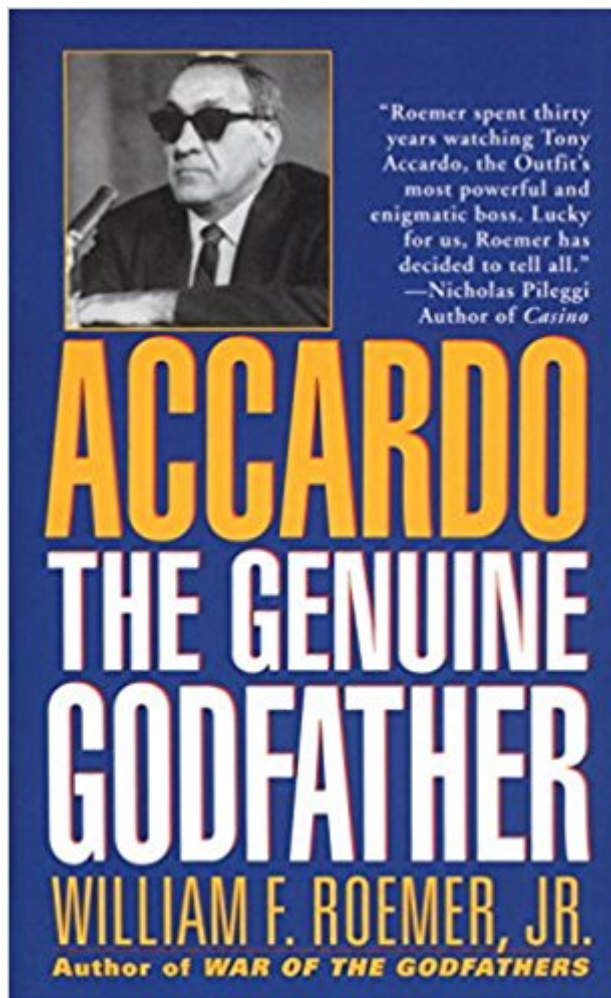




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Accardo: The Genuine Godfather



Synopsis

"A STORY THAT NO OTHER AUTHOR COULD HAVE PUT TOGETHER . . . Roemer [is] America's most decorated FBI agent."--Chicago Tribune
For forty years Tony Accardo was America's most dangerous criminal. He cut his teeth on the Chicago mob wars of Capone and Elliot Ness. He got his nickname "Joe Batters" for killing two men with a baseball bat. As the bodies piled up, Capone's youngest capo murdered and schemed his way to the top. William Roemer was the first FBI agent to face Tony "The Big Tuna" Accardo. Now, Roemer tells the story that only he could tell: the deals, the hits, the double-crosses, and the power plays that reached from the Windy City to Hollywood and to New York. Drawing on secret wiretaps and inside information, ACCARDO chronicles bloodshed and mayhem for more than six decades--as Roemer duels against the most powerful don of them all. . . . "Roemer brings the reality of organized crime home to us."--Boston Herald
"A big, sprawled out account that serves as anecdotal history of organized crime."--Kirkus Reviews

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Customer Reviews

Nicknamed "Joe Batters" by Al Capone because he beat two thugs to death with a baseball bat, Tony Accardo (1906-1992) would go on to impress his mob superiors by using "Chicago Choppers"?Thompson submachine guns?at the infamous St. Valentine's Day Massacre in 1929. After the demise of Capone, Accardo quickly moved to the forefront of the mob hierarchy, becoming a capo under Capone's successor, Frank Nitti, and concentrating on gambling operations. Roemer, who exhibits a grudging respect for Accardo, alleges without documentation that the mob under Accardo bought off U.S. Attorney General Tom Clark with an appointment to the Supreme Court.

Also covered are Accardo's appearance before the Kefauver Committee in 1951, where he was cited for contempt of Congress; his Chicago mob's late move into Las Vegas; his "retirement" to consiglieri in 1957; how J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI were finally forced to join the battle against organized crime after the infamous Apalachin, N.Y., mob meeting in 1957; Accardo's prohibition on selling narcotics; and his ordered "hit" on Sam Giancana. Roemer (The Enforcer), former senior agent on the organized crime squads of the Chicago FBI, has written a colorful biography rich in fact, anecdote and speculation. Photos. Major ad/promo. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Retired FBI agent Roemer (The Enforcer, LJ 6/15/94) profiles Chicago mobster Anthony Accardo (1906-92), a.k.a. Joe Batters, a.k.a. The Big Tuna. Starting out in the Capone gang, Accardo quickly rose to the top of the organization, wielding absolute control and inspiring fear in others. Despite damaging evidence against him, Accardo in his 70 years as a gangster never spent a day in jail. Using a wealth of inside information gathered from eavesdropping on mob meeting places, Roemer presents an excellent story of a ruthless mob leader blended in with the history of the period. Often Roemer goes overboard in congratulating agents involved, and he uses Accardo's aliases interchangeably, which can confuse readers. Nevertheless, he has written an interesting book on the history of gangsters and provides another chapter of Chicago's social history. Recommended for true-crime collections. Michael Sawyer, Clinton P.L., Ia. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The inside info is amazing and not sure if you can find recollections of these stories without sitting with The Man himself, which by proxy of Mr Roemer, you get. The Outfit was a definitive course of history, in Mafioso socio economic politics, underground and above board. I only gave it four stars, because I find Mr Roemer's conclusions obvious, tedious, and can only be described as self serving. Tony Accardo is the like Babe Ruth of the Mafia. The game existed but he re-made it.

This is not the sellers problem but it is not a very good read.

good book to read for fan of true fiction

Great book, well written by the man who lived to see it all.

Interesting read.

The book arrived in eight days in very good condition. The print is very small and all single spaced on every page. I think I would like the story line if the print was of normal size. I could not read the book due to the very small print size.

Excellent Book You can't put it down.

Gives a believable portrait of one of the most powerful gangsters in American organized crime. Well written, even though Roemer at times makes himself the focus of the story.

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