

## Alcatraz 1259 William G Baker

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In Alcatraz # 1259, William G. Baker takes us inside the head of long-term convict sentenced to the most well-known prison in the US. His initial crimes – stealing cards – would not seem to merit a sentence to the island prison in San Francisco. Unfortunately, for Baker, he drove the car across state lines.

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Alcatraz #1259 by William G. Baker

Baker, a former Alcatraz inmate, shares his stories in “ Alcatraz-1259, ” a book he wrote about his experience at the prison. The book, which is named after his prison number, recounts the nearly three years Baker spent at Alcatraz after escaping from prison, stealing a car and taking it across state lines.

Former Inmate Recounts Prison Experience in Alcatraz-1259 ...

I ’ m William Baker, former inmate of Alcatraz. Now that I am back to the straight and narrow, I go back now and talk to visitors, answering questions about my prison years, signing autographs, taking pictures and interacting with visitors to the Island. I can ’ t help it if history made me a rock star.

A Message From Former Inmate Bill Baker - Alcatraz Cruises

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## Read Online Alcatraz 1259 William G Baker

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It's only the last chapter, when Mr. Baker gushes over the park rangers and current Alcatraz staff that the book flags. Baker may have been a career criminal all his life, but he redeems himself in the end with this account of his life. Bravo, inmate #1259. 12 people found this helpful

Amazon.com: Customer reviews: Alcatraz-1259

Baker finally got out of Leavenworth in 2011, and now he's back at Alcatraz, at the age of 80, on a book tour, promoting his prison memoir "Alcatraz 1259." That was his number on the Rock. He is a...

"A true account of life at Alcatraz written by a former prisoner." --back cover.

In 1963, just weeks before the original publication of this book, the last prisoner was escorted off Devil ' s Island and Alcatraz ceased to be a prison. Author J. Campbell Bruce chronicles in spellbinding detail the Rock ' s transition from a Spanish fort to the maximum-security penitentiary that housed such infamous inmates as Robert Stroud, aka the Birdman of Alcatraz, and mobster Al " Scarface " Capone. The chapters describing the daring escape attempts by Frank Morris and two accomplices from this " inescapable " prison became the basis for the 1979 Clint Eastwood movie. Discover the intriguing and absorbing saga of Alcatraz, whose name is still synonymous with punitive isolation and deprivation, where America ' s most violent and notorious prisoners resided in tortuous proximity to one of the world ' s favorite cities. The true-crime classic first published in 1963 is reissued in this special edition. Includes archival photos of the prison and prison life. This story will appeal to Bay Area locals and tourists alike. Alcatraz hosts more than a million visitors each year.

Alcatraz Screw is a firsthand account from a prison guard's perspective of some of the most storied years at the infamous U.S. Penitentiary at Alcatraz. George Gregory began his career as a guard for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in 1940. Following his training, he was sent to the federal prison at Sandstone, Minnesota. A few years later he enlisted in the Marine Corps. Badly wounded at Iwo Jima, he returned to Sandstone after a long rehabilitation. When the Bureau of Prisons closed Sandstone in 1947, Gregory was transferred to Alcatraz, which had been a federal penitentiary since 1934. For the next fifteen years, Gregory worked on "The Rock." He takes the reader along on a correctional officer's tour of duty, showing what it was like to pull a lonely, tedious night of sentry duty in the Road Tower, or witness illicit transactions in the clothing room, or forcibly quell a riot in the cell blocks. Gregory provides an insider's account of the tenures of all four of Alcatraz's wardens and their sometimes contradictory approaches to administering the institution. He knew and regularly interacted with such legendary inmates as Robert Stroud (the Birdman of Alcatraz) and George "Machine Gun" Kelly. Without glamorizing or demonizing either the staff or the convicts, Alcatraz Screw provides a candid portrayal of corruption, drug abuse, and sexual practices, as well as efforts at reform and unrecorded acts of kindness. Various incidents in the memoir convey the fear, hatred, frustration, boredom, and unavoidable tension of being incarcerated. With the inclusion of maps and diagrams of Alcatraz Island, as well as photographs of inmates, officers, and the prison itself, this book offers insight into life at the notorious Alcatraz from an unprecedented perspective.

