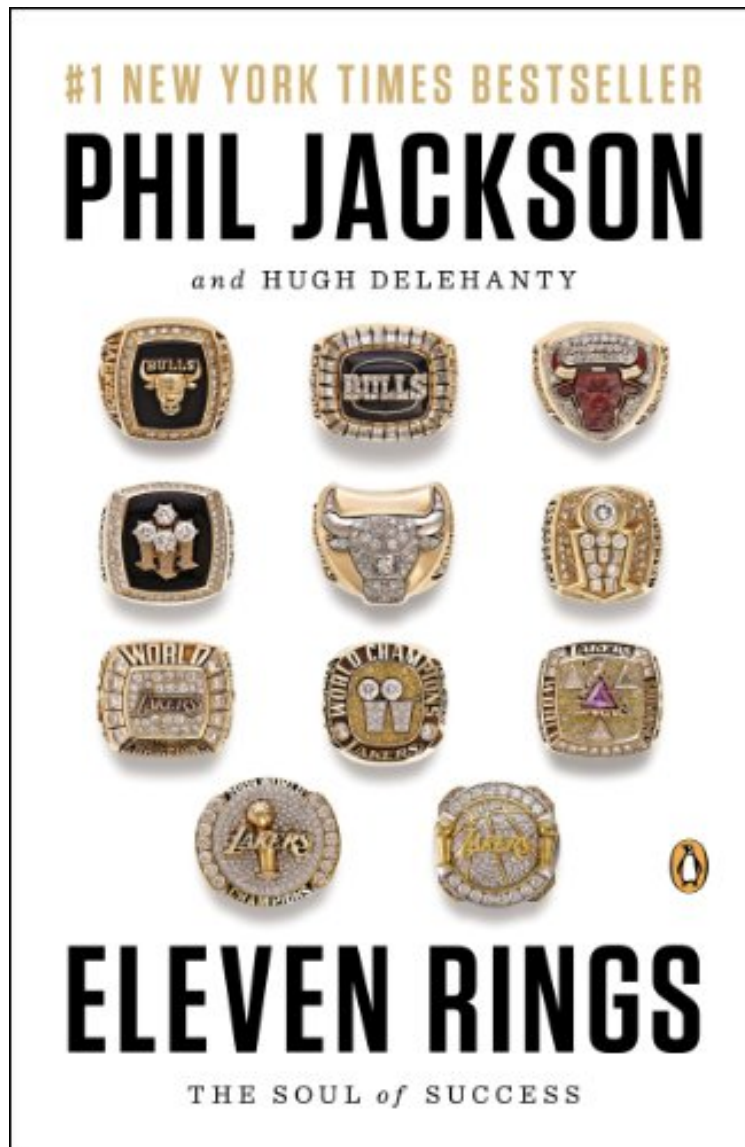


Eleven Rings: The Soul of Success

Phil Jackson, Hugh Delehanty
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Phil Jackson, Hugh Delehanty : Eleven Rings: The Soul of Success before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Eleven Rings: The Soul of Success:

45 of 47 people found the following review helpful. Great read whether you're a sports lover or not!By Sue EllenAs a mom who spent 12+ years watching my daughter play volleyball, basketball, and throw discus/shot put, I have seen my share of coaching styles. Some were awesome, some should have been fired, one was fired. Throughout it all, I always knew it could be more humane and motivating without the degrading, intimidating, and negative approach many coaches used. I always loved watching Phil Jackson coach the Bulls and read some about his coaching style at

the time. But his book has great information that can be applied to any job, including parenting. Clearly, championships can be won while coaching a team respectfully and influencing them not just as a player, but as a human being. Every coach, teacher, camp counselor, parent would learn from this book. All athletes/children of those who do, will benefit greatly. I bought it for my Kindle, but just bought it in hardback too, as I want to highlight some parts and get all the book referrals he includes.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good material here, but some of the story-telling drags

By Dave Todaro

The expression "the whole is greater than the sum of the parts" is often used to describe successful organizations, whether business enterprises or sports teams. Phil Jackson has embedded his recipe for leading that kind of success into "Eleven Rings"; NBA fans will appreciate Jackson's insight on the men he has coached. Jordan and Pippen; Kobe and Shaq; Rodman and Metta World Peace. Jackson does not shy away from addressing the controversies — whether the Bulls or Lakers. He is at his best when discussing the web of team relationships; Jackson and co-author Hugh Delehanty make us feel like they're catching us up on family news. Older readers will also appreciate Jackson's unique perspective on the dramatic 1970 NBA Finals against the Lakers, as an injured member of the Knicks. Jackson is popularly known as a "Zen master." You will learn much about what this means, and whether there is anything in his toolkit that you can adopt for your own situation. He wants us to know how he encouraged strong personalities who had conflicting ideas about what it would take to succeed, to function together at a magnificent level.

The book drags in places; many of the basketball stories read like straight history text; the authors could have spent more time polishing or even cutting them. There are lots of good books on leadership available that get the same ideas across with fewer words. But by writing as he has, Jackson has given himself an opportunity to reach people who might not necessarily pick up another leadership book. And it is important to hear about it from Jackson because his results cannot be questioned. So in the end, he's done well.

