight as it happens. However, what really keeps the reader glued to this book is the behind the scenes drama. And as it often goes with money, the more there is to be made, the more drama comes with it. Most of the fight facts and recaps are accurate with the only obvious mistake being that Pernell Whitaker won a decision over Oscar De La Hoya, when in fact it was the other way around. All told, this is a well written biography and I would recommend this to any boxing fan.

You do not have to be a boxing fan to get something out of this book. This book should be required

reading for the youth of today. It shows that hard work can overcome setbacks in life. He overcame a lot of obstacles to achieve his dream.

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