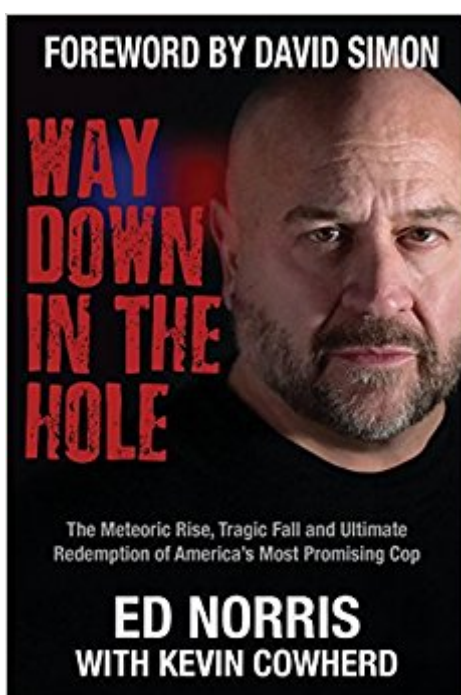


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# Way Down In The Hole: The Meteoric Rise, Tragic Fall And Ultimate Redemption Of America's Most Promising Cop



## Synopsis

Ed Norris' career arc was dazzling. He spent 20 years as a crime-fighting savant with the New York Police Department, rising from beat cop to deputy commissioner of operations at age 36. As police commissioner of Baltimore, he breathed life into a demoralized force that lowered the city's infamous homicide count for the first time in a decade. After the 9/11 attacks, he took over the Maryland State Police and pushed innovative anti-terrorism strategies that made him a national leader in the field. At the University of Virginia, they taught a graduate course about how his leadership techniques transformed one of the most violent cities in the country. He was the golden boy of law enforcement, a brash, larger-than-life figure with a taste for fine restaurants, bespoke clothing and fast motorcycles. Then it all came crashing down. An investigation into a little-known police expense account morphed into what many felt was a politically-motivated hit job by federal prosecutors. Corruption charges were spiced with lurid allegations of pricey dinners with women and gifts purchased at Victoria's Secret. Ed Norris protested his innocence, but landed in federal prison. Thus began the hellish ordeal that ultimately cost him his livelihood, reputation, health and marriage. This is the incredible story of America's most promising cop, the dark forces that brought him down and his long, emotional journey back from the abyss.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

-Ed is a cop's cop. But this is not your typical police story; you'll have a difficult time putting this one down.- --Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., former Governor of Maryland-Ed Norris has lived a roller-coaster life from American Hero who led the charge against entrenched crime to scapegoat for the political

ambitions of others. He knows the dark underbelly of the American crime scene. His story is powerful and provocative. Every citizen should read this; those who do will be wiser for the effort. --James G. Clawson, Johnson & Higgins Professor of Business, Emeritus, The Darden School, University of Virginia "Ed is a cop's cop. But this is not your typical police story; you'll have a difficult time putting this one down." --Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., former Governor of Maryland "Ed Norris has lived a roller-coaster life from American Hero who led the charge against entrenched crime to scapegoat for the political ambitions of others. He knows the dark underbelly of the American crime scene. His story is powerful and provocative. Every citizen should read this; those who do will be wiser for the effort." --James G. Clawson, Johnson & Higgins Professor of Business, Emeritus, The Darden School, University of Virginia

What a story! As a former Baltimore resident I remember watching how our city was declining under Mayor O'Malley. Ed was used by O'Malley and then paid the price when he resigned from Baltimore Police Dept. to run the Maryland State Police. Gov. Ehrlich was an excellent governor and knew what was going on in Baltimore City. He gave Ed Norris the opportunity to use his talents in law enforcement. Did not make O'Malley happy and thus, the story. Reading the behind the scenes details of what happened to Commissioner Norris was riveting. I could not put the book down. Great job Kevin Cowherd, as usual.

Just finished "Way Down In The Hole" by Ed Norris. I recommend it highly. An easy read, the word that would characterize the book is that as a tale, it is truly "unvarnished". The author pulls no punches and evinces candor in the tale of a modern Icarus. Great professional successes at a young age projected him into a higher ether. There could be some modern day parallels here for one who suddenly disrupts the norm in an effort to improve the streets he was responsible for. It may also speak to the fate of those who fall in the wrong side of the Media and become their target. It is not an apologia. Mr. Norris readily admits his faults. One is left wondering why this rose to the level of a federal prosecution and a term of incarceration. Most importantly, it's an instructive tale on the meaning of redemption and of one having the courage to get up and salvage your life. Read it! You'll like it.

This cop memoir is the real deal. I was on the job in the NYPD over 32 years and everything Eddie Norris says about the jealousy, backstabbing and just plain lazy incompetence in the upper reaches of the police department is absolutely true. It's something the public never sees. Although we never

worked together in Midtown South in the early 80's I knew him as a great, natural street cop that when he shot up the ranks culminating with his promotion to Deputy Commissioner at age 36 he never forgot where he came from. Legends from the ranks like Jack Maple, John Timony, Louie Anemone, and Ed Norris under Bratton's leadership took the Titanic and turned it into the Queen Mary. The book is unsparing in it's depiction of those heady days of the NYPD. Incredibly, according to this riveting book, the politics of city hall as well as police headquarters in Baltimore made NYC look like Romper Room. The slimy politicians, the ambitious unscrupulous Feds, and a frenzied tear em' down media are just too much to overcome. I'm glad to see Ed back in Charm city with a popular radio show and I can only hope that it's taken as a big F U to the scumbags who railroaded him. A great, brutally honest read. Walter Liddy. Ret. NYPD

This book really lays it all out there. The corruption and per-occupation with race/politics runs deep in Baltimore. Ed Norris does a good job of showing how the back stabbing and petty political games has held the crime and drug saturated city back for years. Great read. A real eye opener.

The bureaucracy that runs rampant in police departments has always been talked about, but seeing it in black and white, written by a person who's gone against it he is entire career is something completely different. You could say that this is one man's word against a host of others, but given that he's been quoted in other publications and vetted by a host of others, this man speaks the truth. Plain and simple, Ed Norris is the man. This is a rare glimpse into a world very few people get to see. How does a police department tick? What are the issues that plagued the NY and Baltimore police departments? How were they resolved? You don't have to be a fan of law enforcement to like this book, this is a great story plain and simple. Sometimes funny, sometimes sad, and the scary part is it's all true. Do yourself a favor and get this book, you won't be disappointed.

Great book, I love how he attacks the laziness and incompetence that is unfortunately protected in so many different lines of work.

A great read. War stories from a Cops Cop about his rise and fall. Intriguing and engrossing stories policing and politics. Justice and injustice all in one.

Ed Norris is definitely what Baltimore needed then,...and needs now!!! One of the BEST reads! He gets to the point, and sugar coats nothing. It's sad that they railroaded him, but he came out on top!! I

recommend this to anyone in law enforcement, or to anyone that wants a "can't put down" read! It's one of the best I've read in a long time. Highly recommend this book!! Thanks Ed!!

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