

My Greatest Victory

[In honor of Max Schmeling – who lost to Joe Louis.]

**I fought a good fight, I'd won in the past.
I fought a good fight, always held out last.
I fought a good fight, but what stands out the most:
My Greatest Victory – My Greatest Victory –
My Greatest victory – was the fight that I lost.**

I wanted to win for Germany,
But a win for my country couldn't be.
A cable from Hitler said, "Go – fight,
Show the world that I am right."

I was sent to the front 'cause I hadn't won,
But I came back after Hitler was gone.
Then Coca Cola made my life sweet.
Endorsements put me back on my feet.

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In the '50s, I learned from a show:
The IRS was hounding for Joe.
I crossed the ocean, looked him up,
Just in time – to turn his luck.

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*Joe and I remained friends. Who is to say
We both didn't win
A fight against Hitler — a fight against Hitler — a fight against Hitler — that day?*

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Not the many I'd won, but the fight – that I lost.