

King of the Godfathers

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The Last Of The Old-World Mob Bosses--And The Ultimate Betrayal

For more than twenty years, Joseph "Big Joey" Massino ran what was called the largest criminal network in the U.S., employing over two hundred and fifty made men and untold numbers of associates. The Bonanno family was responsible for over thirty murders, even killing a dozen of its own members to enforce discipline and settle scores. He would be brought down by Salvatore "Good Looking Sal" Vitale, the underboss who was not only Massino's closest and most trusted friend, but also his brother-in-law. In the end, facing the death penalty and the prospect of leaving his family penniless, Massino started talking to the FBI--the first Mafia Godfather to break the sacred code of omerta, and the end of a centuries-old tradition.

Written by Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter Anthony DeStefano, who interviewed Massino's family and friends as well as law enforcement officials and confidential sources, *King of the Godfathers* is the story of the brutal mob war that made Massino head of the Bonanno family and the most powerful gangster in America.

"The best and last word on the subject." --Jerry Capeci, Gangland News.com and bestselling co-author of *Murder Machine*

With 16 Pages of Revealing Photos!

Anthony Destefano was part of the team of New York *Newsday* reporters who won the 1992 Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the August 1991 subway crash in Manhattan. He covers organized crime for *Newsday* and was the lead reporter on several major criminal trials, including that of subway gunman Bernhard Goetz. He lives in New Jersey.

King of the Godfathers Details


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From Reader Review King of the Godfathers for online ebook

Heather Dickey says

Exciting read, especially the accounts of the trials in 03, 04 and 05. But the writer tended to really give the impression he was part of this story, one of the wiseguys.. got carried away with his emotions a bit in the writing. Found myself rolling my eyes a couple times but otherwise, made for a very interesting read.

Sbook says

gave up after first chapter. way too many names and small facts (meetings, names) that are impossible to know and/or to check.

Max Burgel says

Lots of details. When reading mob-books it's fun to read the "stories" and this had some of that but it was split with a lot of time stamped details that zoned me out a little, although; better to have them than not I suppose.

Dorothy Pierce says

not for me...

Joe says

This is a good book to read, long but interesting all the way through. I wasn't disappointed at all. The author puts down a great timeline of Massino's life. Massino turned and started talking to the FBI to save himself from the death penalty after being arrested. I recommend this book to read if you like mobsters of the good ol' days.

Jonno says

Another interesting read on the lives of the New York Mafia. Quite in depth and informative.

Neil says

Very detailed book and I can see where the writers of The Sopranos got their ideas from. I expected more out

of the book as it was about the last Mafia boss but it was written from accounts from other people and not from the point of view of the subject of the book. Not for me.

TJ Shelby says

It was mafia, so I enjoyed it but it read slower than a history book at times.

Hugo says

quite in depth account of Massino's criminal career including his trials and eventual collaboration with the government.
