

THE FIGHTER

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he went down for the count

don't get up,
his trainers screamed,
there's a million
riding on this one
so you'd better not get
on your feet cause
we want
you want
the loss – do you hear?

and anyway we know
what's best, right?
after all
we've taught you
everything
and without us you're
but nothing and besides
you'll never be a winner anyway

so before the count neared ten
he roared
with all his soul
as he rose back to his feet

***ROBERT T. McLAUGHLIN, Ph.D.**, chairs Rivier College's education division, directs its seven educational leadership programs, is father to three children who, he enjoys telling them, are usually cute and adorable, and, with his wife, provides a home for four border collies, who all are cute and adorable (except, like his children, when they bite or bark). He has founded and chaired the International Society for Technology in Education's interest groups on innovative learning technologies and digital equity, serves on the national commission on technology and the future of teacher education, and is senior fellow for the Stokes Institute for Opportunity in STEM Education.