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The Longest Fight: In the Ring with Joe Gans, Boxing's First African American Champion

William Gildea

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Many people came to Goldfield, Nevada, America's last gold-rush town, to seek their fortune. However, on a searing summer day in September 1906, they came not to strike it rich but to watch what would become the longest boxing match of the twentieth century—between Joe Gans, the first African American boxing champion, and "Battling" Nelson, a vicious and dirty brawler. It was a match billed as the battle of the races.

In *The Longest Fight*, the longtime *Washington Post* sports correspondent William Gildea tells the story of this epic match, which would stretch to forty-two rounds and last two hours and forty-eight minutes. A new rail line brought spectators from around the country, dozens of reporters came to file blow-by-blow accounts, and an entrepreneurial crew's film of the fight, shown in theaters shortly afterward, endures to this day.

The Longest Fight also recounts something much greater—the longer battle that Gans fought against prejudice as the premier black athlete of his time. It is a portrait of life in black America at the turn of the twentieth century, of what it was like to be the first black athlete to successfully cross the nation's gaping racial divide. Gans was smart, witty, trim, and handsome—with one-punch knockout power and groundbreaking defensive skills—and his courage despite discrimination prefigured the strife faced by many of America's finest athletes, including Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson, and Muhammad Ali.
Inside the ring and out, Gans took the first steps for the African American athletes who would follow, and yet his role in history was largely forgotten until now. *The Longest Fight* is a reminder of the damage caused by the bigotry that long outlived Gans, and the strength, courage, and will of those who fought to rise above.

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Jose Scott:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love The Longest Fight: In the Ring with Joe Gans, Boxing's First African American Champion, you could enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its named reading friends.

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The Longest Fight: In the Ring with Joe Gans, Boxing's First African American Champion can be one of your starter books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in language, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to set every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing The Longest Fight: In the Ring with Joe Gans, Boxing's First African American Champion but doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource details that maybe you can be one among it. This great information could drawn you into brand new stage of crucial imagining.

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