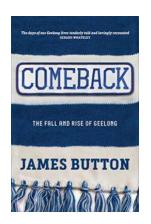
# From Rock Bottom to Glory: The Astonishing Comeback Story of Geelong Football Club

Geelong Football Club, based in Geelong, Victoria, has a long and storied history in the Australian Football League (AFL). In recent years, the club has experienced both dramatic falls and remarkable rises, solidifying their legacy as one of the most resilient and determined clubs in the league.

#### The Fall: Years of Struggle and Disappointment

Geelong's fall from grace began in the late 1990s, after a period of sustained success in the 1960s and 1980s. The team faced a series of disappointing seasons, plagued by injuries, poor form, and internal conflicts. Mired in the bottom half of the ladder, Geelong's future looked bleak.

During this period, new teams entered the league, stealing the limelight and leaving Geelong in their wake. Fans began to lose hope, and the club faced financial difficulties. The once-mighty Geelong seemed to have lost its way, and its supporters agonized over the team's uncertain future.



#### Comeback: The Fall and Rise of Geelong

by Tiara R. Brown (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★★ 4.4 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 4845 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 437 pages



#### **Rise from the Ashes: The Turning Point**

However, every cloud has a silver lining, and Geelong's redemption story began in the early 2000s. The club underwent a major overhaul, both on and off the field. A new coaching staff was brought in, and a fresh game plan was implemented. Geelong was ready to embark on a journey of resurrection and reinvention.

The team's fortunes started to change in 2004 when they finished higher on the ladder than they had in years. The following season, under the leadership of coach Mark Thompson and the extraordinary talents of players like Gary Ablett Jr., Jimmy Bartel, and Joel Selwood, Geelong made it to the grand final but fell short of ultimate glory.

Undeterred, Geelong's players and staff saw this near-miss as a crucial stepping stone. They identified their weaknesses, refined their game plan, and worked tirelessly to improve. The club's culture shifted towards unity and resilience, and a new sense of belief and determination took hold.

#### The Comeback: Glory and Domination

Geelong's true comeback came in 2007, as they stormed their way through the season, dominating most of their opponents. With a cohesive and skillful team, they were a force to be reckoned with. Geelong clinched the minor premiership and made it to the grand final, facing none other than their arch-rivals, the Port Adelaide Power.

The grand final was an exhilarating and hard-fought battle, showcasing the grit and determination of both teams. In the end, Geelong emerged victorious, cementing their return to the pinnacle of AFL. It was the club's first premiership in 44 years, marking a historic and emotional moment for Geelong supporters.

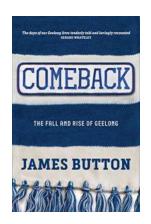
This triumph was just the beginning of a golden era for Geelong Football Club. Over the next few years, they went on to dominate the competition, winning two more premierships in 2009 and 2011. With an unrivaled record-breaking winning streak, Geelong became one of the most successful teams in AFL history.

#### **Legacy and Inspiration**

Geelong's remarkable comeback story serves as a testament to the power of perseverance, dedication, and teamwork. It proves that even in the face of adversity, success is possible. Geelong's journey from rock bottom to glory has inspired countless fans and players alike, reminding them to never give up on their dreams.

As Geelong Football Club continues to compete and strive for excellence, their story serves as a reminder of the cyclical nature of success and failure. It teaches us that setbacks can lead to comebacks, and that with resilience and determination, anything is possible.





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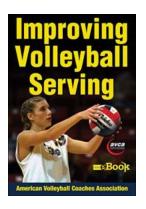
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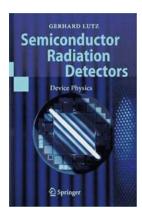
As a boy, James Button fell in love with the Geelong Football Club. It was a family affair. But as the years wore on and the defeats and disappointments mounted, it became clear to him: his team would never win a flag. This book tells the story of his glorious mistake. Writing as a reporter, not primarily as a fan, James

interviews hundreds of people to tell the story of how one organisation changed its culture, on and off the field. He relates not only the fortunes of the team over fifty years but of the town with which it is so closely entwined. And he tries to explain why so many of us, whoever we barrack for, are gripped by an unreasonable passion for football.



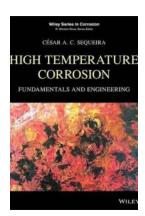
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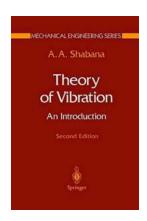
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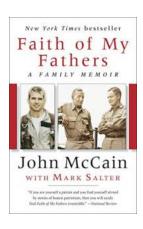
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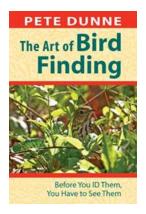
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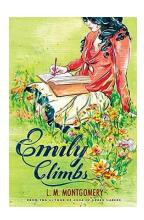
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