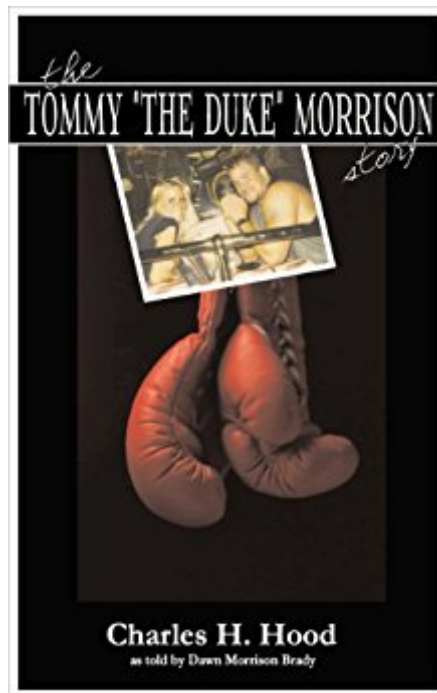




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# The Tommy "The Duke" Morrison Story



## Synopsis

The Tommy Morrison Story is described as “a bare-knuckle love story where most of the punches were below the belt and no one was saved by the bell” depicting details from Dawn Morrison Brady’s first encounter with Tommy Morrison to the moment the two-time WBO heavyweight boxing champ succumbed to AIDS in September 2013. Hood’s biography of Tommy Morrison is based upon personal interviews with Dawn Morrison Brady, her detailed journal entries that spanned over 13 years, and early life tales as told to her by Tommy’s grandparents, parents, brothers and sister. It now serves as a permanent record of the life she lived with him for those same hard-fought, abusive years in and out of the ring. The Tommy “The Duke” Morrison Story reveals, in great detail, details about Tommy’s life in and out of the ring, in and out of prison, and in and out of his multiple marriages. Dawn Morrison Brady took every punch Tommy Morrison had and his death leaves her with what she describes as a mix of “crazy good” and “crazy bad” memories. Despite the negatives, Dawn told Hood, “Tommy was also a very religious man, and was most proud when he was addressed as Champ, but nothing meant as much to him as when his four boys called him Dad.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Author Charles Hood has ghostwritten a riveting account of the life of recently deceased former heavyweight champion Tommy Morrison. The book is based on interviews conducted and e-mails exchanged with Morrison's ex-wife, Dawn Morrison Brady. What it largely depicts is a man who, when he wasn't doing battle in the ring, mostly spent his time doing battle with himself. The result, mirroring the biggest fights of Morrison's boxing career, was a knockout loss. Not-so-originally titled "The Tommy Morrison Story," the book is a memoir of the second blonde bombshell named Dawn to enter Morrison's life. As such, a reader should not go into the text expecting a full accounting of the childhood, Rocky V, and boxing experiences Morrison had. In fact, one fault of the book is that there are several glaring historical inaccuracies about Morrison's boxing career. For example, his record and chronology of certain fights are misstated at times. The post-fight aftermath of his knockout loss to Michael Bentt erroneously describes Morrison as "not having a mark on him" while stating that Bentt looked the worse for wear. These mistakes are not pertinent to the theme of the story, however, which is Dawn's memoir of her stormy relationship with Morrison. Most likely only hardcore fans of Morrison's would catch them. Otherwise, the book is well put together and is a brisk, easy read. Dawn Morrison Brady met Tommy Morrison in 1994 and soon began a romantic relationship with him, and today she stresses that although everything written in this book is true, she wants to write her own biography of Morrison. In it, she wants to go into much greater detail on a variety of topics, including the possibility that Morrison knew of his HIV status as early as 1989. If one has followed Morrison's story closely enough since his death, whispers of damning circumstantial evidence has arisen that this could be the case. To consider this being the truth is almost unthinkable. As for the content of the book, it is difficult for me to personally remove myself from the story and be completely objective. I knew Tommy personally since 1999 and met Dawn in 2002. Since that time, I visited them on several occasions and we have shared innumerable

telephone and e-mail conversations. Tommy and I had our problems. I think that, being the type of person he was (especially when he was on some type of intoxicating substance), anyone would eventually have had a problem with him unless they were a complete and cowering

