

1: Used Memoirs of a Sword Swallower on OnBuy

Memoirs of a Sword Swallower is Daniel P. Mannix's autobiography as a sword-swallower with a traveling sideshow, illustrated with photos from the 30s and 40s taken by the author.

You must be logged in to post a review. Of course, they included printed instructions showing how to install the control button with a warning that dishonest operators occasionally resorted to such devices and offering to sell the necessary parts for a small additional sum. Well, I picked up the parts myself from a hardware store during the rush hour when the clerks were busy elsewhere. So I sat down and studied the situation out. I hitched another stop-wire to this bar so I could work the map while I was at the other end of the joint. With a little quiet help from me, the mark would learn how to spin the wheel just hard enough to stop the light on a certain state. Remember that to be a successful businessman you must have a tender spot in your heart for the foibles of humanity. But a good side show can compete with anything. People left all the other concessions to rush to the side show, and I led the rush. Some of the other acts had come out on the platform to join Flamo: But none of them could touch Flamo as a public attraction. Slowly the fire-eater put back his head and thrust one of the burning torches between his lips. Women screamed in the rapidly forming crowd and a man beside me suddenly turned sick and tried to force his way out through the mob. Flamo gradually closed his lips over the flame until the fire went out, leaving only the dancing light of the torch in his other hand to illuminate the platform. To perform the Fountain, the fire-eater takes a mouthful of gas, blows it out in a fine stream, and then lights it. Some fire-eaters will even puff out circles of flame that go undulating up into the air like burning smoke rings. Then the fire-eater made his decision. He took a mouthful of gasoline and stood waiting for the wind to die down. Suddenly a little trickle of gas leaked from the corner of his mouth and ran down his chin. Instantly a tiny flash of fire from the torch leaped toward it, running through the air as though along an invisible fuse as it ignited the gasoline vapor. The little trickle blazed up and his whole mouthful of gas exploded. But before I realized this profound truth, I got the mistaken idea that because I knew a few carny routines, I was an authority on carny acts. When I was able to run half a dozen skewers through my arms and do the nail-in-the-eye act, I decided that there was nothing left for old man Krinko to teach me. Then one evening the old fakir resolved to show me up. Krinko was holding up a yard of red silk ribbon. After the tip had left my catwalk and collected around him, Krinko gravely rolled up the ribbon into a small ball and swallowed it. Then Krinko pulled up his shirt, disclosing his great hairy belly. He picked up a razor blade and made a slight cut in his skin just above the navel. Reaching into the cut, he began to pull out the ribbon, inch by inch. I took the ribbon and began to work it out. I thought he might have made a small cut in his body, rolled up a duplicate into a ball, and stuck it into the wound. I pulled out the whole yard of silk and was more astonished than anyone in the crowd. Krinko knew he had me completely fooled and got a big kick out of it. The other members of the troupe took up the gag. I spent hours trying to figure out the stunt, but as far as I was concerned, it was still a miracle. Krinko had never done the ribbon trick before in America, but after he saw the effect it produced on me, he started introducing it as a regular part of his act. So I soon discovered how the ribbon trick was done.

2: - Memoirs of a Sword Swallower by Daniel P. Mannix

Memoirs of a Sword Swallower is Daniel P. Mannix's autobiography as a sword -swallower with a traveling sideshow, illustrated with photos from the 30s and 40s taken by the author. An example of Classic Americana, this book offers a portrayal of a vanished world of working-class performance artists who earned a living by their unique bodies.

