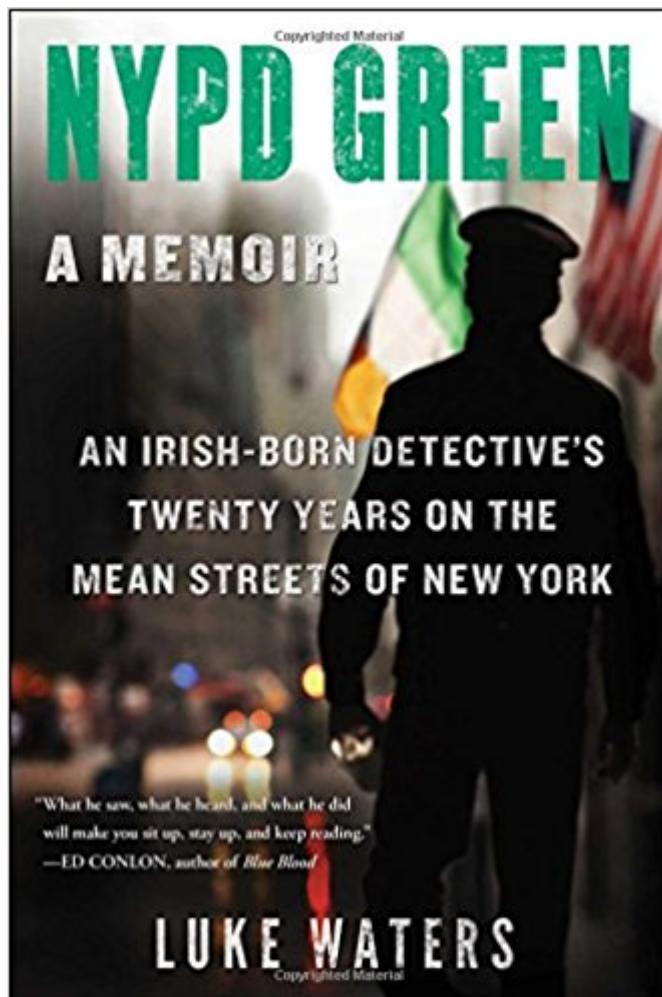


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NYPD Green: A Memoir



Synopsis

In this gritty, sometimes hilarious, but always brutally honest memoir, Irish immigrant and retired NYPD homicide detective Luke Waters shares the darker and harder side of the police force that “will make you sit up, stay up, and keep reading” (Edward Conlon, author of *Blue Blood*). Growing up in the rough outskirts of northern Dublin at a time when joining the guards, the army, or the civil service was the height of most parents’ ambitions for their children, Luke Waters knew he was destined for a career in some sort of law enforcement. Dreaming of becoming a police officer, Waters immigrated to the United States in search of better employment opportunities and joined the NYPD. Despite a successful career with one of the most formidable and revered police forces in the world, Waters’ reality as a cop in New York was a far cry from his fantasy of serving and protecting his community. Over the course of a career spanning more than twenty years—from rookie to lead investigator, during which time he saw New York transform from the crack epidemic of the ’90s to the low crime stats of today—Waters discovered that both sides of the law were entrenched in crooked culture. In *NYPD Green* Waters offers a gripping and fascinating account filled with details from real criminal cases involving murder, theft, gang violence, and more, and takes you into the thick of the danger and scandal of life as a New York cop—both on and off the beat. Balanced with wit and humor, Waters’ account paints a vivid picture of the colorful characters on the force and on the streets and provides an unflinching—often critical—look at the corruption and negligence in the justice system put in place to protect us, showing the hidden side of police work where many officers are motivated not purely by the desire to serve the community, but rather by the “green” earned in overtime, expenses, and allowances. A multifaceted and engaging narrative about the immigrant experience in America, Waters’ story is also one of personal growth, success, and disillusionment—a rollicking journey through the day-to-day in the New York Police Department.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Not every weird thing that happens on our streets is harmless, and no one knows this better than retired NYPD homicide detective Luke Waters, who has written an engaging and often utterly hilarious memoir about his successful career with one of the most respected police forces in the world. . . . Waters writes with urgency about the crooked goings on he witnessed on both sides of the blue line. What's fascinating is the book's total immersion. . . . Waters is such a natural and engaging narrator, and you can tell right away why certain stories have stayed with him, and even haunted him, years after they concluded." (Irish Central) "Waters may have always dreamed of being a cop, but he's a natural-born storyteller, as well. In *NYPDGreen*, he takes the cop-beat genre and stretches it into a lively, humorous, entertaining read that Hollywood might want to prick up its ears at." (Booklist) "Equal parts Gaelic charm and cop cynicism, surprisingly frank and amusing recollections." (Kirkus Reviews) "Waters' story represents what many officers do daily, their jobs, and all of the gritty stuff that goes with it. . . . this is for fans of true crime, criminal procedure, and memoirs." (Library Journal) "He tells his immigrant tale with gruff charm." (Newsday) "What to Read This Week" "Luke Waters will make you think twice about illegal immigrants. Mr. Waters takes readers on an inspiring, inside tour of the human toll, and the satisfactions, of becoming a cop." (New York Times) "Metropolitan" "He does draw attention to important play and apathy issues within the New York Police Department, and his account of 9/11 terrorist attacks and their aftermath makes for riveting reading." (Publishers Weekly)

Luke Waters came from modest beginnings in Finglas on Dublin's Northside, but nevertheless dreamed of becoming a detective. He initially planned on following in his grandfather's and brother's footsteps in joining An Garda Siochana, but in 1985, America beckoned. After some time as a barman, he enrolled in the NYPD, working his way from

rookie through Narcotics before becoming a homicide detective. Waters retired from the NYPD in 2011 and now lives in County Cavan with his wife and three children. NYPD Green is his first book.

this is the memoir of NYPD Officer Luke Waters who came to America from economically depressed 1980's Ireland ,initially illegally and went from working in New York City bars to eventually joining the NYPD. This is an immigrant success story where Luke Waters becomes a Bronx Homicide Detective. Green in the title refers to both his Irish heritage and job connections and the money to be made in overtime. The author writes well and there are entertaining stories straight from NYC headlines that the author was involved in. Other than the fact that the authors family was involved in Police work in Ireland and that he grew up in humble beginnings there is very little description of the drive and educational background of the author which besides his Irish connections in the Department would help explain his rather rapid ascent from fixed post to Narcotics and Homicide Detective in a short period of time. This book is an insightful view on the workings of the NYPD in pursuing justice written by an author who obviously has the gift of gab. If you like realistic police stories you will enjoy.

Its amazing how people of good will continue to go into these thankless professions. The book portrays not just the fight against crime and criminals but also against the perversions of the bureaucracy and politicians who savage good will as much as the criminals.

Very good read keeps one involved and finds it hard to put down. Looking forward to next book.

Standard tale of inner city police life. Not especially memorable except his detail about how he received his citizenship. Amazed me

All great books & music

Good book of a mans career and how his irish political connections moved him to good units with in the new york city police dept. Well written by a novice writer, summary of police investigations in his careeer.

Goos cop book. I'm Irish descent, so I enjoyed it even more.

gives an insider view of why an undocumented man became a citizen and a cop in NYC. well worth the time.

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