“yes” man. Dawn, on the other hand, I’ve always known to be the sweetest, most forthright and generous, caring person you could ask for. Her good and forgiving nature is revealed in this book to be a fault as she was repeatedly emotionally, psychologically, and at times even physically abused by Morrison. Any thought of her being motivated by money has to be dismissed by the fact that she spent many lean years with little money sticking with the threatening ex-champion. I hate to use a cliché, but this book literally was a page-turner for me, especially as I knew the subjects personally. I think, though, that for boxing fans this is still a must-read biography as it reveals a side of a man that many probably had no idea even existed. Throughout his career, Morrison came across on camera as congenial, articulate, and charismatic. One gets the impression after reading “The Tommy Morrison Story” that this was all a carefully orchestrated act. Morrison was a womanizer and a drug addict and he can constantly be seen battling these demons and losing, tearfully begging for yet another chance from Dawn. Without giving anything away, there are plenty of shocking events revealed that no person who is not a sociopath should be capable of. I knew of several of the things that were in the book, but many I did not. And what is there is still only the tip of the iceberg. That being said, Tommy could still be very generous. I learned just how valuable his supply of Adderall was from this book, and it made me recall a time when I went to visit him. After driving 10 hours to his home, staying up all night and facing a 10 hour drive home, Tommy gave me two Adderall pills. I didn’t know at the time what they were, but he said they were to help me “stay awake.” He was looking out for me, in his own way and to his own detriment. I was left torn between feeling sympathy for Tommy for never having been able to be the good person he seemed to want to be, and feeling as though he were a monster who deserved everything he got. That’s brutal, but not nearly as brutal as some of the acts Tommy committed and may have committed. The question is did his good acts outweigh the bad? I do hope that his family has found peace. I highly recommend this book not only for fight fans, but also anyone who is fascinated in human nature and psychology. It begins as a romantic tale that ultimately becomes horrific and tragic, and can be extremely unsettling at times.

Overall ok book. However, very obviously a biased view as evidenced by the jealousy-fueled jabs at Morrison’s other wives and some petty remarks. Probably about a 50% accurate accounting, which

is expected. Would not be an issue except her supposed purpose is to provide an "accurate" account for his sons and ends up bashing their father. Not cool.

Terrible read for me, I wanted to know about Tommy's fighting career, not his love life. All the book talks about is Dawn1 as she is called, is always pissed at Dawn 2. I could care less about that female drama. As a boxing fan, this book didn't cut it.

It ok, but it leaves you wanting more from the sports side of him, not so much on his personal life!

I have been waiting for a book about the life of my favorite boxer. Read the book in one night. It was an honest look, both the good and the bad about the life with Tommy. So many of our talented Artists have suffered from addictions, and this is an insight to Tommys addictions also and the price he and others around him paid. This book does not diminish my opinion of the man. Perhaps it even reinforced my positive opinion of him, because I have always had an affection for those who are human both in their achievements and their struggles in life. I know Tommy was trying to find a publisher for his book he wrote, and I do hope that family and or friends of Tommy can make that happen.

Great book!!!!

THIS BOOK IS WORTH READING. TOMMY LIVED A WILD AND VERY FAST LIFE STYLE. WOW WHAT DAWN WENT THRU IS CRAZY.

I am going to try my best to review the book and not "D2..... But..... oh well,..I can't help myselfAs a boxing fan, I was very interested in the "The Tommy Morrison Story". Living in a town near him, everyone knew who he was. I can't say I was a fan,of his, I found him to be more cocky and arrogant then most boxers, and I am not talking about " in the ring".The book tells that Tommy had a hard childhood, followed by harder years , because of his own "demon's and denial of his HIV status. His story is a sad one. He had so much potential, even after his boxing career ended. But the denial and drug use which he was such a victim to, destroyed him.This was a "hard to put down" book for me. Perhaps because I am a boxing fan and maybe because I followed his story AKA "train wreck of a life."I agree 100% with KGrimes review where it states "biased view as evidenced by the jealousy-fueled jabs at Morrison's other wives and some petty remarks".I found "D2" to be

hypocritical. This woman obviously has "issues". Her dislike for "D1" is evident. In trying to tear down "D1" she makes herself look jealous and insecure. Reading this book, I kept thinking "The lady doth protest too much". She tells how even though she knew Tommy was married to "D1", she went ahead and married him in Mexico. What kind of woman would do this? Oh I forgot, she was "in love" so that makes it ok. Her morals are not as high, as she tries to come off, with telling about reading her bible and bible study class. She talks the talk but obviously does not walk the walk and should practice what she preaches. In one paragraph, she is telling how she is reading her bible and in the next, telling how she took some "pills" of Tommy's to "get high", then in the next paragraph, complaining that Tommy is doing the same thing. She is not the "saint" she tries to come off as. She makes snide comments that "D1" was only with him for the money and as soon as the money was gone, so was she. So this tells me, that "D1" not only has more intelligence, but more self respect than "D2" does. "D1" has not "sold" her story to "cash in", like "D2" has, and THAT says it all. Keep it classy "D1", as you have done all these years.

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