



Thom Gossom Jr. is an American actor, writer, and communications professional. Born in Birmingham, Alabama, he received his Bachelor of Arts in communications from Auburn University where he was the first black athlete in the Southeastern Conference to walk on, earn a full scholarship and graduate. Gossom defied the odds and became a three-year starter. He is featured in the HBO special, "Breaking the Huddle", about integration of Southern college football. Gossom furthered his education with a Master of Arts in communication from The University of Montevallo in Alabama.

He was a cast member of the [TV series *In the Heat of the Night*](#). He has appeared in multiple movies, including the 2003 sequel to [Jeepers Creepers](#), as well as guest roles in *CSI* and other TV shows.

Gossom's writing credits include his published memoir, "Walk-On: My Reluctant Journey To Integration at Auburn University", which chronicles his role in collegiate football history. Gossom's newest work, "A Slice of Life", is the first of a three-part collection of "life stories" woven around themes of ordinary people caught up in extraordinary circumstances. Gossom also writes a current events blog, "As I SEE It". When not writing, producing or acting, Gossom is a frequent speaker for universities, corporation and civic organizations. Through his experience, intellect and wit, he inspires, entertains, educates and motivates his audience.