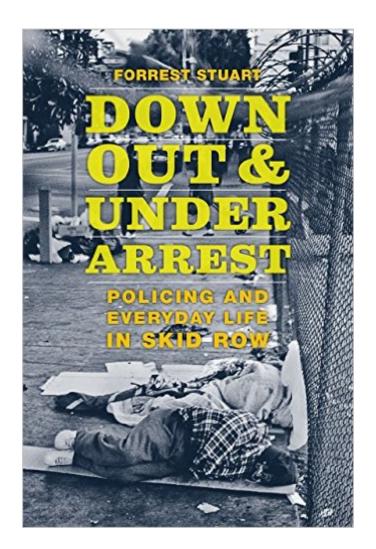
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Down, Out, And Under Arrest: Policing And Everyday Life In Skid Row





Synopsis

In his first year working in Los Angelesâ [™]s Skid Row, Forrest Stuart was stopped on the street by police fourteen times. Usually for doing little more than standing there. Juliette, a woman he met during that time, has been stopped by police well over one hundred times, arrested upward of sixty times, and has given up more than a year of her life serving week-long jail sentences. Her most common crime? Simply sitting on the sidewalkâ "an arrestable offense in LA. Why? What purpose did those arrests serve, for society or for Juliette? How did we reach a point where weâ ™ve cut support for our poorest citizens, yet are spending ever more on policing and prisons? Thatâ ™s the complicated, maddening story that Stuart tells in Down, Out and Under Arrest, a close-up look at the hows and whys of policing poverty in the contemporary United States. What emerges from Stuartâ ™s years of fieldworkâ "not only with Skid Row residents, but with the police charged with managing themâ "is a tragedy built on mistakes and misplaced priorities more than on heroes and villains. He reveals a situation where a lot of people on both sides of this issue are genuinely trying to do the right thing, yet often come up short. Sometimes, in ways that do serious harm. At a time when distrust between police and the residents of disadvantaged neighborhoods has never been higher, Stuartâ [™]s book helps us see where weâ [™]ve gone wrong, and what steps we could take to begin to change the lives of our poorest citizensa "and ultimately our society itselfa" for the better.

Book Information

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