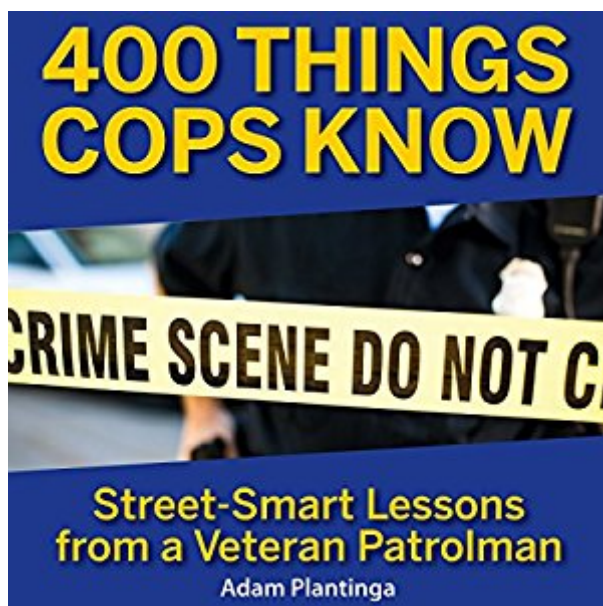


The book was found

400 Things Cops Know: Street-Smart Lessons From A Veteran Patrolman



Synopsis

How does it feel to be in a high-speed car chase? What is it like to shoot someone? What do cops really think about the citizens they serve? Nearly everyone has wondered what it's like to be a police officer, but no civilian really understands what happens on the job. 400 Things Cops Know shows police work on the inside, from the viewpoint of the regular cop on the beat - a profession that can range from rewarding to bizarre to terrifying, all within the course of an eight-hour shift. Written by veteran police sergeant Adam Plantinga, 400 Things Cops Know brings the listener into life the way cops experience it - a life of danger, frustration, occasional triumph, and plenty of grindingly hard routine work. In a laconic, no-nonsense, dryly humorous style, Plantinga tells what he's learned from 13 years as a patrolman, from the everyday to the exotic - how to know at a glance when a suspect is carrying a weapon or is going to attack, how to kick a door down, how to drive in a car chase without recklessly endangering the public, why you should always carry cigarettes, even if you don't smoke (offering a smoke is the best way to lure a suicide to safety), and what to do if you find a severed limb (don't put it on ice - you need to keep it dry.) 400 Things Cops Know deglamorizes police work, showing the gritty, stressful, sometimes disgusting reality of life on patrol, from the possibility of infection - criminals don't always practice good hygiene - to the physical, psychological, and emotional toll of police work. Plantinga shows what cops experience of death, the legal system, violence, prostitution, drug use, the social causes and consequences of crime, alcoholism, and more. Sometimes heartbreaking and often hilarious, 400 Things Cops Know is an eye-opening revelation of what life on the beat is really all about.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 7 hours and 4 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Audible Studios

Audible.com Release Date: June 9, 2015

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B00VS2Z0WW

Best Sellers Rank: #15 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > True Crime #80 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > True Crime

Customer Reviews

What an interesting, well written description of what it's like to see through the eyes of a cop. This book is like sitting around a coffee table and learning things you've always wanted to know but might not ever have the nerve or time to ask. If you're considering a career in law enforcement, read this book. If you're writing about police officers, read this book. 400 Things Cops Know virtually covers everything that you may go through in the course of your career. Sgt. Plantinga brings out the good, the bad and the ugly of working the streets, and the knowledge he can't fix everything, but he's there to do his job. So many insights. His writing is powerful, humorous at times, gripping and heart wrenching at others. If you read this book and still decide to go through the police academy, you most likely have a calling to this type of work. Moreover, you will graduate with your eyes wide open.

Cops are getting a bad rap these days, and much of the narrative isn't from their perspective. This book will share some insight into what they deal with day-in, day-out. It helped me balance my views on events past, present, and future.....and it's a fun, interesting read.

I thought this might be an interesting book but I was pleasantly surprised with the depth of information here and the presentation was done so well that I found it hard to put the book down until I had read the last page. I downloaded the sample, read four pages and knew I wanted more!

Great book. In light of some recent events, his point that police are always authorized to use 1 higher level of force than they face, i.e., criminal has a knife, cop gets to use a gun, is very telling. Regardless of how I feel about that policy (I can see both sides of the argument), it is an important point that I have never heard mentioned by any of the recent analysts.

"If you open the backpack of a meth user you are guaranteed to find at least two things: porn and bicycle parts," is one of the more whimsical of the 28 things Plantinga writes that cops know about booze and drugs. The book artfully explains why that is, along with 399 more insights into police and their work. He writes with an often self-effacing humility, without glamorizing the job, and without making excuses or giving his fellow officers or himself an easy pass. At the same time he deftly portrays the great challenges and occasionally immensely rewarding aspects of being a cop in a way that is smart, engaging, and entertaining. A great read for anybody who might find the drama and challenges of police work interesting (Is that maybe just about everybody?). I also have

Plantinga to thank for introducing me to the word "salubrious." Top notch.

This is a fantastic book that appeals not only to those interested in law enforcement, but really to anyone just as a study of human nature in general. The book is broken down into small, bite-sized pieces so even people who don't like to read much will enjoy this book. It gives you a window into the daily life of a patrol cop and the difference scenarios they have to deal with, but it also covers a lot just on human behavior in general which I found fascinating. It's a quick read, well-organized, and I would recommend it to anyone interested in law enforcement, crime novels, psychology, sociology, or anthropology. Great read!

I had only read a review and excerpts in the WSJ, but as my husband is a retired police officer, I knew I had to get this for him. He can't stop reading out loud to me from it. It would be annoying if it weren't so endearing. The author has a background in WI which makes it even more interesting for him, as he knows some of the people and places referenced. Thank God, there are a few things my husband didn't know about--because he never had to be in such terrible circumstances. It's a fascinating insight into the police world and in these difficult times I wish more people would read it to know what police officers go through.

Love this. Wasn't exactly helpful on telling one what to do to protect oneself. But very easy to read, I had a hard time putting it down to go to work. I didn't realize just how hard it is being a cop. It would take a special kind of person to be able to do that job. He has a wry sense of humor and it makes the book even more readable. I truly enjoyed this and plan on keeping it in my library.,

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