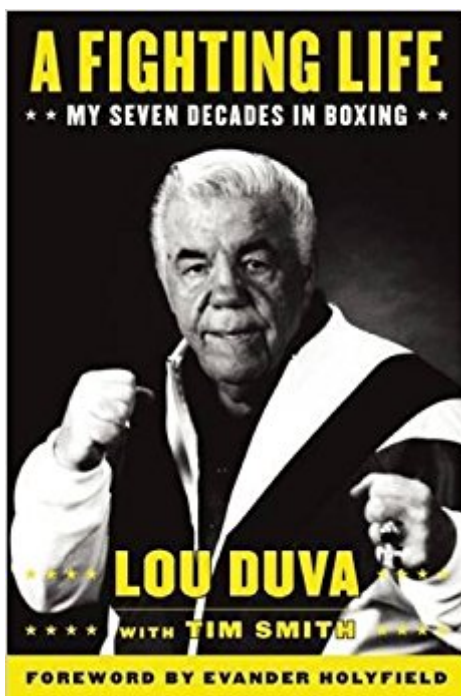


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A Fighting Life: My Seven Decades In Boxing



Synopsis

For more than seven decades, Lou Duva has been a mainstay in the boxing world. With his craggy face and the bulbous nose of a boxer with questionable defensive skills, Duva is one of the most enduring images of boxing, having climbed in and out of rings for championship fights on six different continents. In *Lou Duva: A Fighting Life*, you'll hear firsthand the exhilarating story of how Duva balanced family life and his work with nineteen different world champions. The son of Italian immigrants who landed at Ellis Island and lived in Manhattan before moving the family to Paterson, New Jersey, Duva had the odds stacked against him. Rather than settling, Duva was able to claw his way out of poverty to reach the pinnacle of the boxing business, where he laid the foundation of Main Events Promotions—one of the most powerful boxing promotions companies in the sport. *Lou Duva: A Fighting Life* chronicles an amazing boxing career filled with ups and downs. From his training of champions including Evander Holyfield and Lennox Lewis to staging some of the biggest bouts in the history of boxing, including the classic match between Sugar Ray Leonard and Thomas Hearns, to the notorious 'Riot at the Garden,' Duva pulls no punches as he shares his Hall of Fame life for the first time. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Sports Publishing imprint, is proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in sports—books about baseball, pro football, college football, pro and college basketball, hockey, or soccer, we have a book about your sport or your team. In addition to books on popular team sports, we also publish books for a wide variety of athletes and sports enthusiasts, including books on running, cycling, horseback riding, swimming, tennis, martial arts, golf, camping, hiking, aviation, boating, and so much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to publishing books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked by other publishers and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

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Customer Reviews

"Lou would fight for you... literally. I've seen him go after other fighters, trainers, referees ... basically anybody that was in his way when he got mad.... I didn't realize how important Lou was to me in the corner until he wasn't there anymore. Sometimes you don't appreciate people until after they've left."—Evander Holyfield, from his foreword

"A Fighting Life is an intimate and enjoyable read on the legendary boxing trainer and manager Lou Duva. Coauthor Tim Smith does a superb job in delivering firsthand accounts that capture Duva's Hall of Fame career, especially his partnerships with so many world champions."—Nunyo Demasio, coauthor of *Parcells: A Football Life* and former *Sports Illustrated* staff writer

"Lou Duva is one of boxing's cherished figures, a kind of Bowery Boys throwback to the 1930s."—Los Angeles Times

"Duva is tenacious in the corner and a master motivator. He never stops fighting for his fighters. And he goes to great lengths to be with them."—International Boxing Hall of Fame

Lou Duva has been a boxing trainer for over fifty years and involved in the sport for seven decades. He has trained nineteen world champions, promoted boxing events in over twenty countries, and is a member of the International Boxing Hall of Fame. He's been involved with such champions as Evander Holyfield, Arturo Gatti, Hector Macho Camacho, and Lennox Lewis. Duva lives in Little Falls, New Jersey. Tim Smith is a former sportswriter for the *New York Daily News* and the *New York Times*. He has written about boxing, baseball, the NFL, and the NBA. He lives in Jackson, New Jersey. "

This is an interesting book made up of two distinct halves. The first half of the book tells of Duva's childhood and growth into boxing, I found this to be highly entertaining and very readable. There are a number of stories about Duva's youth and some of the fighters he met that are worth the price of the book. The second half of the book fell away in my opinion, it felt a bit rushed and clipped. The stories were not as well rounded and it felt a bit sad as Duva's professional life took a decided turn for the worst. The problem lies in the family issues that he was having and it seems that this led him

to gloss over the issues with his company. I hope the family issues were sorted out before he passed away. Is this a good book? I would say yes to a certain extent. It is a quick read and certainly not a difficult one, the stories told about some of the boxers are really fascinating and I think Duva comes off as a man who was a colourful character, very much good for boxing.

I've had the very good luck to have known Lou Duva for the last 13 years. I've spent a lot of hours with Lou and have heard some of these stories before. But what a great book. So many details I didn't know this book will appeal to people who like to read biographies, books about boxing, and even books about Paterson, NJ. I give this 5 stars

Really good history lesson from a boxing great. Editor dropped the ball though as the book has a lot of mistakes (repetitive commentary, grammar, tense shifts, which take away from the read). Overall, if you are a fan of boxing and its history, this is a very good read from that standpoint.

Great book with good bones. Storytelling seemed quick and all over the place at times, but overall a solid read

It was a well-written account of a boxing icon's life through the decades that he devoted himself to the sport, while trying to hold his family together. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Great story of a boxing legend.

Fascinating story!

This is not the Lou Duva I've known, who was a story teller but overall a kind man. Shame on the author for his failure to verify factual basis of the stories, instead of relying on the memory of a 94 year old man. This book reflects very badly on Mr. Duva, but even more so on the author...

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