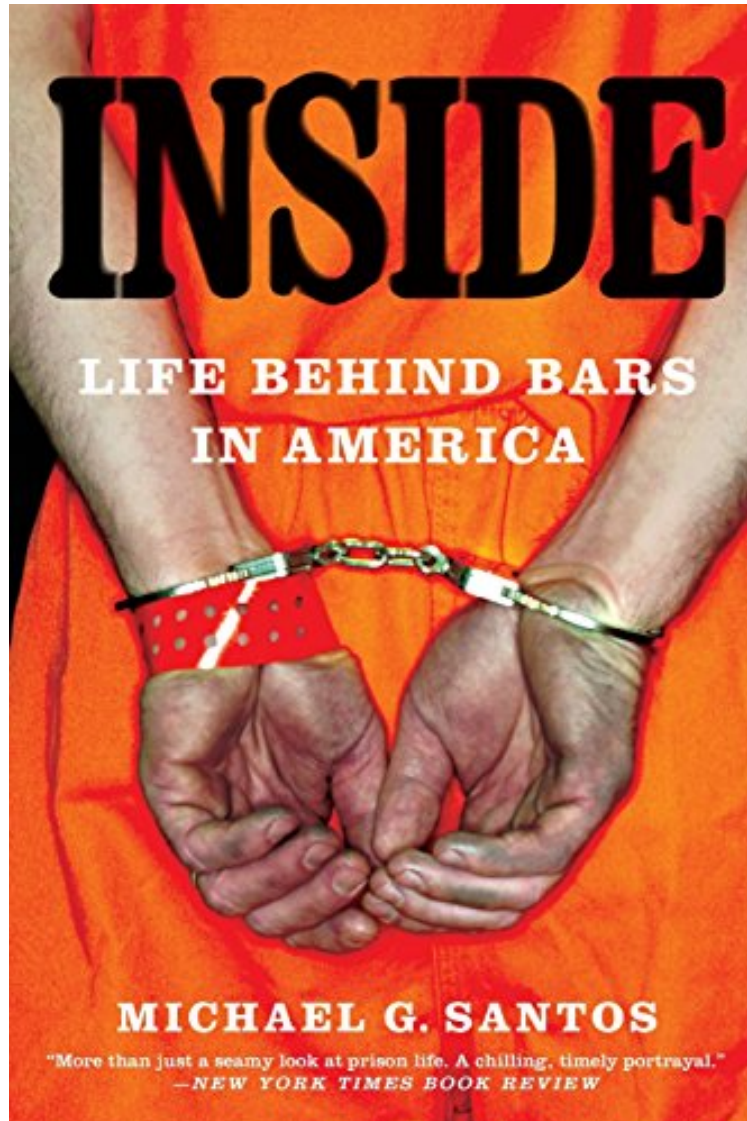


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## Inside: Life Behind Bars in America

*Michael G. Santos*

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#483479 in Books Michael G Santos 2007-06-26 2007-06-26 Original language: English PDF # 1 .32 x .93 x 5.551, .67 #File Name: 0312343507336 pages Inside Life Behind Bars in America | File size: 44.Mb

**Michael G. Santos : Inside: Life Behind Bars in America** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Inside: Life Behind Bars in America:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Mr. Santos, a non-violent drug offender, tells ...By Lee ClaireMr. Santos, a non-violent drug offender, tells his story - being routed through federal prisons for over two decades- as an observer of the system and the humans trapped in it. The book is told almost as series of short stories about inmates and correctional personnel and is worth the read. The message: let's put some correction and redemption back in our

