



What Cops Know

By Connie Fletcher

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In their own words, American police officers describe their life and work among misfits, junkies, prostitutes, killers, psychopaths, and victims in luxury neighborhoods and on the meanest turf. "For anybody who ever wondered what it's like behind a badge, this is the book".--San Francisco Chronicle.



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Fletcher asks 125 Chicago cops about working on the street; crimes involving violence, property, sex and narcotics; and organized crime. "The police officers are forthright, the narrative seamless," said PW.

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From Library Journal

The author, who teaches journalism at Loyola University of Chicago, interviewed 125 of that city's police officers to discover what their job is like both technically (how they deal with crime and criminals) and emotionally (how it affects them). Roughly 900 excerpts are grouped by topic, ranging from property crimes to organized crime. Excerpts are unsigned, but each section concludes with brief biographies of those quoted. This first-person, humorous, shocking, and at times sensational material effectively brings the reader inside police life, particularly in the chapters on "The Street" and "Narcotics." Loose organization and lack of scientific method limit the book's usefulness for criminal justice students--Anthony V. Bouza 's *The Police Mystique* (LJ 4/1/90) provides a more thoughtful description and critique of police and the criminal justice system--but for the general reader it both satisfies curiosity and offers insight.

- *Mary Jane Brustman, SUNY at Albany Libs.*

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Users Review

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Jerald Higgins:

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