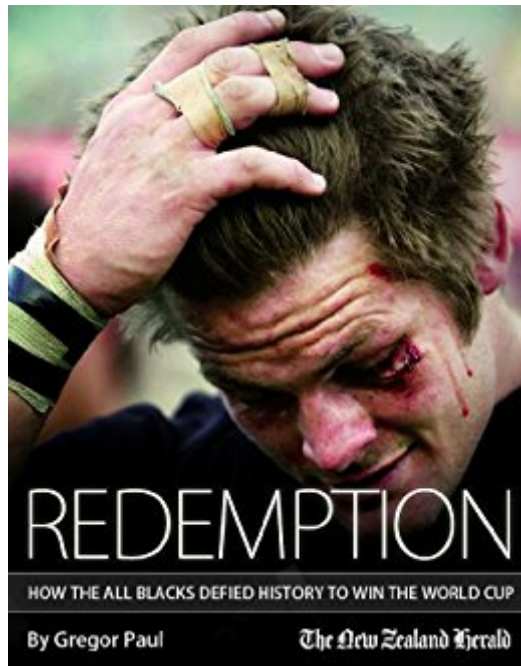


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# Redemption: How The All Blacks Defied History To Win The World Cup



## Synopsis

Having led the All Blacks to their worst World Cup campaign in history in 2007, Graham Henry, against the odds, was reappointed head coach eight weeks later. He became the first All Black coach to survive a World Cup failure, retaining the post ahead of the more popular Robbie Deans. It was a decision that effectively divided the nation. On October 23, 2011 Henry earned redemption when he led the All Blacks to World Cup glory at Eden Park. This is the incredible story of how the All Blacks rebuilt after the disaster of 2007 and climbed back to the top of the world order. How a fallen team picked themselves up and created a better, stronger All Black culture that was driven by inspirational skipper Richie McCaw. This book focuses on the growth of McCaw as captain; the restructuring of the senior players' leadership group; the arrival of new and vibrant stars; the embittered rivalry with the Wallabies and how all these and many other factors combined to finally end a nation's 24-year wait for World Cup glory.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you're not from New Zealand, you could be forgiven for not knowing that New Zealand's national rugby football team won the Rugby World Cup in October last year, for the first time in 24 years. Few

New Zealanders have that excuse. Only one who had been holed up in a Tibetan monastery since the Nineteen Eighties wouldn't know, in grim detail, of the travails of the New Zealand All Blacks. The All Blacks are, bar none, the most successful major sporting franchise on the planet, but they have a habit of world-conquering at all material times except the only material time: the four yearly World Cup. At that point, as my English friends delight in reminding me, the All Blacks habitually, inexplicably, choke. For that monastic sort of kiwi Gregor Paul's new e-book might be of interest (at any rate for those resident at monasteries possessed of e-readers and wifi). And there's the rub: it is difficult to know to whom else this fiercely hagiographic e-book will appeal. Gregor Paul is New Zealand resident, but hails from Scotland. He's been the chief rugby correspondent for a New Zealand Sunday paper for eight years, and on the breadth of that experience he has founded this book. In its analytical depth Redemption bears the hallmarks of that newspaper journalism heritage, in that coverage is wide and shallow rather than narrow and deep: nothing wrong with that unless your target market happens to harbour a national obsession with your subject, in which case there is little on that method they won't already know. This might not have mattered, either, were a big, glossy book festooned with photos of the heroic journey, suitable for father's day.

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