"Eleven Rings" is a generous scoop of who these teams were and how Jackson led them to the top of their profession.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Multi-dimensional

By ZzAzZ

Let me start by saying I am a huge basketball fan and hate the Lakers with every fiber of my being (I'm a Sixers fan). That said, this book gave me a lot more respect for Phil, Kobe and some other Lakers. I'll get my only downside of the book out of the way quickly, Phil Jackson makes a lot of excuses for his losses, but his wins are always the work of him or his team. For instance, whenever talking about something other than a championship win, he's blaming the ref's or saying a team won, though through now spectacular play of their own. I can't blame him too much because I'd imagine you have to be pretty ridiculously competitive in that profession, which will make it very difficult to admit when you're bested.

The reason I titled the review what I did, was because this isn't just purely basketball, and it's not even just 50/50 basketball/spiritualism. It's got basketball, it's got spiritualism, it's got philosophy, and more. I was never big on the zen or meditation stuff, and still am not, but he makes a lot of it sound a lot more practical and helpful than I've read/heard before.

It takes you behind the scenes for mostly all of his championship teams, and early on when he played for the Knicks and ends after his last year as the coach of the Lakers. You get his thoughts on the similarities and differences between Jordan and Kobe, some of the reasons behind the Kobe/Shaq feud, and what brought the teams of individuals together to be a championship caliber team. If you love the sport, you'll love this book.

The inside story of one of basketball's most legendary and game-changing figures

A New York Times bestseller

During his storied career as head coach of the Chicago Bulls and Los Angeles Lakers, Phil Jackson won more championships than any coach in the history of professional sports. Even more important, he succeeded in never wavering from coaching his way, from a place of deep values. Jackson was tagged as the "Zen master"; half in jest by sportswriters, but the nickname speaks to an important truth: this is a coach who inspired, not goaded; who led by awakening and challenging the better angels of his players' nature, not their egos, fear, or greed. This is the story of a preacher's kid from North Dakota who grew up to be one of the most innovative leaders of our time. In his quest to reinvent himself, Jackson explored everything from humanistic psychology and Native American philosophy to Zen meditation. In the process, he developed a new approach to leadership based on freedom, authenticity, and selfless teamwork that turned the hypercompetitive world of professional sports on its head.

In *Eleven Rings*, Jackson candidly describes how he:

- Learned the secrets of mindfulness and team chemistry while playing for the champion New York Knicks in the 1970s
- Managed Michael Jordan, the greatest player in the world, and got him to embrace selflessness, even if it meant losing a scoring title
- Forged successful teams out of players of varying abilities by getting them to trust one another and perform in sync
- Inspired Dennis Rodman and other "uncoachables"; personalities to devote themselves to something larger than themselves
- Transformed Kobe Bryant from a rebellious teenager into a mature leader of a championship team.

Eleven times, Jackson led his teams to the ultimate goal: the NBA championship — six times with the Chicago Bulls and five times with the Los Angeles Lakers. We all know the legendary stars on those teams, or think we do. What *Eleven Rings* shows us, however, is that when it comes to the most important lessons, we don't know very much at all. This book is full of revelations: about fascinating personalities and their drive to win; about the wellsprings of motivation and competition at the

highest levels; and about what it takes to bring out the best in ourselves and others. From the Trade Paperback edition.

From Booklist Phil Jackson won an unprecedented 11 championship rings as an NBA coach (6 with the Chicago Bulls and 5 with the Los Angeles Lakers). He begins this memoir with a brief exploration of his childhood as the son of two practicing ministers, an experience that laid the foundation for his approach to coaching. As a young man, Jackson realized he couldn't accept his parents' faith, but he explored any number of religions and consciousness-raising movements to satisfy his spiritual yearnings. To a casual fan, meditation, Buddhism, and Native American spirituality may seem an odd mix of resources with which to motivate highly paid, often egocentric professional athletes. Jackson, however, made it work, combining sincerity with a message of teamwork and trust; of course, a healthy dose of basketball acumen didn't hurt, either. Jackson's story, augmented by behind-the-scenes anecdotes involving Michael, Shaq, Kobe, and others, makes for great reading. Hoop fans: read this alongside Bob Knight's recent *The Power of Negative Thinking* (2013) and then determine which coaching style would motivate you more and improve your life outside of basketball. --Wes Lukowsky "Through candor and comprehensiveness, Jackson writes a convincing revisionist take, in which he emerges as an excellent coach...highly readable...reflects Jackson's polymathy." --The New York Times Book "Part sports memoir, part New Age spirit quest, part pseudo-management tract...But the primary thing with Jackson -- as with all the old bards, who were also known for repeating themselves -- is the voice." --Sam Anderson, *The New York Times Magazine* "The legendary Bulls and Lakers leader's new book finally enlightened me to Jackson's lifelong dedication to the game." --The Atlantic "He tells you at different times to see beyond what is seen and to hear the unheard...applicable to groups in any walk of life." --The Bleacher Report About the Author PHIL JACKSON is arguably the greatest coach in the history of the NBA. His reputation was established as head coach of the Chicago Bulls from 1989-1998; during his tenure, Chicago won six NBA titles. His next team, the Los Angeles Lakers, won five NBA titles, from 2000 to 2010. He holds the record for the most championships in NBA history as a player and a head coach. He also has the highest winning percentage of any NBA coach (.704). Jackson was a player on the 1970 and 1973 NBA champion New York Knicks. In 2007 Jackson was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame. A former editor for *Sports Illustrated* and *People*, HUGH DELEHANTY is the co-author with Phil Jackson of the bestselling memoir, *Sacred Hoops*.