

Simon Mannering: Warrior Legend or Forgotten Hero?

In the world of rugby league, certain players leave an indelible mark on the sport. Simon Mannering, also known as "Warrior Angus Gillies," is one such player. Throughout his career, Mannering exhibited skill, resilience, and loyalty, making him a beloved figure among fans. However, as time goes on, his contributions often get overshadowed by the newer stars of the game. In this article, we aim to shed light on the remarkable story of Simon Mannering and explore whether he is a warrior legend or a forgotten hero.

The Rise of a Warrior

Simon Mannering's rugby journey began in New Zealand, where he played junior rugby league in his hometown of Nelson. From a young age, Mannering demonstrated exceptional talent and work ethic, catching the attention of talent scouts. In 2005, at the age of 18, he made his debut for the New Zealand Warriors in the National Rugby League (NRL). This marked the beginning of his remarkable career.

Mannering's playing style blended finesse with gritty determination. As a forward, he was known for his exceptional tackling abilities and his ability to make crucial plays when it mattered the most. His consistency on the field earned him the nickname "Warrior Angus Gillies," symbolizing his unyielding commitment to his team and his willingness to give his all in every game.

Simon Mannering - Warrior by Angus Gillies (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 323 pages



The Legacy of Simon Mannerling

During his 301 appearances for the New Zealand Warriors, Mannerling cemented his place as a legend of the club. His durability as a player was awe-inspiring, as he rarely missed a game due to injury. Mannerling's leadership qualities were evident on and off the field, as he captained the Warriors for six seasons and was admired by his teammates for his work ethic and humility.

Mannerling's achievements extend beyond his club career. He represented New Zealand in numerous international matches, including the World Cup. In 2008, he was named captain of the Kiwis, reinforcing his leadership qualities on a national level.

Off the field, Mannerling was involved in various charitable endeavors, further endearing him to fans and teammates alike. His humility and down-to-earth nature made him a role model for aspiring rugby players and a beloved figure among the rugby community.

A Forgotten Hero?

Despite his illustrious career, Simon Mannering often finds himself overshadowed by the newer stars of the game. As the rugby league landscape changes, the focus shifts to the up-and-coming talents, leaving little room for appreciation of the legends who shaped the sport. This unfortunate reality has led many fans to wonder whether Mannering is a forgotten hero.

However, it is crucial to recognize Mannering's contributions. His dedication to the game, exceptional skills, and unwavering commitment to his team make him a true warrior legend. While he may not be in the spotlight anymore, his impact on the sport and the lives of those he inspired cannot be ignored.

Simon Mannering, the "Warrior Angus Gillies," is a rugby league player who left an indelible mark on the sport. His skill, resilience, and loyalty have made him a beloved figure among fans and his contributions should never be forgotten. Although he may not always be in the limelight, the legacy of Simon Mannering will continue to inspire future generations of rugby players. As we celebrate the new stars of the game, let us also remember and honor the warrior legend that is Simon Mannering.



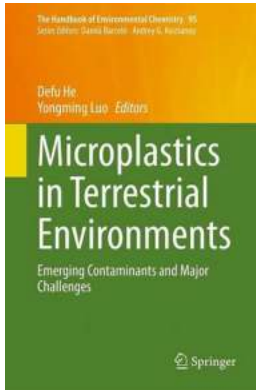
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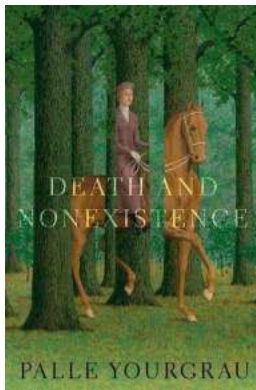


Simon Mannering is one of elite sport's great enigmas. Since 2005 he has been a regular fixture in the Warriors and Kiwis rugby league teams and has captained both sides. He has the passion and drive of Brad Thorn and the consistency of Richie McCaw. He regularly leads tackle counts, always has the respect of both team mates and opponents and confounds team doctors by playing through pain and illness. He is, in short, the ultimate warrior, who will always put the good of the team before his own wishes and ambitions. He has played close to 300 games in the NRL, one of the most taxing and physically demanding competitions in world sport, but very few people know anything about him. He shuns the celebrity lifestyle, is never implicated in controversy and hardly ever does interviews. But his career is a blueprint for how young people with only average natural abilities (his words) can force their way to the top. Mannering was not a sporting prodigy. He often, perhaps too modestly, describes his early athletic talents as mediocre. But he had an unflagging work ethic towards training and when he came across good mentors he clung to them for dear life. In his autobiography, he talks about his transition from skinny white rugby-playing AC/DC fan from Nelson College to life at the Warriors rugby league club in the hip hop heart of Auckland. He shares personal stories about the people he met along the way who helped and inspired him and the lessons he took from them. Always a realist, he recounts his early efforts in a sport he didn't know or understand with unflinching, hilarious and sometimes awkward honesty. Those who know him best also give their insight into a New Zealand sportsperson who, when he eventually hangs up his boots, will be remembered as one of the greats.



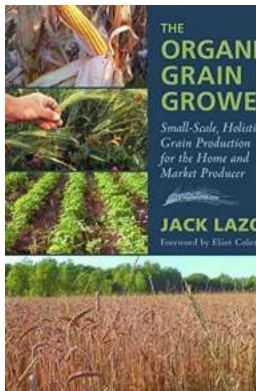
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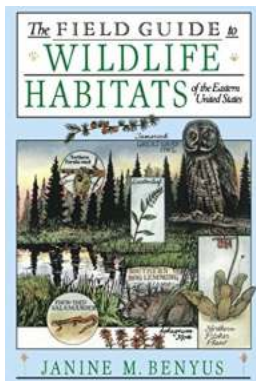
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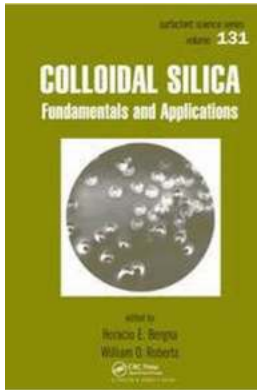
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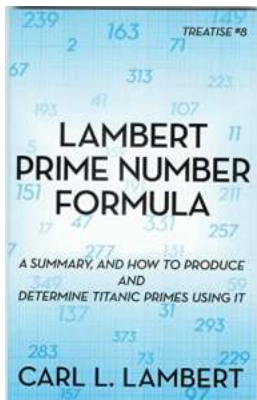
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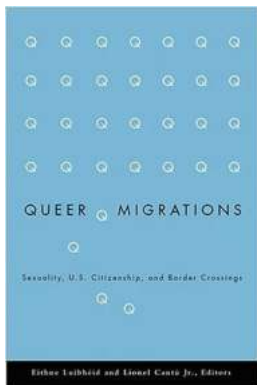
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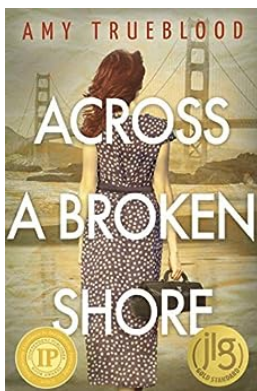
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