



Brutality: The Tragic Story of Stanley Ketchel, the "Michigan Assassin"

Mark Paloolian

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Middleweight boxer Stanley Ketchel rose from complete obscurity to become one of the best fighters of his time. Until his tragic death in 1910, Ketchel's struggle for success mirrored America's pursuit of recognition, identity and fame.

Brutality tells the fascinating story of Stanley Ketchel, the man who came to be known as the Michigan Assassin.

"[A] very exciting, interesting, and well-written story of a young boxer's life. The book held my interest from the opening chapter to the end and was an easy read. The historical background of the early days of boxing, in particular the black vs. white controversy, was enlightening. Archival photographs and newspaper articles added validity to this true story." -- Bob Willour, Nevada City, California

"We enjoyed reading *Brutality* and found it compelling on two levels. First, it was an interesting sports historical work, and secondly, a fascinating murder mystery; this combination made for a great read!" -- Wayne and Vickie Spencer, Newport, Oregon

"*Brutality* actually tells two stories. First, there is the story of Stanley Ketchel, who often seemed to be his own worst enemy. Second, there is the U.S. history lesson about our immigrants, the difficulty they faced when coming to this new country, and how many of them, like Stanley, immigrated from East to West to seek their fortune. Ketchel's is a story of a boy who grew up to be a man, and while he had more than his share of ups and downs, he was able to identify and capitalize on his special skill -- boxing -- which he performed better than anyone else his size in his time. Stanley put himself in peril one too many times and in the end proved to be an ordinary man with an extraordinary skill, which Mr. Paloolian captures eloquently in his manuscript." -- Steve Smith, Petaluma, California

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Kelly McDowell:

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