



The Way of the Wiseguy: True Stories from the FBI's Most Famous Undercover Agent

By Joe Pistone, Donnie Brasco

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Here's the first nonfiction work from Joe Pistone since his *New York Times* #1 bestseller and hit movie, *Donnie Brasco*. Perhaps no man alive knows the lifestyle of wiseguys better than Pistone does, having spent six years infiltrating the Mafia as an undercover FBI agent. Now, years later, Pistone reassesses the underworld. Often poignant, and in startling detail, *THE WAY OF THE WISEGUY* gives readers a first-hand look at the psychology and customs of the wiseguy. The book features 34 chapters that reveal key principles of wiseguy life, including "How Wiseguys Carry Out a Hit," "How Wiseguys Get Straightened Out," and "A Typical Day in the Life of a Wiseguy." Pistone's spellbinding stories provide a first-hand look at this lawless realm of badguys, which is often uncannily relevant to the workings of legitimate big business and everyday social discourse.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The romanticized view of the mob gets a reality check in this fascinating guide to the real Cosa Nostra from Pistone, who successfully infiltrated one of New York City's five families as an FBI undercover agent in the late 1970s and early 1980s. During his six years posing as Donnie Brasco, Pistone managed to gain the trust of countless mobsters and was almost formally made a member of the Mafia. That access led to numerous investigations and prosecutions resulting in more than 100 convictions, including those of the bosses who formed the mob's ruling body, the Commission. Pistone's first book, the bestselling *Donnie Brasco* (later filmed with Johnny Depp in the lead role), presented a detailed chronological narrative of his infiltration. This time, he has organized his experiences into short chapters describing what the gangsters he worked with were really like, with titles such as "A Typical Day in the Life of a Wiseguy" and "How Wiseguys Take over a Business." He makes abundantly clear that the codes of honor depicted in popular culture and self-serving Mafiosi memoirs are myths, as is the notion that the old-timers steered clear of drug-dealing for moral reasons. The book also contains an amazing extra—a CD of an actual FBI surveillance tape in which thugs talk about the idea of doing in Donnie Brasco.

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From [Booklist](#)

The name Joseph Pistone might not ring any bells, but that's because, while he was pretending to be a jewel thief called Donnie Brasco, anyone who found out he was Pistone would probably have had him killed. A former FBI agent, Pistone spent six years as Brasco, penetrating deep into the notorious Bonnano crime family, and his investigation led to the conviction of more than 100 criminals. These events are dramatized in the film *Donnie Brasco*, but here Pistone goes behind the drama to get at the everyday details of life as a "wiseguy." Readers will learn how wiseguys prepare for a hit, how they treat their wives and girlfriends, why they don't make restaurant reservations, and what sort of table manners they have (not good ones). This down-and-dirty guide to a criminal subculture comes packaged with a CD that contains actual surveillance audio recorded during Pistone's investigation. Current interest in this subject, sparked by *The Sopranos*, guarantees this book a wide and enthusiastic readership. *David Pitt*

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Review

"*The Way of the Wiseguy* dissects the mobster lifestyle . . . Some of it is simply hilarious. The rest is simply chilling." -- *CNN*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mark Blanding:

Nowadays reading books be than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. Advantages you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book that will improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of book you read, if you want get more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want truly feel happy read one along with theme for entertaining including comic or novel. The *The Way of the Wiseguy: True Stories from the*

FBI's Most Famous Undercover Agent is kind of book which is giving the reader capricious experience.

Marie Velasquez:

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Staci Eager:

A lot of people always spend their very own free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with their friends and family or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spend their free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book you read you can spend 24 hours a day to reading an e-book. The book *The Way of the Wiseguy: True Stories from the FBI's Most Famous Undercover Agent* it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy often the e-book. You can more quickly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book offers high quality.

Mark Morrow:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, thrilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love *The Way of the Wiseguy: True Stories from the FBI's Most Famous Undercover Agent*, it is possible to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

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