so-called and truly screwed up "correctional" system. Only criticism, and its major for me, is Mr. Santos's bizarre apologia for one very, very wealthy federal inmate- Arnie Bengis, environmental menace and fishing criminal who trafficked disadvantaged South African women to work in his fish factory in America for \$4 an hour and almost single-handedly brought one of South Africa's fisheries to the brink of extinction. A weird detour given Mr. Santos's hands-off treatment of the offenses that landed the rest of his fellow travelers in the federal prison system. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. True Insights into the prison system By KLN This book gave me such an insight into prison life. I have a friend in a state prison and sent it to him. He too liked it. It helped me to see what he goes through every day. Him being in a state prison some of the stuff that happens in the Federal system does not happen in the state prisons. If you want to understand anyone that is in the correctional system this book will give you insights to how they are treated by other inmates and the guards. This book definitely helped my friend and I grow closer. My friend did the Straight A Guide that Michael G. Santos founded. It helped both of us tremendously from him doing the workbook. It is a book worth reading if you know anyone in the prison system or just want to learn more about the system. I think it is a great book for even guards to read. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good look at the spectrum of US Federal Prisons By Diana ESI I liked this book and found it to be fairly realistic. I volunteer inside U.S. prisons and jails. There were some events that seemed overly dramatized to me but the book contains a lot of excellent information about how prisons and jails are not supporting rehabilitation but merely warehousing inmates. In my experience there are some prisons that are doing a better job with rehabilitation but that does not seem to be the norm, particularly in the higher security level facilities. This book was interesting in its look at a variety of security levels and types of facilities.

Before Orange is the New Black, there was Inside. American jails and prisons confine nearly 13.5 million people each year. Despite these disturbing numbers, little is known about life inside beyond the mythology of popular culture. Michael G. Santos, a federal prisoner nearing the end of his second decade of continuous confinement, documents the lives of the men warehoused in the American prison system. Inside: Life Behind Bars in America, his first book for the general public, takes us behind those bars and into the chaos of the cellblock. Capturing the voices of his fellow prisoners with perfect pitch, Santos makes the tragic and at times inspiring stories of men from the toughest gang leaders to the richest Wall Street criminals come alive. From drug schemes, murders for hire, and even a prostitution ring that trades on the flesh of female prison guards, this book contains the never-before-seen details of prison life that at last illuminate the varied ways in which men experience life behind bars in America.

From Publishers Weekly In 1987, during the height of the Reagan administration's "Just say no" campaign, 21-year-old Santos received a 45-year sentence for his involvement in the distribution of large amounts of cocaine. Now, after nearly 20 years in jail, Santos has devoted himself to making the best out of his incarceration. Having received a B.A. and M.A. from accredited universities, he spends much of his free time reading and writing about the U.S. criminal system. Here, he uses his insider perspective to provide a blunt, often disturbing look at America's prison system. More anecdotal than personal or analytical, his account illustrates the presence of gangs, drugs, prostitution and rape in prison through a series of dramatized stories. Although the dialogue is at times overwrought, the stories themselves are shocking and illuminating. Together they paint a picture of prison culture and its dehumanizing effects on the people who live within it. The book also functions beyond its role as an exposé, effectively questioning the efficacy of modern prisons. Santos rejects the idea that the "correctional system" does much correcting, and provides repeated examples of the sense of hopelessness inmates suffer during their sentences. (Aug.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. More than just a seamy look at prison life. A chilling, timely portrayal. New York Times Book Inside is actually two books. The red meat of the book is a collection of more than 100 prisoners' accounts, including every gruesome detail. But between shocking tales of inmate misbehavior are Santos' convincing theories about what it all means. Sean Bosker, New York Post The tone and his focus on other inmates' experiences rather than his own lend the book weight and authenticity, opening a window onto the corrupt, violent and ultimately counter-productive society of American prisons. Edward Humes, Los Angeles Times Shocking and illuminating. Publishers Weekly Inside is not recommended for the faint at heart. Santos eloquently and engagingly captures the subculture of the prisoner. Inside is a must-read. Sam Torres, Ph.D., Professor of Criminal Justice, California State University, Long Beach, and Senior U.S. Probation Officer (Ret.) From the Back Cover American jails and prisons confine nearly 13.5 million people each year, and it is estimated that 6 to 7 percent of the U.S. population will be confined in their lifetimes. Despite these disturbing numbers, little is known about life inside beyond the mythology of popular culture. Michael G. Santos, a federal prisoner nearing the end of his second decade of continuous confinement, has dedicated the last eighteen years to shedding light on the lives of the men warehoused in the American prison system. "Inside: " "Life Behind Bars in America," his first book for the general public, takes us behind those bars and into the chaos of the cellblock. Capturing the voices of his fellow prisoners with perfect pitch, Santos makes the tragic--- and at times inspiring---stories of men from the toughest gang leaders to the richest Wall Street criminals come alive. From drug schemes, murders for hire, and even a prostitution ring that trades on the flesh

of female prison guards, this book contains the never-before-seen details of prison life that at last illuminate the varied ways in which men experience life behind bars in America.