



## Blood and Honor: Inside the Scarfo Mob--The Mafia's Most Violent Family

By George Anastasia

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Here is the critically acclaimed inside story, now in an expanded edition, about the rise and fall of Philadelphia's notorious Scarfo organization. Blunt and unsparing, it is a first-hand account of murder, money, and corruption told by wiseguy-turned-witness Nick Caramandi, whose testimony put Nicky Scarfo and many of his associates behind bars for the rest of their lives. A prime target for hit men to this day, Caramandi continues to survive only through the government's Witness Protection Program. In this updated edition of Blood and Honor, author George Anastasia picks up the story where he left off, filling us in on the fates of all the characters--major and minor--in recent years.

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## **Blood and Honor: Inside the Scarfo Mob--The Mafia's Most Violent Family** By George Anastasia **Bibliography**

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### **Editorial Review**

From Library Journal

The violent rise and precipitous fall of the Philadelphia/Atlantic City Mafia family led by the bloodthirsty Nicky Scarfo has received extensive coverage in Joseph Salerno and Stephen J. Rivele's *The Plumber* (LJ 1/90), Donald W. Cox's *Mafia Wipeout* (LJ 2/15/90), and Frank Friel and John Guinther's *Breaking the Mob* (LJ 6/15/90). Journalist Anastasia's riveting account is based primarily on his interviews with Scarfo associate Nick Caramandi, a confessed murderer and extortionist-turned-government witness who helped convict the entire Scarfo hierarchy. His story rings true, and it is one of treachery and viciousness, all blood and no honor. Easily the best of the Scarfo mob books, it is recommended for organized crime collections.

-Gregor A. Preston, *Univ. of California Lib., Davis*

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From Kirkus Reviews

Up-close and personal perspectives on a consequential Mafia family that law-enforcement agencies and turncoats have all but put out of business. Drawing mainly on interviews with Nick Caramandi (a confessed killer, loan shark, and extortionist now in the Federal Witness Protection Program), Philadelphia Inquirer reporter Anastasia offers a tellingly detailed rundown on a fiefdom encompassing not only his hometown but also Atlantic City from the late 1970's through the mid-1980's. During this violent period, an arguably psychopathic thug named Nicodemo Scarfo headed the local branch of La Cosa Nostra. His regime was notable for unusually savage rub-outs as well as for the systematic corruption of public and union officials. Eventually, however, the deadly don and more than a dozen of his henchmen were convicted on scores of felony murder and RICO charges in a series of trials that began in 1987. Among those responsible for putting Scarfo behind bars was Garamandi, a successful streetwise hustler who had been formally initiated into the mob. The erstwhile wiseguy broke the secret society's vow of silence and became an informer when he learned his capo had marked him for death in the wake of a failed real-estate swindle involving Philadelphia cops. The decision to eliminate Caramandi ranks among the vengeful Scarfo's worst since "Crow" (as he's known in gangland circles) provided government prosecutors with the firsthand dope they needed to bring a flock of kingpin outlaws to book. The gossipy stool pigeon here also provides the author an insider's savvy briefing on the quotidian world of organized crime; by Garamandi's credible account, there was appreciably more bad blood than honor among the thieves in thrall to Scarfo. Gripping curbside insights into mafiosi at work and play. (Eight pages of b&w photographs--not seen). -- *Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Review

"Forget about it! This is the best gangster book ever written."

### **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Sherry Stevens:**

Book is to be different per grade. Book for children until adult are different content. As we know that book is very important for people. The book *Blood and Honor: Inside the Scarfo Mob--The Mafia's Most Violent Family* seemed to be making you to know about other knowledge and of course you can take more

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**Robert Alleman:**

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**Karen Bergeron:**

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