



Get Capone: The Secret Plot That Captured America's Most Wanted Gangster

By Jonathan Eig



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Drawing on thousands of pages of recently discovered government documents, wiretap transcripts, and Al Capone's handwritten personal letters, *New York Times* bestselling author Jonathan Eig tells the dramatic story of the rise and fall of the nation's most notorious criminal in rich new detail.

From the moment he arrived in Chicago in 1920, Capone found himself in a world of limitless opportunity. He was an impetuous, affable young man of average intelligence, ill prepared for fame and fortune, whose most notable characteristic was his scarred left cheek. Yet within a few years, Capone controlled an illegal bootlegging business with annual revenue rivaling that of some of the nation's largest corporations. Along the way he corrupted the Chicago police force and local courts while becoming one of the world's first international celebrities.

A furious President Herbert Hoover insisted that Capone be brought to justice because the criminal was making a mockery of federal law. Legend credits Eliot Ness and his "Untouchables" with apprehending Capone. But it was the U.S. attorney in Chicago and little-known agents working on direct orders from the White House who compromised their ethics—and risked their lives—to get their man.

The most infamous crime attributed to Capone was the St. Valentine's Day Massacre, a crime that Capone insisted he didn't commit. Using newly discovered FBI records, Eig offers a surprising explanation for the murders.

Get Capone explores every aspect of the man called "Scarface," paying particular attention to the myths that have for so long surrounded and obscured him. Capone emerges as a worldly, emotionally complex man, doomed as much by his ego as by his vicious criminality. This is the real Al Capone.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. Not since the hunt for John Wilkes Booth... had so many sources been brought to bear in an attempt to jail one man, writes former *Chicago* magazine editor Eig (*Opening Day*). But Al Capone eluded them all—even J. Edgar Hoover. In a page-turning account, Eig details the chase for the elusive Capone, dissecting both the man and his myth. Born in Brooklyn in 1899, Alphonse Capone came to a booming, bustling, corrupt, and very thirsty Chicago in 1920, just as Prohibition began. Rising swiftly through the underworld ranks, Capone soon headed a crime syndicate he dubbed the outfit, which dealt in bootleg alcohol, racketeering, drugs, and prostitution. Eig traces the largely unsuccessful efforts by various law enforcement agencies to bring him down. He focuses on U.S. Attorney George E.Q. Johnson, who finally saw Capone convicted in 1931 for tax evasion and conspiring to violate Prohibition laws, leading to an 11-year prison sentence. Using previously unreleased IRS files, Johnson's papers, even notes he discovered for a ghostwritten Capone autobiography, Eig presents a multifaceted portrait of a shrewd man who built a criminal empire worth millions. 16 pages of b&w photos. (*May 1*)

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Certainly enough has been written about Capone to make new books on the gangster and the hunt for him seem extraneous, but Eig takes a fresh approach to his subject by relying on new interviews and IRS files on Capone's 1931 prosecution. Critics praised Eig's solid reporting and ability to draw a rich, historical context and tease out Capone's complexity. "He's wiped away the garbage and given us a man," noted the *Chicago Sun-Times*, "[s]omeone monstrous, in short, but recognizably human." A few reviewers disagreed about Eig's writing style, and not all enjoyed his details on tax evasion or bought his claims about the St. Valentine's Day massacre. If previous books cover the same material, Eig, in the end, manages to put a more human face on Capone--where possible.

Review

"Riveting. . . . Eig's book is full of fascinating details about the Windy City, as well as the rest of America in the 1920s." --Elizabeth Bennett, "Dallas Morning News"

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Gary Gonzales:

Book will be written, printed, or illustrated for everything. You can realize everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important point to bring us around the world. Close to that you can your reading talent was fluently. A book Get Capone: The Secret Plot That Captured America's Most Wanted Gangster will make you to possibly be smarter. You can feel considerably more confidence if you can know about every little thing. But some of you think this open or reading a new book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they may be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or suitable book with you?

Glenn Pryor:

The guide with title Get Capone: The Secret Plot That Captured America's Most Wanted Gangster contains a lot of information that you can find out it. You can get a lot of profit after read this book. That book exist new expertise the information that exist in this book represented the condition of the world at this point. That is important to you to find out how the improvement of the world. That book will bring you inside new era of the internationalization. You can read the e-book in your smart phone, so you can read that anywhere you want.

Larry Turner:

The book untitled Get Capone: The Secret Plot That Captured America's Most Wanted Gangster contain a lot of information on the item. The writer explains your girlfriend idea with easy way. The language is very simple to implement all the people, so do not worry, you can easy to read it. The book was written by famous author. The author gives you in the new era of literary works. You can actually read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or gadget, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can available their official web-site in addition to order it. Have a nice examine.

Ann David:

In this period of time globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information easier to share. You can find a lot of personal references to get information example: internet, magazine, book, and soon. You will observe that now, a lot of publisher which print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended for you is Get Capone: The Secret Plot That Captured America's Most Wanted Gangster this book consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. This book was represented how do the world has grown up. The terminology styles that writer value to explain it is easy to understand. The particular writer made some research when he makes this book. This is why this book appropriate all of you.

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