

## G7297 THE GREATEST (USA, 1977)

**Credits:** director, Tom Gries ; writer, Ring Lardner, Jr. ; story, Muhammad Ali, Richard Durham, Herbert Muhammad.

**Cast:** Muhammad Ali, Ernest Borgnine, Lloyd Haines, John Marley.

**Summary:** Sports/biopic set in the U.S. in the 1960s and 70s. The career of Muhammed Ali starring himself. Following his victories in the Olympic games, Cassius Clay pursues the professional heavyweight championship. Under the guidance of Angelo Dundee (Borgnine), Clay won the title from Sonny Liston. Soon after he converted to Islam and changed his name. When he is suddenly classified 1-A by the Draft Board that had earlier rejected him, Ali refuses to serve on religious grounds (he was a Black Muslim minister). His title is taken from him and he must fight a 3 1/2 year court battle with the government before returning to the ring to regain the boxing championship.

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