

BABACO STOPPED THEM COLD

THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLERS LIST

DONNIE BRASCO

FBI man's sis straight
MY UNDERCOVER LIFE IN THE MAFIA
to get even with G-man

A true story by FBI Agent
JOSEPH D. PISTONE
with **RICHARD WOODLEY**

BROOKLYN: THE COLOMBOS

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family. You are elevated to a status above the outside world of "citizens." You are like royalty. In ethnic neighborhoods like Jilly's, nobody has more respect than a made guy. A made guy may not be liked, may even be hated, but he is always respected. He has the full authority and power of his Mafia family behind him.

One Friday, Jilly was keyed up over a big score he was setting up for the weekend. He had a man inside a trucking company who was going to give him the keys to three trailers loaded with furs and leather jackets. That same inside guy was going to deactivate the Babco alarm systems in the trucks.

Monday morning, Jilly was ~~planned~~ off with everybody. On Sunday night they had gone into the truck yard. They had opened two of the trailers. When they opened the third, the alarm went off. The whole crew panicked and took off from the scene without grabbing a single item.

It drives the guys crazy to miss a score like that when they were so close, just because somebody ~~forgot~~ up. It also makes them look bad. Jilly had had to get permission to take those pads. On a big score like that, when you're a low-echelon made guy, a soldier, you have to get permission to make sure you're not stepping on anybody else's toes—and also to put the higher-ups on notice that some money will be coming in.

For permission Jilly had gone to his captain, Charlie Moose. Your captain gets a piece of the action on whatever you do. So you go to him and tell him you're going to pull a big job. If you tell him ahead of time and he finds out about it, or you tell him after the fact, the captain might start thinking, They got out of this job than they're telling me, and that's why they ask me up front.

Because that's what happens all the time. It's all a big ~~bullshit~~. You go to your captain and tell him you're going to pull a job worth a hundred grand. Usually the split is half with the captain. So right off the bat you have to give him fifty percent. The captain in turn has to kick in, say, ten percent to the boss.

Captains are greedy, just like everybody else. And each captain sets the rules for his crews. He can set any rules he wants. So maybe a captain says, "I want sixty percent, instead of fifty."

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