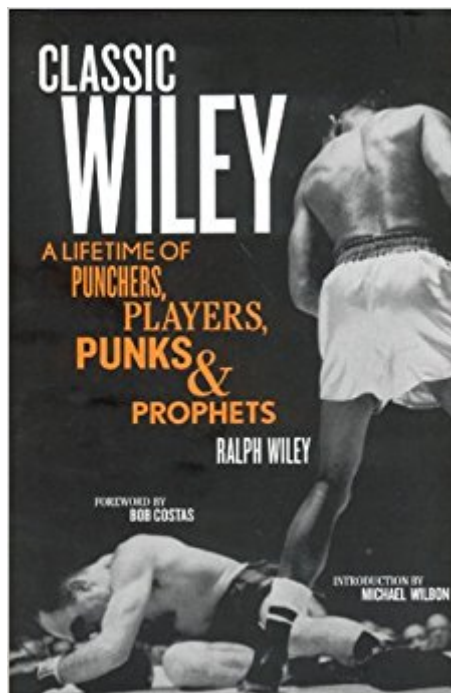


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Classic Wiley: A Lifetime Of Punchers, Players, Punks And Prophets (Great American Sportswriters)



Synopsis

The definitive collection from the late Ralph Wiley-pioneering journalist, acclaimed author of *Why Black People Tend to Shout*, and a towering voice in the world of sportswriting when Ralph Wiley, a columnist for ESPN.com and a former writer for *Sports Illustrated*, passed away on June 13, 2004, he left behind a rich legacy of written work. This volume brings together Wiley's best feature stories from *Sports Illustrated*, columns from ESPN.com, his 'Parting Shots' from the ESPN television show *The Sports Reporters*, and excerpts from his books and screenplays.

Book Information

Series: Great American Sportswriters (Book 1)

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Customer Reviews

Wiley, Ralph. *Classic Wiley*. Hyperion: USA, 2005. [HeartHome LibraryCollection of work](#) A collection of the best work from the late Ralph Wiley, this is not just a collection of his best work but also a look into the life and mind of one of the most influential African-American sports journalist. We see how Ralph Wiley responds to certain historical sports moments/ issues, such as minority ownership, Mike Tyson and September 11. Although this book is a collection of Wiley's greatest work it is much more than that. This book illustrates the unique writing style of Ralph Wiley. Wiley exemplifies a style that is brash and to the point yet not arrogant. He writes in a way that you respect his stand on issues even though you may not agree with it. One of Ralph Wiley's favorite sports to cover was boxing he was made famous by his articles in the *Oakland Tribune* about Roberto Duran's famous "No mas" and his depiction of fights like Leonard vs. Hearns II. These pieces are what sprang

Wiley's name into the infamous Sports Illustrated which he was a writer for since the late 80's. After SI he continued to have success as a columnist for ESPN.com. The columns he wrote there were extremely personal. Columns such as WWJD (What Would Jackie Robinson Do), His response to the lack of African American ownership in the new millennium expressed his built up anger of major sports. Also his article Why We Need Sports Now sent a message to American people following the terrorist attack of 9/11. The book is excellent and a great book for any aspiring journalist.

If you're not familiar with Ralph Wiley and his work, then this is a great intro. A collection of columns from one of the great writers in sports. I remember exactly where I was the day he died. He was one of the industry's unsung treasures. Start here, then pick up a few of his books.

Talk about a compilation of one's greatest hits. It's a shame Ralph Wiley left this earth way too early, because it would have been great to see if he could have improved on what was already some of the most superlative writing I've ever read. Wiley was a king, and a great example for everyone else to follow. If you want to be a writer, read this to see what writing is all about.

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