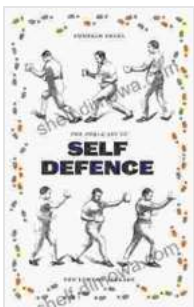


# Unveiling the Hidden Gem: The Noble English Art of Self Defence at The London Library

Nestled amidst the hallowed halls of The London Library, a hidden treasure awaits discovery. 'The Noble English Art of Self Defence', a long-forgotten masterpiece, lies within the library's rare collection, patiently waiting to reveal its secrets. This extraordinary guide, published in 1867, offers an unparalleled glimpse into the forgotten art of English self-defence, a fascinating blend of boxing, wrestling, and fencing techniques.

## The Author: Edward William Barton-Wright

The author of this remarkable work, Edward William Barton-Wright, was a true Renaissance man. Born in 1840, he excelled as a military officer, civil servant, and pioneering martial artist. Barton-Wright's passion for self-defence led him to develop his own system, which he called Bartitsu, a fusion of elements from various martial arts traditions. In 'The Noble English Art of Self Defence', he meticulously recorded his knowledge, creating a comprehensive guide for anyone seeking to master this ancient art.



## The Noble English Art of Self-Defence (The London Library Book 9) by Gene Stratton-Porter

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2632 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 97 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported



## **The Content: A Treasure Trove of Martial Knowledge**

Within the pages of this rare book, one finds a wealth of invaluable information on the techniques of self-defence as practiced in Victorian England. Barton-Wright provides detailed instructions on boxing, wrestling, and fencing, complete with illustrations that bring the techniques to life. The book also delves into the history of English self-defence, tracing its roots back to medieval times.

## **The Illustrations: A Visual Masterpiece**

One of the most striking aspects of 'The Noble English Art of Self Defence' is its stunning illustrations. Drawn by the renowned artist Frederick William Fairholt, these images not only depict the techniques described in the text but also capture the spirit of Victorian martial arts. The fighters depicted in the illustrations are powerful and agile, their every move exuding confidence and skill.

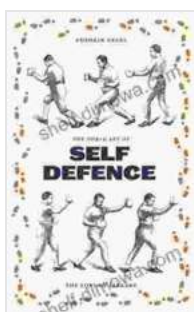
## **The Significance: Rediscovering a Lost Art**

The rediscovery of 'The Noble English Art of Self Defence' sheds new light on the rich history of martial arts in England. It challenges the misconception that martial arts were solely the domain of Eastern cultures, demonstrating that the English had their own unique and effective system of self-defence. Barton-Wright's book serves as a testament to the ingenuity and skill of English martial artists, and it inspires us to explore the depths of this forgotten tradition.

## **Preserving the Legacy: The London Library's Role**

The London Library plays a crucial role in preserving and promoting the legacy of 'The Noble English Art of Self Defence' and other rare works on martial arts. The library's vast collection of books, manuscripts, and other materials provides a unique resource for researchers and enthusiasts alike. By making rare works like Barton-Wright's book accessible, the London Library ensures that the knowledge and traditions of the past continue to inform and inspire future generations.

'The Noble English Art of Self Defence' is a hidden gem that offers a fascinating glimpse into the forgotten world of English martial arts. Edward William Barton-Wright's comprehensive guide, with its stunning illustrations and expert insights, provides invaluable knowledge for anyone interested in the history of self-defence and combat. The London Library's commitment to preserving and promoting this rare work ensures that the legacy of English martial arts will continue to be appreciated and studied for years to come.



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