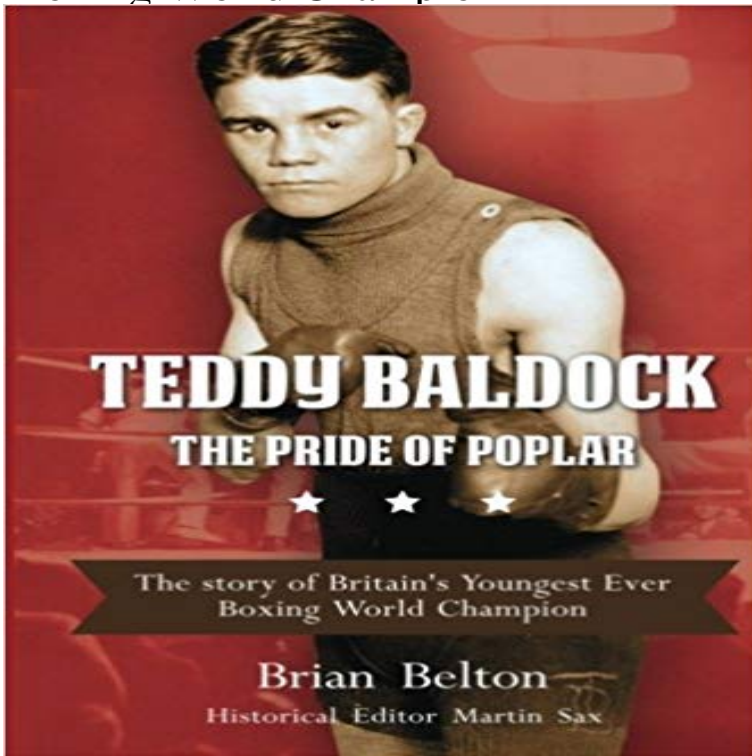


# Teddy Baldock The Pride of Poplar: The story of Britains Youngest Ever Boxing World Champion



The name Teddy Baldock is enshrined in the record books as Britains youngest ever world champion. A powerful glory and tears story of an East End boxing idol who went from national hero to fallen star. Born at Poplar on May 20th, 1908, boxing was in his blood, his grandfather having been a bare-knuckle fighter. Baldocks brilliant boxing skills and colourful style saw him fight in famous venues like Madison Square Gardens. At 19, the Pride of Poplar defeated American Archie Bell at the Royal Albert Hall for the World bantamweight title, in one of the greatest bouts between boxings little men. He would never reach such heights again, but when he retired after a distinguished career of over 80 fights he remained a hero of the East End, long after his heyday in the ring. Teddys story is the stuff of legend; in his prime, his wealth and fame was such that he rubbed shoulders with dukes and earls but in 1971, when he died penniless in an Essex infirmary, he didnt even have his own pyjamas.

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