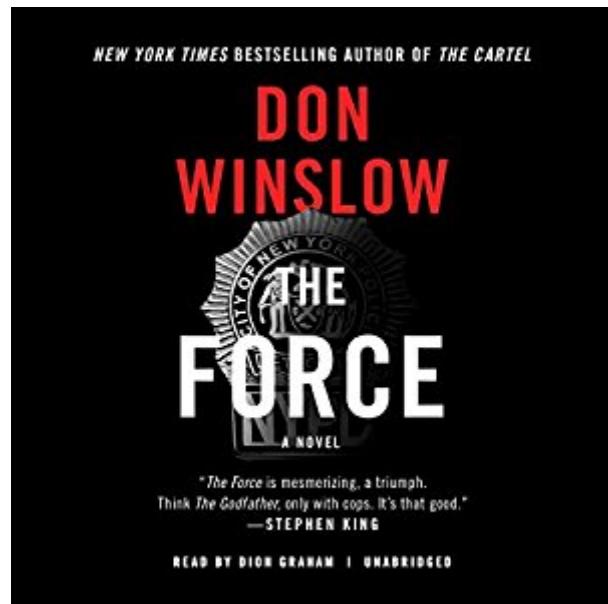


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# The Force: A Novel



## **Synopsis**

All Denny Malone wants is to be a good cop. He's the king of Manhattan North, a highly decorated NYPD detective sergeant and the real leader of "Da Force." Malone and his crew are the smartest, the toughest, the quickest, the bravest, and the baddest, an elite unit given unrestricted authority to wage war on gangs, drugs, and guns. Every day and every night for the eighteen years he's spent on the Job, Malone has served on the front lines, witnessing the hurt, the dead, the victims, the perps. He's done whatever it takes to serve and protect in a city built by ambition and corruption, where no one is clean-including Malone himself. What only a few know is that Denny Malone is dirty: he and his partners have stolen millions of dollars in drugs and cash in the wake of the biggest heroin bust in the city's history. Now Malone is caught in a trap and being squeezed by the feds, and he must walk the thin line between betraying his brothers and partners, the Job, his family, and the woman he loves, trying to survive, body and soul, while the city teeters on the brink of a racial conflagration that could destroy them all. The Force is a haunting story of greed and violence, inequality and race, crime and injustice, retribution and redemption that reveals the seemingly insurmountable tensions between the police and the diverse citizens they serve. A searing portrait of a city and a courageous, heroic, and deeply flawed man who stands at the edge of its abyss, it is a masterpiece of urban realism full of shocking twists, leavened by flashes of dark humor, a morally complex and utterly riveting dissection of modern American society and the controversial issues confronting us today.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

After reading the CARTEL by Winslow I had to read the Force, As a retired Detective I appreciated Winslow's handling of a flawed hero and the accurate description of a cops point of view. The subject matter of dirty cops really upset me but I was engrossed in the plot and don't regret reading this book. I'm not naive as far as the "Job" goes and could see how someone could be drawn into being something that you hate and being able to justify it falsely to yourself but karma is a bitch and it takes no prisoners!

Great characters and a GRITTY, suspenseful storyline. Exceptionally authentic dialogue. It's long enough that you don't finish it with the idea that the novelist could have given you more. I liked it more than his earlier one on the drug cartel; this one shows the same, thorough grasp of it's setting with significantly more driving, satisfying suspense. Enthusiastically recommended.

Winslow is one of my favorite authors. Cartel was one of my top ten books of all time. The Force is good, but it isn't the Cartel. I've read all of Winslow's books and this is my least favorite. It starts out with the main character in jail and just gets relentlessly bleaker and blacker the rest of the novel. If you're on anti depressants you may want to increase your dosage before you start. There's no one in this book that I cared about or had any feelings for. There are no good guys. Malone, the main character, came off as a shallow, rationalizing jerk, to me. Starting the book with him in jail removed any suspense or any hope that he'd redeem himself. I see that I've touched all the things I didn't like but it's still a pretty good book. Winslow is a great writer but first time readers should start with one of his other books.

This was a good summer read with getting acquainted into the temptations and dealings of police. I also liked learning about the camaraderie of working together. It was a little hard to read because of the slang, vernacular, and grammar. It is not the type of book I normally read, but it was educational.

Don Winslow is my favorite writer, this book didn't disappoint. While the story is fiction it is evident throughout that he clearly did intensive research and the thread of realism is ever-present. This is true of his other recent novels as well, The Cartel etc. Some of the reviews note that the main character, story aren't uplifting, I think that is true but in an historical fiction novel like this it is, for me, more about learning of a culture, situation, and world within an entertaining story than it is about the characters having a great time. The prose is always interesting and well written, the characters

nuanced, the story unpredictable yet logical. A great read.

Many of Winslow's previous crime novels have been set in Southern California. This is his first set in New York City. He has clearly done his research on the NYPD and the vibes of the Manhattan neighborhoods of Harlem and Inwood. Story and characters are well written, but the theme of corruption in the ranks of the NYPD has been done by many previous writers. You know from the very first pages that it's not going to end well for hero and conflicted cop, Denny Malone.

Great story that's reads from today's headlines!! Fast paced. Great character development. Great "cop" stories throughout. Reading this you spend a few days on the streets of New York. Great read!

Not quite as good as his books about the Mexican drug cartels, but still very good. Fast paced, but without a sympathetic hero. He really seemed to capture the police culture and lingo or at least how I imagine it is.

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