As one of America's most notorious prisons, Alcatraz has been a significant part of California's history for over 155 years. The small, lonely rock, known in sea charts by its Spanish name "Isla de los Alcatrazes," or "Island of Pelicans," lay essentially dormant until the 1850s, when the military converted the island into a fortress to protect the booming San Francisco region. Alcatraz served as a pivotal military position until the early 20th century and in 1934 was converted into a federal penitentiary to house some of America's most incorrigible prisoners. The penitentiary closed in 1963, and Alcatraz joined the National Park Service system in 1972. Since then, it has remained a popular attraction as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

In this fascinating autobiographical account, Jim Quillen tells the amazing story of his decade incarcerated in America's most infamous prison -- how he got there, how he stayed alive inside, and, most important, how he found the inspiration and courage to get out.

The Last Guard Out is the fascinating true story of one man's life as a guard behind the merciless concrete walls of Alcatraz. I was newly assigned to the infamous island penitentiary of Alcatraz. Reporting to Alcatraz required me to uproot my wife Cathy and young son Kenny from Colorado to California. As we approached San Francisco via of the Oakland Bay Bridge we got our first foreboding glance of Alcatraz Island with a dense circle of fog surrounding it. A strange sense of dread came over me. I looked at our young son asleep in the back seat, then turned to my wife next to me and I whispered "What The Hell Did We Do". After moving on to Alcatraz our thought on Island life quickly changed and we decided not to apply for a transfer out, which consequently left us there until the Island closed in March of 1963. Because of our newly born daughters foot problem they left us there until June of 1963 making me The Last Guard Out.

Each day we saw the outside world in all its splendour, and each day that view served as a reminder that we had wasted and ruined our lives. Jim Quillen, AZ586 - a runaway, problem

child and petty thief - was jailed several times before his twentieth birthday. In August 1942, after escaping from San Quentin, he was arrested on the run and sentenced to forty-five years in prison, and later transferred to Alcatraz. This is the true story of life inside America's most notorious prison - from terrifying times in solitary confinement to daily encounters with 'the Birdman', and what really happened during the desperate and deadly 1946 escape attempt.

Travel with one man on his journey through imprisonment in Alcatraz, and other prisons. He also discusses his early life and the 51 years since his release. 126 pp.

**HARD TIME: THE LIFE OF AN INCORRIGIBLE ON ALCATRAZ** The true story of Charlie Hopkins #1186 one of the last surviving inmates of Alcatraz Penitentiary. "My friend and fellow alumni Charlie Hopkins and I both graduated from America's Top Crime School- Charlie was a better student than I- He's still free!" -James "Whitey" Bulger, #1428 AZ What if one could travel back in time and interview one of the 1500 or so hardened criminals that had served time at Alcatraz Penitentiary before it was permanently closed in 1963? Even if one could do such an impossible thing, what exactly would one ask a man who had rubbed shoulders with some of the most notorious gangsters, murderers, and thieves of the 1930s, 40s, and 50s? How would the conversation go when speaking to a close friend of "Creepy" Al Karpis, the "Birdman of Alcatraz" Robert Stroud, and Whitey Bulger. Now, thanks to author Don DeNevi, for the first time one does not need a time machine to recapture the first hand eyewitness accounts of one man's life on Alcatraz. Alcatraz inmate #1186 was Charles Edward Hopkins and Mr. Hopkins was no ordinary inmate. Not only did he serve time with the Anglin brothers who made the only successful escape from Alcatraz but he was well acquainted with notorious crime boss "Bumpy" Johnson and the legendary Italian mafia boss Vito Genevese and many other infamous Alcatraz inmates. Early in his prison career Charlie was clinically pronounced "psychotic" and "incorrigible" and was sent to Alcatraz. After serving his time, Hopkins disappeared into history before re-emerging in recent years as the pen pal of notorious Boston gangster James "Whitey" Bulger. Never before has Charlie's full story been captured and shared with the public. This is his true story as told in 1999 to author Don DeNevi and recently reviewed by him to ensure maximum historical accuracy. Mr. Hopkins is still alive and is approaching 88 years old and is estimated to be one of the last 5 or 6 remaining inmates that served Hard Time in Alcatraz before its closing in 1963. No matter what you have read or think you know about Alcatraz, you may be certain of one thing, you have never heard a story like this.

A genius? A scientist? A sociopath? Known to millions as the "Birdman" of Alcatraz, was he the earnest, warm-hearted "bird doctor" and writer of two books, as portrayed by Burt Lancaster in the 1962 film? Or was he a far more flamboyant and diabolical double-murderer, whose event-filled, tragicomic life converted a 12-year conviction into a 54-year death sentence? Meticulously researched, with never-before-published prison reports and Stroud's own writings, with quotes from prisoners, officers, psychologists and avian pathologists, Birdman explodes the myths surrounding Robert Stroud.--From publisher description.

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