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Manual Of The Baratero: The Art of Handling the Navaja, the Knife, and the Scissors of the Gypsies

James Loriega
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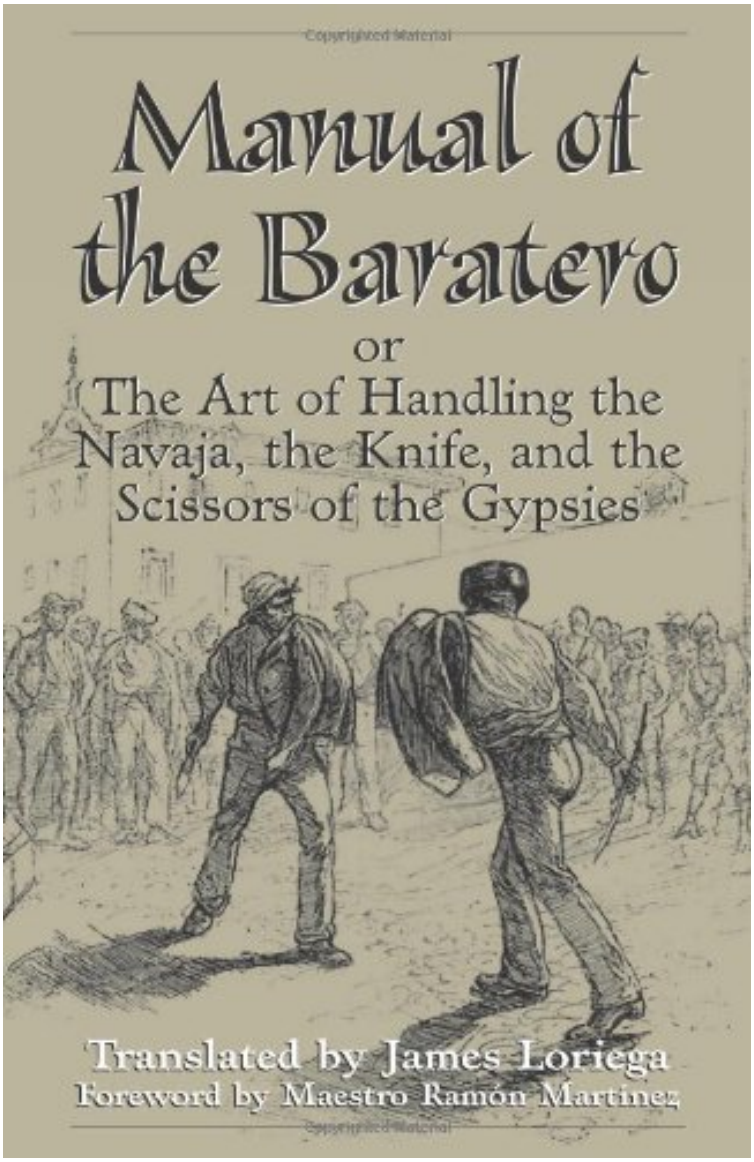

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Entertaining, mostly for historical interestBy HaveBoughtTHisIt's interesting, but more from a historical perspective than a tactical one. The instructions are sometimes in need of a martial artist translation, and at other times are just interesting commentary or explanations why such such will not be explained. Other books are better about justifying why a move should be done a certain way, but for how old it is, it's probably more efficient at explaining tactics than other documents of that era. The translator has inserted some commentary and attempted to supplement the images.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Maybe not so good for the beginner, which I am.By Andrea OrdonezBecause of the overwhelming good reviews I decided to buy this book but I am a little disappointed. Just to be clear I am a beginner and maybe the ideas and concepts are guided to people who have a better understanding of small edge weapons. I learn more about the history and culture of the "Baratero" than actual techniques. I also read some other reviews of people pointing out that one half of the book was in Spanish and the other one was in English and that maybe some hidden gems where in the Spanish section. Well, I read both and actually the English section has comments and easier to understand. The Spanish section probably is the original written in 1840 and is full weird spelling(Andalusian) and very difficult to follow old Spanish.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. knife historyBy kris PattersonThis book provides a translation of a knife fighting manual used by gypsies and contains a lot of history of how Spanish sword fighting influenced these techniques. It also contains the original Spanish document as well as notes and translations to help the reader understand these historical fighting techniques.

This is the oldest manual on Spanish knife fighting ever published and is the only know historical text on the subject.This annotated translation provides a window to the methods of knife fighting practiced by the working class, the criminal class and the Gypsies in 19th century Spain. With original drawings, it offers a revealing glimpse into the ways in which armas blancas cortas, or small edged weapons, were used on the dark and grimy cobblestone streets of the Spanish underworld.