

rumble, young man, rumble!

Ali Rap is a collection of some of the most memorable insults, quips, wisecracks and witticisms from the most quotable fighter ever...

Given that, throughout his life, Muhammad Ali probably uttered more memorable lines than any other public figure in history, George Lois must have had a hell of a time deciding on which ones to squeeze into this fascinating book.

Ali Rap is at once a funny, thought-provoking and often moving look at the life of "The Greatest" from his early years in Kentucky, vowing to 'whup' whoever stole his bike (the incident which eventually led to him taking up the noble art), to his being stripped of the World Heavyweight

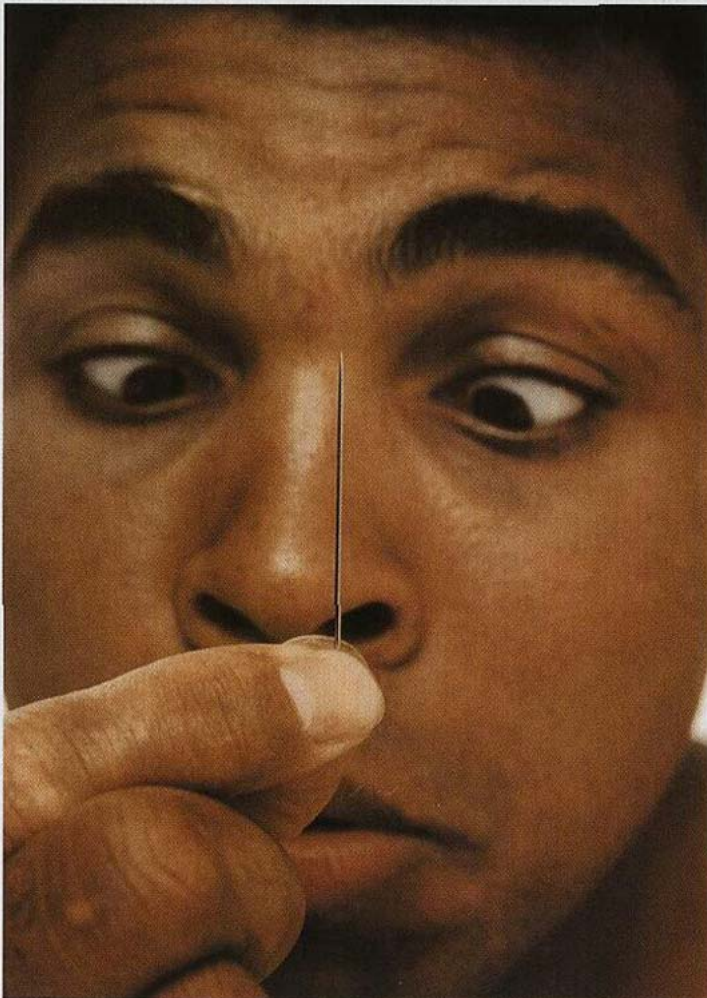
Title for refusing to fight in Vietnam ('No Vietnamese ever called me Nigger') and his eventual recapturing of said title in the now legendary "Rumble in the Jungle" bout with George Foreman.

In his own words, Ali gives far greater insight into the life of a man both revered and feared in his own country, than any number of television documentaries or lifetime achievement awards ever could.

We see all sides of Ali's character, from the serious and principled man who spoke out against racism and refused to fight what he called 'an unjust war', to the light-hearted, almost childish Ali who would taunt his fellow professionals with jokes and rhymes ('Sonny Liston is great, but he'll fall in eight'). We see the humble Ali ('WOW. I can't believe it's really John Travolta coming into MY house to see ME!') and the brash, arrogant side ('How tall are you? So I can know

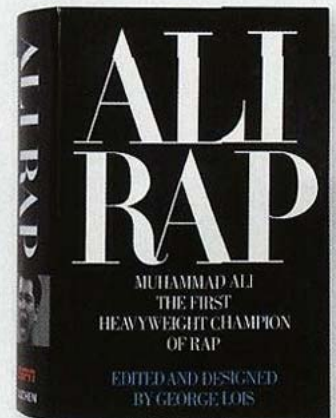
in advance how far to step back when you fall down!') as well as being given a glimpse into his personal life and how it was affected, not only by his extraordinary fame, but by the adversity faced in the course of standing up for his religious and personal beliefs.

Ali Rap is essential reading for anybody interested in the words and lyrics of a fighter who transcended the sport and, through his comments and actions became a figurehead and spokesman for all races and classes and, ultimately, the most famous face on the planet.



"I got some last words for Joe Frazier. I got a balloon punch and a needle punch. The balloon punch is a left jab which swells him up, blows him up, puffs him up. And the needle gonna bust him. That's the right hand. Whop!"

BEFORE ALI/FRAZIER III



[other big hitters]



The Fight – Norman Mailer
The most dramatic description of probably the most dramatic sporting event ever, Mailer's style, fluency and incredible detail take us on an utterly soul-lifting pugilistic pilgrimage to the "Rumble in the Jungle".



The Sweet Science – A.J. Liebling
An entertaining and widely admired journalist of his generation, Liebling's classic collection of "fistic" essays (written between 1951-55) was named the best sports book of all time in 2002 by *Sports Illustrated*.



King of the World – David Remnick
As much a book defining the US political landscape as the sporting one, this documents three years of Ali's life, with primary focus on the fight with Sonny Liston after he defeated Floyd Patterson.