

**0. Cinderella Man - Story Preface**

1. BOXING: ITS START
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3. JIM BRADDOCK'S FIRST RISE
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5. STARVING PEOPLE
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James J. Braddock photograph taken in 1935. Image online courtesy U.S. Library of Congress.

*I may not be a great fighter  
but I ain't a bum.*

Jim Braddock  
Commenting on his upcoming bout with Max Baer  
1935

In the 1920s and '30s, people got the news from newspapers. Favorable reviews of movies (or songs in movies) helped to create film stars. Great write-ups about athletes helped to create sport stars. Damon Runyon was one of those star-creating newspaper writers.

A celebrity himself, who earned enormous sums for his columns and news reports, Runyon's favorable comments about a good song ("Thanks for the Memory") in a poorly reviewed movie (The Big Broadcast of 1938) helped to launch Bob Hope as a household name in the movie business.

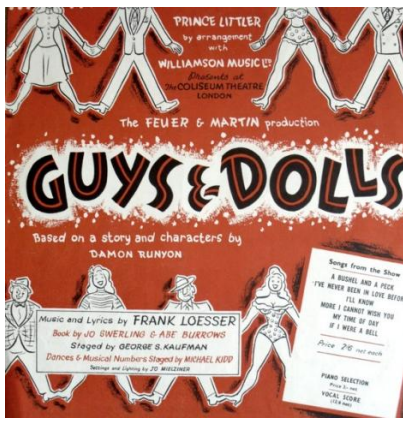
Runyon's comments about boxers—at the time the most-popular athletes in the world—resonated with a public enduring the disastrous years of the Great Depression. It was boxing which got Jim Braddock noticed. It was Damon Runyon who first called Braddock the "Cinderella Man."

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Cinderella-Man>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Cinderella-Man>



## Damon Runyon

Image online, courtesy [songbook1.wordpress.com](http://songbook1.wordpress.com) website.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Damon-Runyon>



## Thanks for the Memory Song Sheet

Image online, courtesy the [americanmusicpreservation.com](http://americanmusicpreservation.com) website featuring Grace Bradley who sang the title song with Shirley Ross.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Thanks-for-the-Memory-Song-Sheet>

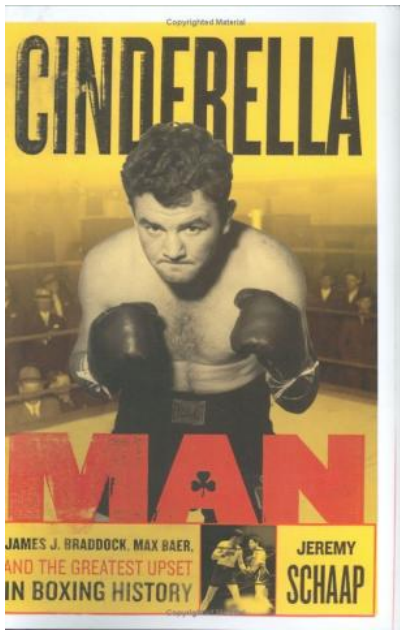


## The Big Broadcast of 1938

Image online, courtesy the [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) website.

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### Cinderella Man by Jeremy Schaap

Book cover image online, courtesy Amazon.

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### Cinderella Man

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