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Eyes Pried Open: Rookie FBI Agent

EYES PRIED OPEN:
Rookie FBI Agent

written by:
Former FBI Agent
Vincent Sellers



Synopsis

In 2005, after working for ten years in a comfortable but mundane corporate job in San Antonio, Texas, Vincent Sellers successfully managed to leave behind a dreary cubicle landscape and begin the exciting challenges of a crime-fighting FBI agent. His journey is chronicled in *Eyes Pried Open: Rookie FBI Agent*. Readers will experience both the highs and the lows of an FBI agent working bank robbery, kidnapping, murder-for-hire cases, and border-related crimes in San Diego, California. The book's from-the-heart narrative demonstrates that the typical lifestyle of an FBI agent assigned to a violent crime squad may not be for everyone. This is the first book to be written from the fresh perspective of an agent who joined the FBI after 9/11.

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Customer Reviews

This intriguing, well-written, informative, and personal account of a real former FBI agent provided the reader a greater understanding and appreciation of the physical and emotional toll, of the dedication, and of the commitment of the remarkable, often self-sacrificing agents who help secure and protect our society. Unlike many movies and television programs, this book provided an honest depiction of the realities of being an agent, such as the man hours spent having to rescue drug

lords' relatives, inability to investigate white collar crimes because of the lack of funds and manpower, and time spend on completing paperwork at the expense of having that time to investigate and to capture dangerous criminals. The author clearly depicts his occasional frustration with and admiration and love of his former profession. It leaves the reader with much of the same feelings.

I purchased *Eyes Pried Open: Rookie FBI Agent* for the sole purpose of learning about the FBI for my writing. I was not disappointed. From Vincent Seller's long wait to be accepted, the brutal challenges set forth in the Academy, to how an agent is assigned when he graduates, this is a well-thought out book full of insights. I think we glamorize the FBI and see them as living an action-packed adventure every day. The stories the author tells are interesting, but at times focus on the monotony, long hours and sacrifice of the job--and not what we might see in a movie -- by the way, loved his movie references--and the fact that he gave it all he had before realizing the career wasn't for him. I truly hope the FBI changes its stance and reconsiders applicants' backgrounds before assigning agents. I feel the Bureau lost a good man. If you have ambition to enter the FBI, I recommend you read *Eyes Pried Open* because it will give you insight. I've read FBI books or talked to contacts who don't touch on near as much as Mr. Sellers does in this book. It answered my questions and I have numerous bookmarks waiting for me on my Kindle. As well written as the book is, it does contain typos. But they are minor compared to how much information I gained. Thanks!

It's OK. I know more about the FBI and how it operates at the agent level than I did before. But there's just not a lot of interesting info. Maybe he couldn't tell all the details, but that means it isn't much of a book. Agent training was hard. Like boot Camp. He would go out on arrests, be very nervous, but everything ended up OK. Government Bureaucracy is frustrating. It was a life consuming job. That is about it. No real details on any of his investigations or how he did his job. It is all very high level stuff. It starts to get very repetitive a little over half way through.

I was overall impressed that the author did not give into bravado or hyperbole in achievement while discussing his journey in the FBI. He implicitly makes that case that critical thinking about crime and punishment may be detrimental to the psyche of law enforcement officer. More importantly he gives what seems to be a rather unvarnished view of the Bureau, its training, mission, and agents. His perspective as an average guy is compelling and an interesting read. My one critique is that I don't think he gave the bureau the proper amount of time (2 years) to make a decision for resignation.

Understand totally it was in the author and wife's best interests, but a a bit demeaning to the thousands of applicants who would have loved his position and likely made a successful 20 year career. To be honest though the recruitment and administrative process should be equally blamed. There are certain attributes that need to be better assessed such as resiliency and determination in the face of personal adversity. I am happy for author and family. Just feel sorry for the applicant who didn't get a chance because of a "wrong" interview answer or not running fast enough on a physical test.

There is inspiration and testimony abound to see what self-discipline, determination and hard work can get you, regardless of age. The author is an extraordinarily, talented young man. He opened his heart and soul to the reader to share his inner most feelings from start to finish and how these experiences affected him, his work and personal life. They were daunting, demoralizing, grueling, relentless, scary, funny, and even embarrassing at times. These truths speak well of his character and integrity. He achieved great accomplishment, what he set out to do, and continues to have the utmost respect for the FBI and staff. Like any bureaucracy, even the FBI cannot overcome obstacles to put all apprehended criminals away. Yet they are relentless in their effort to fight crime and protect us. They are to be commended but are rarely seen in that light. Thank you for a glimpse into the real world of the FBI and what it takes to become an agent.

I recommend the book for anyone who has a curiosity about the FBI and what life in the FBI is really like. The book is very well written and very easy to read. The book focuses on the real life details on both the requirements and difficulty of being an agent thru boot camp to specific job assignments to the point I felt I was there. It is written from a first person perspective which covers the writer's emotions and inner thoughts.

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