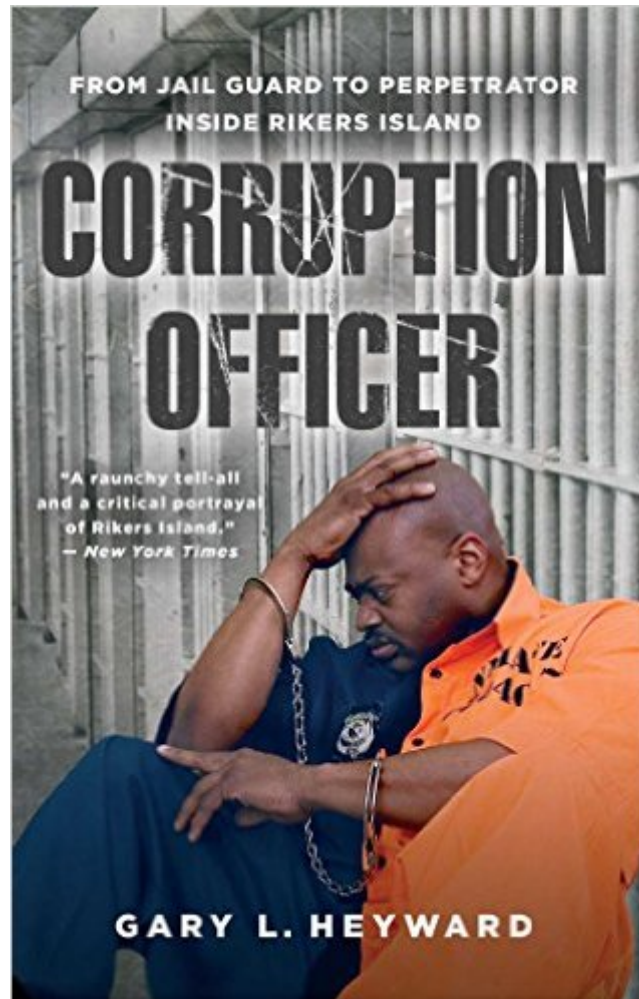


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# Corruption Officer: From Jail Guard To Perpetrator Inside Rikers Island



## Synopsis

In this shocking memoir from a former corrections officer, Gary Heyward shares an eye-opening, gritty, and devastating account of his descent into criminal life, smuggling contraband inside the infamous Rikers Island jails. Gary Heyward's life changed forever when he received a letter from the New York City Department of Corrections announcing he was accepted into the academy for new recruits. For the Harlem-born ex-Marine, being an officer of the law was the ticket he'd been waiting for to move up from a low-wage security job and out of the Polo Ground Projects in New York City and take his mother with him. Heyward was warned of the temptations he'd encounter as a new officer, but when faced with financial hardship, he suddenly found himself unable to resist the income generated from selling contraband to inmates. In his distinctive voice, Heyward takes you on a journey inside the walls of Rikers Island, showing how he teamed up with various inmates and other officers to develop a system that allowed him to profit from selling drugs inside the jail. *Corruption Officer* is a jarring exposé of a man having lived on both sides of the law, a rare insider's look at a corrupt city jail, and a testament to the lengths we'll go when our backs are against the wall.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I found this book surfing around on . I ordered it and it was so good I sent my mother a copy. She finished reading it before I did. Three weeks later I heard Gary Heyward on the Maggie Linton show on Sirius XM "Urban View" and the interview was great. I don't have kids but I can somewhat relate

to where Gary was in life. When you have your back against the wall and everyone wants more of you than you have the options can be very limiting. I do NOT fault Gary one bit. He was not the first and won't be the last. White officers have been doing this for close to 100 years..Altho, I do hate that Gary had contributed to the beatdown of his friend he grew up with in Rikers Island. That was bad business. I wonder if he could go back would he have done it the same.Overall, great read people if you want to know the inner workings of Rikers Island and just how easy it is to get contraband in.Keep your head up Gary.

As a first time writer, I have to give him praise. I'm a grandmother, but living in the projects.... I know street language, and it doesn't scare or intimidate me, so if your bothered by cussing, and the raw reality that is prison, I wouldn't suggest this book. I saw Gary on HONY (Humans of New York) on Facebook, and thought - he just put it out there....his truth. I have to admire the tenacity of someone being so honest (after living a lie), and to basically tell the whole world what he did, without concern for the backlash.

This is a very accurate book in terms of the daily-workings of large inner-city jails. I have a few close friends who are Riker's Island CO's, and the stories they tell me over the years are identical to those depicted by Heyward. This book is not "dumbed-down" as described by another review - rather, it's written in the dialect of many CO's and inmates. I also don't understand how anyone can be "confused" by the writing. Fine literature it is not; rather, it is a simply written story of one man's life/story. In addition to the casual reader, I recommend this book for those considering or entering corrections. Having visited clients on Riker's Island, I can personally attest that the "Island" is a world of its own. Heyward takes you directly into that world.

When it comes to looking at life and our choices and what can be the consequences of our actions, I think Gary Heyward's book CORRUPTION OFFICER is a great reminder for us all.It takes us not just into the life and decisions he made, but what happened when the truth of his life was revealed and the abuse of authority that he had been entrusted became known. Gary takes us not just into his life as an officer trying to do his job but also the Gary that was looking after himself.He talks about the way he treated those who loved him, the way he treated inmates and even the way he treated fellow officers. This is a book that lets us know that no matter who we are, what we wear or what title we have at the end of the day we are all accountable for our actions, and one day we will have to give account to what we have done.When tables turn on Gary he better understands the

importance of doing what is right. Now he can use his story to let others know the pitfalls of making bad choices and not allowing greed to blind us to doing what is right. Definitely a book that speaks to the heart of everyone faced with good versus bad, Gary Heyward invites us to learn from his life and choose wisely.

Written in very colloquial and straight forward language, the tales in this book will hold you prisoner (pun intended). Once I started reading, I could not put it down. Many of the stories are verifiable through news reports and documentary footage of events at Riker's Island during the time that the author worked there. I was surprised at how this book made me see a fuller view of the humanity of incarcerated people and those charged with holding them. We have a serious problem with our prison industrial complex and this book gives an insider's look at many of them.

Corruption Officer is an excellent read of such a compelling tale. I read this book in 1 day, couldn't put the book down. Author Gary L. Heyward showed that anyone can make a mistake. He gives you insight into what happens behind the scenes in prison whereas in some situations we would never even imagine. I recommend this book to all, but specifically to those needing encouragement on how to persevere through it all and rebuild a life after trying times.

This story was captivating from beginning to end. Everything happens for reason. The rise and fall of Gary Heyward...to bad he had to learn the hard way. The lessons he got from this chapter in his life will never be forgotten. 4.25

Bought and took this book for my husband while on vacation. He's a former CO and he stated everything is true and could relate to a lot of incidents at Rikers. He finished the book while on vacation-which is a feat in itself-because he never reads!

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