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"A sinister cabal of superior writers."

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Author: Greg Barbrick — Published: Aug 19, 2012 at 2:01 pm [0 comments](#)

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Ali regained his title that night, but in a way it was just a prelude to the equally famous "Thrilla in Manila" with Joe Frazier. Books could be filled with some of the outrageous things Ali has said over the years. Here's just one example of him hyping up what was to come in Manila: "A thrilla and a chillla and a killa when I get the gorilla in Manila!"

Nobody but Muhammad Ali could get away with something like that. He won that match, and other big ones until he went up against Leon Spinks in February 1978. Ali retired following this victory on June 27, 1979, but returned in 1980 to face Larry Holmes in an attempt to win a heavyweight title an unprecedented four times.

Angelo Dundee refused to let his man come out for the 11th round. Sadly, this bout has been cited as a contributing factor in Ali's development of Parkinson's Disease. Ali's final fight, a loss by unanimous decision after 10 rounds, was with Trevor Berbick in 1981.

This retrospective highlights Muhammed Ali's brilliant ring moves and colorful rhetoric over the years in a highly entertaining fashion. There will never be another like Ali, and my only complaint about this documentary is that I wish it were longer.

[Page 1](#) — [Page 2](#)

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Article Author: [Greg Barbrick](#)

Greg Barbrick is an old time "music biz" groupie/writer. He thinks that nothing good has been recorded since 1978.

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