



## A Cop's Life: True Stories from the Heart Behind the Badge

*By Sgt. Randy Sutton*

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In this powerful collection of tales from the front lines, Las Vegas police sergeant Sutton goes beyond the neon into the dark corners of society, presenting the ultimate depiction of the hardest job there is. Martin's Press.

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**A Cop's Life: True Stories from the Heart Behind the Badge** By Sgt. Randy Sutton Bibliography

- Rank: #1296568 in Books
- Brand: Randy Sutton
- Published on: 2006-08-01
- Released on: 2006-08-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .3" w x 5.00" l, .69 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 288 pages

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

*Starred Review.* Veteran Las Vegas police sergeant Sutton, who edited the acclaimed *True Blue*, brilliantly evokes the tormented inner life of the average cop with 20 short but powerful autobiographical sketches. With a novelist's skill, Sutton makes fresh situations that could, in lesser hands, come across as hoary clichés. The broken lives Sutton encounters—the suicides, gangbangers, the mentally ill, the burnt-out officers tempted to eat their guns and the innocents in the wrong place at the wrong time—come vividly to life. The memorable figures include a boy who attempts to protect the grandmother who cares for him from violent punks, and a young girl whose trust in the cynical Sutton helps him gain perspective on his job. The author doesn't minimize the temptation to respond with force that is often the officer's instinctive response to mindless cruelty, and unflinchingly portrays the stresses that plague him when his best efforts to protect or save lives fell short—stresses that led him to consider ending his life. Some may find the closing section, a fictional Christmas parable, slightly sappy, but that doesn't diminish Sutton's achievement in enabling the reader to pound the pavement in his shoes. (July)

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### Review

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"Las Vegas police sergeant tells it like it is in 20 brief tales from the beat and wins wide acclaim for his honesty and his craftsmanship." -- "The ""Atlanta"" Journal Constitution"

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"Another gritty, intimate look at the day-to-day life of the cop on the beat, going behind the investigations and arrests to reveal the truly funny and weird things that can, and often do, happen to cops in the line of duty... [a] powerful and emotionally charged book... filled with real-life stories that are touching, harrowing, and haunting... the next best thing to actually being in a patrol car with a cop on duty, and better and more real than any screenplay or work of fiction."

--"King Features Syndicate"

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"Brilliantly evokes the tormented inner life of the average cop... with a novelist's skill, Sutton makes fresh situations that could, in lesser hands, come across as hoary clichés... poignant and well-written tales of the real world of policing." -- "American Police Beat"

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"Compelling." -- "Las Vegas"" ""City"" Life"

"Randy Sutton has written a powerful firsthand account of the life of a street cop that will give you a glimpse into a world about which the average citizen knows absolutely nothing."

--Phillip M. Margolin, "New York Times" "best-selling author of "Sleeping Beauty" and "Lost"" ""Lake""

""A Cop's Life" is a compelling, sometimes wrenching, always insightful read that takes us into the soul of a working cop. Randy Sutton has lived it all from the idealistic dream to the alcohol-haunted nightmare, and he lays it all out in prose that marks him a true craftsman. The last chapter, The Messenger, bears comparison with O. Henry's "The Gift of the Magi" for all-time terrific Christmas tear-jerker. I highly recommend this

book."--John Lescroart, "New York" Times "best-selling author of "The Second Chair "and "The Motive"  
""

" Randy Sutton's "A Cop's Life" is a remarkably honest, insightful, and moving account of its subject. Where do these men and women get their courage, how do they maintain their hope, what keeps them from writing in the face of the worst tragedies life can dish out? Read the book and Sutton will show you. Like the cops themselves, you'll be crushed by the horror of incidents like those recounted in ' My Child' and ' The Man of the House, ' then uplifted-- hell, redeemed-- by magic moments like the one Sutton describes with affecting grace in ' The Journey.' This is a stunningly good book by a gifted writer. Thanks, Randy, for lifting away the badge and exposing the enormous heart behind it." -- Barry Eisler, author of "Rain Storm" and "Hard Rain"

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From the Back Cover

A COP'S LIFE...

is about a midnight call that brings you to a grandmother battered to death in her bed while three punks go running and laughing through the night....

A COP'S LIFE...

is about the man in the Ninja outfit who absorbs a full magazine of hollowpoint bullets and still raises his gun to kill you...

A COP'S LIFE...

is about the honor student, the pride and hope of his family, hanging from a speaker wire, or the baby who dies in your arms, or the people who think you're a hero--or the devil...

In this powerful collection of tales from the frontlines, Las Vegas police sergeant Randy Sutton goes beyond the neon into the dark corners of society, putting us into the driver's seat of his cruiser and a job that ricochets from moments of sheer terror to coffee-fueled boredom--with stops on the way at every conceivable act of human folly and depravity. With a poet's touch, and the unflinching realism of a crime scene photograph, A COP'S LIFE is the ultimate depiction of the hardest job there is.

"Brilliantly evokes the tormented inner life of the average cop."

--"Publishers Weekly" (starred review)

"A compelling, sometimes wrenching, always insightful read that takes us into the soul of a working cop."

--John Lescroart, "New York Times" bestselling author of "The Second Chair" and "The Motive"

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Jean Parks:**

The book A Cop's Life: True Stories from the Heart Behind the Badge give you a sense of feeling enjoy for your spare time. You may use to make your capable more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting anxiety or having big problem together with your subject. If you can make studying a book A Cop's Life: True Stories from the Heart Behind the Badge to be your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your own personal capable, increase your knowledge about many or all subjects. You could know everything if you like available and read a book A Cop's Life: True Stories from the Heart Behind the Badge. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science e-book or encyclopedia or other folks. So , how do you think about this guide?

#### **Anna Cooper:**

This A Cop's Life: True Stories from the Heart Behind the Badge book is not really ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book will be information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper you read a lot of information you will get. This kind of A Cop's Life: True Stories from the Heart Behind the Badge without we know teach the one who reading it become critical in thinking and analyzing. Don't possibly be worry A Cop's Life: True Stories from the Heart Behind the Badge can bring if you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves' grow to be full because you can have it within your lovely laptop even phone. This A Cop's Life: True Stories from the Heart Behind the Badge having great arrangement in word and layout, so you will not feel uninterested in reading.

#### **Laura Crabtree:**

The publication untitled A Cop's Life: True Stories from the Heart Behind the Badge is the publication that recommended to you to read. You can see the quality of the guide content that will be shown to you. The language that writer use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The article author was did a lot of exploration when write the book, therefore the information that they share for your requirements is absolutely accurate. You also might get the e-book of A Cop's Life: True Stories from the Heart Behind the Badge from the publisher to make you a lot more enjoy free time.

**William Stewart:**

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