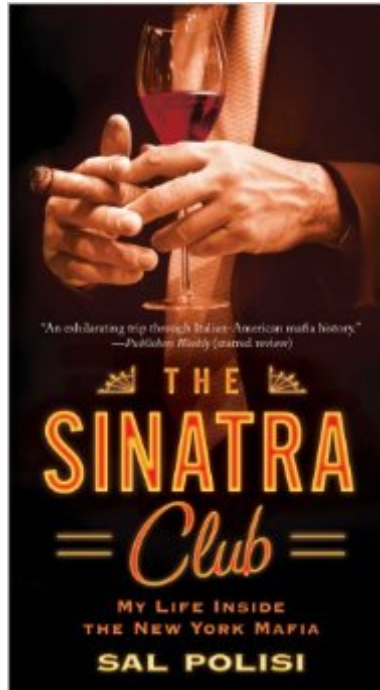


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The Sinatra Club: My Life Inside The New York Mafia



Synopsis

An exhilarating trip through Italian-American Mafia history • (Publishers Weekly, starred review) this is Sal Polisi's riveting and darkly hilarious chronicle of the inner workings and larger-than-life characters inside the New York Mob. > > As a member of New York's feared Colombo Family, Polisi ran The Sinatra Club, an illegal after-hours gambling den that was a magic kingdom of crime and a hangout for up-and-coming mobsters like John Gotti and the three wiseguys immortalized in Martin Scorsese's "Henry Hill, Jimmy Burke, and Tommy DeSimone. But the nonstop thrills of Polisi's criminal glory days abruptly ended when he was busted for drug trafficking. Already sickened by the bloodbath that engulfed the Mob as it teetered toward extinction, he flipped and became one of a breed he had loathed all his life—a rat. In this shocking, pulse-pounding, and, at times, darkly hilarious first-person chronicle, he paints a never-before-seen picture of a larger-than-life secret underworld that, thanks to guys like him, no longer exists.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"We were at a joint called the Fireplace in Ozone Park, Queens, when I first heard Johnny Boy's name. It was the summer of 1968, not long after Bobby Kennedy got whacked. I knew better than to ask my boss, Dominic, who I was with that night and who was a hit man himself, about Bobby, but I assumed it was a Mob job like his brother." YES! I will be reading more of "The Sinatra Club." by Sal Polisi with Steve Dougherty. With an opening sentence like that, how could I not? The book goes on to be a thoroughly engrossing and entertaining read. Kudos Mr. Dougherty and Mr. Polisi for giving us a fresh, provocative and uncensored account of some really scary people and times. It seems

the mob can frighten even itself. At first this highly entertaining, hyper-paced memoir, of mid-level mobster "Crazy Sal" Polisi, feels as if you stumbled on the diary of a sociopath. Names, dates, times, and places--nothing is left to the imagination in this tale of high times and low-life's. The casual violence alone, in this warts, scars-and-all memoir, gives you the uneasy feeling that you've stumbled on something you have no business reading. Historic events, from the significant (the Kennedy assassination and the Apollo moon landing) to the mundane (Disney World's inaugural opening) are noted alongside bank robberies, drug deals and murders and help place the reader in each grizzly moment. (The Beatles, no less, play an unwitting role in the mobsters' skullduggery.) Evil does not survive in a vacuum and the frustrating part of *The Sinatra Club* is how often those entrusted with public safety, from the cop on the corner to judges and J. Edgar Hoover himself, either turn a blind eye or profit from mob crimes.

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