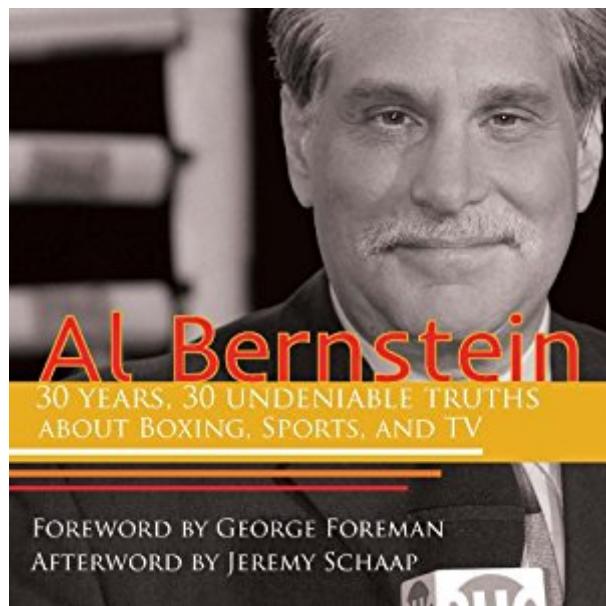


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# Al Bernstein: 30 Years, 30 Undeniable Truths About Boxing, Sports, And TV



## 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

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 bizarreness of the outcome.

It's not really a historical venture, but rather has more the feel of sitting with Al in bar, and asking him "So the last thirty years, what was up with that?" The answer Al gives is insightful, hilarious, and 100% in his voice. I appreciated him going the high road, and not bashing, or focusing on petty rivalries, but rather trying to give the whole picture, but from his unique perspective. There are a few purely all about Al and not boxing chapters, from a poignant story about his wife, to him nearly being hung by some cowboys. That however merely makes you appreciate the context from which he views the boxing world. If you're a boxing fan at all, this is a must read.

Al Bernstein is one of the greatest sports announcer in any sport. What you see is what you get with Al. There is no exaggeration, no self-centeredness, and no confusing fact with fiction. I am glad to have had the opportunity to watch his coverage of many great fights. My only disagreement with Al centers on Mike Tyson. Clearly Al is not impressed, while I, on the other hand think that he is one of the great heavyweights of all time. Moreover, when you consider his devastating history, you have to admire his determination to do more than survive in his life.

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.

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 knowledgeable 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.

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.

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.

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.

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