



# Who Was Jesse Owens?

*James Buckley Jr. , Gregory Copeland (Illustrations)*

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**Who Was Jesse Owens?** James Buckley Jr. , Gregory Copeland (Illustrations)

At the 1936 Berlin Summer Olympics, track and field star Jesse Owens ran himself straight into international glory by winning four gold medals. But the life of Jesse Owens is much more than a sports story. Born in rural Alabama under the oppressive Jim Crow laws, Owens's family suffered many hardships. As a boy he worked several jobs like delivering groceries and working in a shoe repair shop to make ends meet. But Owens defied the odds to become a sensational student athlete, eventually running track for Ohio State. He was chosen to compete in the Summer Olympics in Nazi Germany where Adolf Hitler was promoting the idea of "Aryan superiority." Owens's winning streak at the games humiliated Hitler and crushed the myth of racial supremacy once and for all.

## Who Was Jesse Owens? Details

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# **From Reader Review Who Was Jesse Owens? for online ebook**

## **Mackenzie Zoerb says**

The other latest book that I have read is Who was Jesse Owens? by James Buckley Jr. Jesse Owens came from a small town always running from place to place. He never walked. His only dream was to get into a college which no one in the Owens family had ever accomplished. He then got asked to join the track team because the track coach saw him running all the time at recess and knew the kid had talent. He then beat out all of his high school classmates and friends that were in track. And later went to the Olympics and beat four world records which earned him four gold medals. That's crazy.

I though this book was so entertaining and interesting. The author had a really good way of clarifying everything because when you don't know something very well like the sport track, you are going to need explaining done and I think the author did a very good job of this.

I recommend this book to anyone who likes sports or likes pushing themselves. Also, anyone that may need a confidence pusher. Because Owens never ever gave up. And look where he is now.

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## **Kelly says**

Covers not only Owens, but the issues of his time...the war, the Nazis, and racism. Very good.

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## **Tito john says**

very nice

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## **AMY says**

106 pages. Great biography with lots of good solid information and excellent illustrations. It is an inspiring story. There is extra historical information throughout that helps a reader understand the social context in the background of the main events. The timelines at the end of the book are helpful. Highly recommended for Grade 5.

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## **Dodie says**

A good kids book to get an overall idea of how Jesse Owens life was like.

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## **Hunter says**

Who Was Jesse Owens by James Buckley Jr was an extremely informative nonfiction book about Jesse

Owens. Ever since he was a boy, Jesse Owens was a runner. He was a grocery store delivery boy and he had to run to do that. Also he was a newspaper boy. Jesse is best known as an Olympic record setter. Before the Olympics however, he was setting world records. When he was in college at Ohio State University, he set three world records and tied another world record in a matter of hours! Sadly, he died of lung cancer at the young age of sixty-six. However he helped the United States through tough times. For example, World War Two and the Civil Rights Movement. He was a true American hero.

In my opinion, this book was very detailed in the beginning. It was lacking some details in the section that was after the 1936 Olympics and before his death. It really only talks about the country and not him in particular. Besides that, this book was a great biography and really made Jesse Owens' life feel like a story.

If I could recommend this book to anyone, I would recommend it to people wanting to expand their knowledge on real American heroes. He was an Olympic champion, so anyone that is interested in Olympic history would love this book as well. Although, this book is truly a great book for anyone because it is a very detailed read, yet, at the same time, an easy thoughtful book.

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### **Mohamed says**

Was a good book.

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### **Miss Sarah says**

I'm so impressed by Jesse Owens and his ability to change and admit rights and wrongs. A track and field star he gave up a lot to be an athlete and never forgot that was an honor. upper elementary

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### **Landry H says**

Who Was Jesse Owens  
James Buckley Jr.  
September

Jesse Owens life is very interesting. In this book it tells you all about Jesses family and life. Jesse had a lot of brothers and sister while he was growing up. Jesse in high school broke a lot of records which led him to get really popular and scouts started looking at him for college. He got more than 15 scholarships in track to all kinds of different collages. After he decided to go to Ohio State University on a full scholar ship in track, he broke even more records and he tried out for the Olympics. He made it to the Olympics and won all the gold medals for all the track catoagories. After Jesse ran track for a couple years after Olympics he stopped and moved to Arizona and died in Arizona.

Jesse had a lot of positive and negative things happen in his life. In this book there are a lot of themes but only 2 or 3 popped out to me. The first theme is Jesse gets cut from making his first Olympics tryout. This is a theme because he gets cut so it's a challenge for him to try to make the next tryout. The last theme is don't let people get under your skin. This is a theme because Jesse teaches a lesson. An example of him not loting people get under his skin is people don't shake his hand and they call him bad names but that dosnt distract

him, he just keeps running races and breaking records. I think this was a really inspiring book.

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### **Reving says**

<https://revingsblog.blogspot.com/2018...>

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### **Landen says**

Who Was Jesse Owens by James Buckley Jr. was a great book. This book was about Jesse Owens and his life story. Also about his achievements throughout his life and accomplishments. Some of his great achievements was winning 4 gold medals in the Olympics.

In my opinion this was a really good book. My favorite part was when he set all of the world records in one Olympic entering. I also really liked how the book went in chronological order. It helped me follow along with the book better.

I would definitely recommend this book to anyone who likes sports, drama, adventure, and even mystery. If you like any of these topics you will love this book like I did. So please read it and I am sure you will like it.

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### **Kim says**

For the past two weeks, we have focused on WW2 and sports as a family. We read Boys in the Boat, Unbroken [Young Adult Version], and now "Who Was Jesse Owens?." We have enjoyed all of these true stories, and it is amazing to think that all these phenomenal athletes were all on the same boat that sailed for 9 days from the U.S. to Europe to participate in the 1936 Olympics in Germany.

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### **Emma says**

J.C. getting the name Jesse reminds me of when I first met one of my best friends and thought her name was "Mel" but it turned out I was calling her the wrong name all year. I tease Mallorie about it all the time. On another note, Jesse is awesome for working hard. I can't even walk up stairs without being winded.

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### **Jacob Vanden Avond says**

My younger brother got this for Easter, and since I recently saw the movie Race which was about his life, I thought it would be neat to read this book and learn more about him. Easy read, about 80 pages with pictures in it, so any easy read for me. But this was a very good book. I learned a lot more about Owens than the movie said.

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**Catherine says**

A good book for elementary and middle school students.

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