

# CONTENTS

Prologue 9

## **PART I – THE DREAM**

- 1 The Stranger 17
- 2 Revolution 29
- 3 The Nature of Magic 44
- 4 The Special Ones 55
- 5 Believing the Impossible 65
- 6 The Kings of September 77
- 7 The Party Boys 86

## **PART II – THE CLIMB**

- 8 The Hill 95
- 9 Captains 106
- 10 The Epic Story of Rocky Bleier 118
- 11 Car Crash Stories and the Return of the Frisco Kid 131
- 12 Siren Songs 143
- 13 Counting Down 151

## **PART III – THE PEAK**

- 14 The Morning 167
- 15 The First Half 177
- 16 The Second Half 186
- 17 Mikey and Martin 190
- 18 The Calm 202
- 19 The Goal 205
- 20 The Longest Night 221

**PART IV – THE DECLINE**

21 Disintegration 235

22 Matt 247

23 The Three-Minute Men 254

24 Decline and Revival 264

    Postscript 274

Acknowledgements and Sources 283

Index 285