



my DIRTY *little* SECRETS

Steroids, Alcohol & God

By Tony Mandarich, as told to Sharon Shaw Elrod

As Tony Mandarich left Green Bay in February, 1993, his football career in shambles, Packer Plus staff writer, Tom Mulhern, wrote the following:

“The overriding sentiment, however, is one of emptiness. Not so much for promises unfulfilled, but for sins not repented. Maybe some day Mandarich will set the record straight and answer all the nagging questions he leaves behind. I hope so.”

For Tom and all the sports writers, fans, coaches, friends and family, *My Dirty Little Secrets* sets the record straight. On the 20th anniversary of his draft in 1989, Tony reveals the reasons why he never achieved the expectations both he and all the hype set for him. His story is an inspiration for all alcohol and drug abusers, and offers hope for those trying to help themselves out of the morass of addiction.

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Tony's story is touched by magic and also brushes against the tragic. It's a great human journey and a victory for the human spirit.

Jim Irsay

*Owner of the Indianapolis Colts
Super Bowl XLI Champions*

Tony Mandarich was born in Oakville, Ontario, Canada, the son of Croatian immigrants who instilled in him a grit and determination to accomplish the impossible. Tony was on his way to the NFL, following a highly successful and nationally publicized collegiate career at Michigan State University. He was the number two draft pick in 1989 and joined the Green Bay Packers. But the hype about his strength and standing as a football player, along with addictions, was more than he could live up to, and his life came crashing down around him. After three more years of living with addiction, Tony accepted God's hand, went into treatment and now considers it a privilege to be able to help other addicts when called upon.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Tony Mandarich

Mandarich Media Group, LLC

480-277-7888

MandarichMedia@mac.com