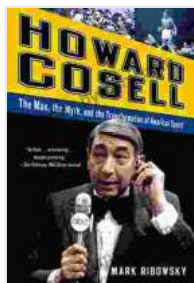


# The Man, the Myth, and the Transformation of American Sports

by David Maraniss

Jesse Owens was born in Oakville, Alabama, in 1913. He was the son of a sharecropper and a maid, and he grew up in poverty. As a child, he was sickly and often bullied by other children. But Owens had a natural talent for athletics, and he began to excel in track and field at a young age. In 1933, he won the national championship in the 100-yard dash and the 220-yard dash. The following year, he set a world record in the 100-yard dash.



## Howard Cosell: The Man, the Myth, and the Transformation of American Sports by Mark Ribowsky

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 9497 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 602 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported



In 1936, Owens was selected to represent the United States at the Olympic Games in Berlin. The Berlin Olympics were a major propaganda event for the Nazi regime, and Adolf Hitler was determined to use the Games to showcase the superiority of the Aryan race. Owens, a black man, was a direct challenge to Hitler's racist ideology. But Owens was undeterred. He went on to win four gold medals in the 100-meter dash, the 200-meter

dash, the long jump, and the 4x100-meter relay. His performance at the Berlin Olympics shattered Hitler's myth of Aryan supremacy and became a symbol of hope for people around the world.

After the Olympics, Owens returned to the United States a hero. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and he was given a ticker-tape parade in New York City. But despite his fame and success, Owens continued to face discrimination and prejudice. He was refused service at restaurants and hotels, and he was even denied a job as a track coach at his alma mater, Ohio State University.

Despite these setbacks, Owens never gave up on his dream of making a difference in the world. He became a successful businessman and philanthropist, and he dedicated his life to helping others. He founded the Jesse Owens Foundation, which provides scholarships to underprivileged students, and he also worked with the Special Olympics and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

Jesse Owens died in 1980 at the age of 66. But his legacy continues to live on. He is remembered as one of the greatest athletes of all time, and his story is an inspiration to people of all ages. *The Man, the Myth, and the Transformation of American Sports* is a powerful and moving biography of a man who overcame adversity to become a symbol of hope and change.

## **Praise for *The Man, the Myth, and the Transformation of American Sports***

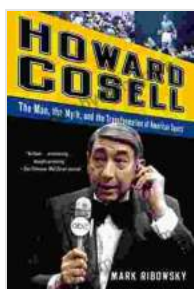
"A masterful biography of a true American hero. David Maraniss has captured the essence of Jesse Owens, a man who triumphed over adversity to become a symbol of hope and change." - The New York Times

"A deeply moving and inspiring story. Maraniss has written a biography that is both a celebration of Jesse Owens' life and a reminder of the power of the human spirit." - The Washington Post

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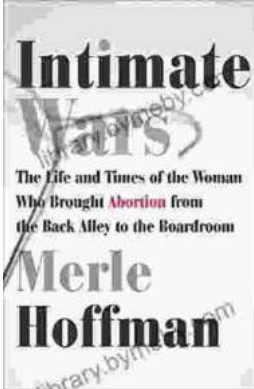
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