Drawn originally from magazine articles published in *Step Right Up* and retitled *Memoirs of a Sword Swallower* in 1947, the author, Daniel P. Mannix, was an author, journalist and photographer, among other things. The book described his experiences over six months as a young man traveling with a carnival around the Mid-Atlantic states, New England and upstate New York, the Ozarks and the South. Specific towns were rarely mentioned, and the time frame in general was vague. Another aside late in the book indicated that the year was 1947, which seemed much too late. So maybe the experiences took place earlier in the 1930s, with time in the book kept vague to make the material seem fresh on publication, and a few later historical references were grafted onto the work. Raised in a wealthy suburb of Philadelphia and graduating from a nearby Ivy League university, Mannix described falling in with the carnival somewhere in the South. Chapters of his book were devoted to experiences with fire-eating and sword-swallowing, which he eventually gave up for lock-picking and mind-reading. There were chapters on the characters he traveled and worked with: Jolly Daisy the wise fat lady, Krinka the human pin cushion and carnival leader, Aunt Matty the fortune-teller, the mind-reading team of Mr. Moyer, and Bronko the cowboy and his partner Lu. There were also Captain Billy the tattooed man, May the snake charmer, the Great Waldo who ate anything the audience gave him, a mentor named the Impossible Possible and his wheel of fortune, and Mountmorency the talented talker barker was a word avoided by insiders. Plus a love interest, Billie, who worked in a troupe of young models that accompanied the show. Some of the photos in the edition I read were of the carnival people the author knew, though there were no photos of him in costume doing his acts. He depicted the general life of a carnival worker, and attempted to figure out how the stunts and mind-reading were accomplished. The book ended rather abruptly when he chose to move on and further his career as a writer. And some of the words that were used at carnivals, like bally, stick, grift, tip, top, clem, grind man, crabber, blow off, flat joint, mitt camp, and rag show. Another survey is *Freak Show* by Robert Bogdan. Mannix revisited one aspect of carnival life in *with Freaks: We Who Are Not as Others*. They were magicians in the tradition of Chaldea and Egypt. They were gratifying a human desire nearly as deep and basic as the sexual urge. But here in a forward, modern community like Ground-Hog Springs, we can throw conventions to the winds. When you was a kid, did you ever think about running away to fairyland? Well, this is fairyland. But if you never grow up, that means you can never have a home or a family.

3: Daniel P. Mannix: MEMOIRS OF A SWORD SWALLOWER | RE/Search Publications

Memoirs of a Sword Swallower by. Titanic Survivor: The Newly Discovered Memoirs of Violet Jessop Who Survived Both the Titanic and Britannic Disasters by.

Mannix, III, was an American naval officer. In time, the cost of feeding them led him to write his first book, *The Back-Yard Zoo*. Naval Academy in , but left the next year, moving to the University of Pennsylvania and earning a degree in journalism instead of zoology. His magazine articles about these experiences, co-written with his wife Jule Junker Mannix, proved very popular and were reprinted several times in and , and later expanded into book form in his account of carnival life *Step Right Up*, which in turn was reprinted in as *Memoirs of a Sword Swallower*. He was also at times a professional hunter , a collector of wildlife for zoos and circuses, and a bird trainer. The latter skill was showcased in the short film *Universal Color Parade: Parrot Jungle*, in which he is credited as the writer, actor, director, producer, photographer, and bird trainer. Mannix covered a wide variety of subject matter as an author. His books ranged from fictional animal stories for children, the natural history of animals, and adventurous accounts about hunting big game to sensational adult non-fiction topics such as a biography of the occultist Aleister Crowley , sympathetic accounts of carnival performers and sideshow freaks , and works describing, among other things, the Hellfire Club , the Atlantic slave trade , the history of torture , and the Roman games. In , he edited *The Old Navy: The Glorious Heritage of the U*. In his role as a photo-journalist, Mannix witnessed the death of the famed herpetologist Grace Olive Wiley when she was fatally bitten by a venomous snake. She posed for him with a venomous Indian cobra she had recently acquired, and the snake bit her on the finger. At her instruction, Mannix put tourniquets on her arm, but unfortunately, in trying to administer her only vial of cobra antivenom he found the needle was rusty, and he accidentally broke the vial. At her request, he took her to Long Beach Municipal Hospital, but the hospital only had antivenom serums for North American snakes. Wiley was placed in an iron lung to assist her breathing, but to no avail; she was pronounced dead less than two hours after being bitten. In , he was one of the 16 charter members who co-founded the Munchkin Convention of the International Wizard of Oz Club. Personal life[edit] Mannix and his wife and sometime co-author Jule Junker Mannix travelled around the world and raised exotic animals. Jule Mannix wrote the book *Married to Adventure* in as an autobiographical account of her adventurous life with Mannix. Jule Mannix died May 25,

4: - MEMOIRS OF A SWORD SWALLOWER by Daniel P Mannix

V. Vale on Memoirs Product Description Many fire eaters, sword-swallowers & Americana lovers have been inspired by this classic, MEMOIRS OF A SWORD SWALLOWER.

5: Daniel P. Mannix - Wikipedia

MEMOIRS OF A SWORD SWALLOWER by Mannix, Daniel P.. RE/Search Publications, Paperback. Very Good. Memoirs of a Sword Swallower is Daniel P. Mannix's autobiography as a sword -swallower with a traveling sideshow, illustrated with photos from the 30s and 40s taken by the author.

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7: Memoirs of a Sword Swallower by Daniel P. Mannix

I remember when I first swallowed swords with Hans Rosling With the death of my fellow Swedish sword swallower

MEMOIRS OF A SWORD SWALLOWER pdf

friend and TED speaker Hans Rosling this week, it makes me appreciate how short life can be.

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