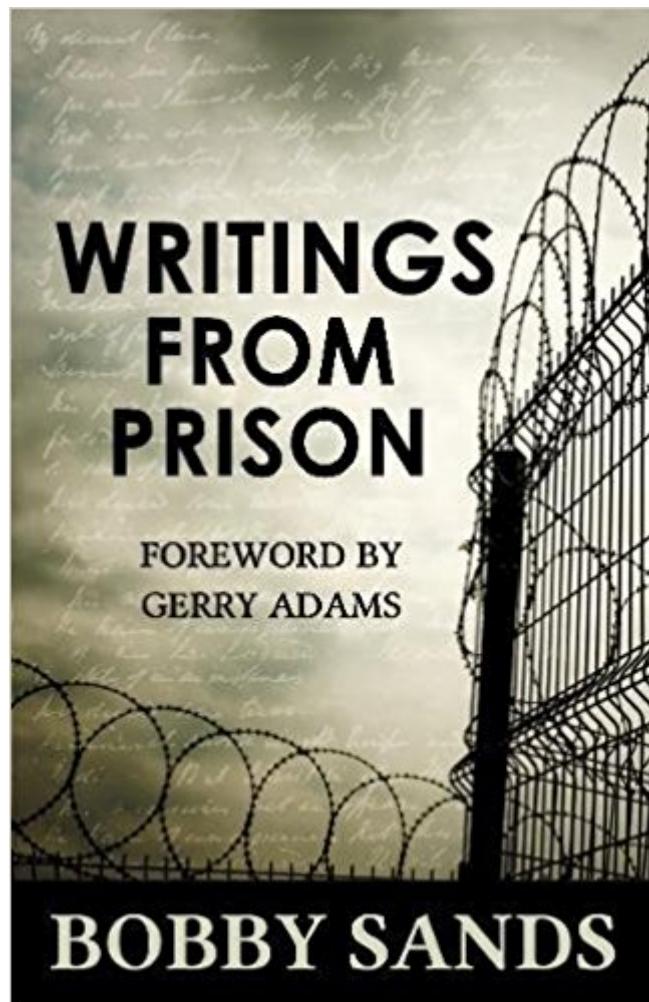


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Writings From Prison



Synopsis

The author chronicles the abuse by the British state of emergency laws: harassment and intimidation of civilians; injuries and deaths caused by rubber and plastic bullets; collusion between British security forces, British intelligence and loyalist paramilitaries; unjust killings and murders by the security forces; excessive punishments and degrading strip-searches in prisons - abuses ignored by all but a handful of individuals and civil rights organizations. This is the fascinating diary of the first man to give his life in the 1980s hunger strike.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Bobby Sands was 27 years old when he died. He spent almost nine years of his life in prison because of his Irish republican activities. He died, in prison, on 5 May 1981, on the sixty-sixth day of his hunger strike at Long Kesh Prison, outside Belfast. This book documents a day in the life of Bobby Sands. It is a tale of human bravery, endurance and courage against a backdrop of suffering, terror and harassment. It will live on as a constant reminder of events that should never have happened - and hopefully will never happen again.

The true story behind Britians history of torture, imprisonment and murder of Irish citizens. Up The RA for years to come

Bobby Sands in his own words. Genius and heroism personified.

The actual book is nothing spectacular. A nice paperback. Its what's inside that is not just special, but rare, raw and beautiful. You get a wee small glimpse into the all too short life of a young man who loved his country and believed that her people, indeed all people, should be free. Free of oppression, bigotry, marginalization, fear, unjust court and governmental processes and whims. Free to walk the land, hold your family and friends and to not be branded a terrorist and a criminal when you are, indeed, a Prisoner of War. Not a declared war but an occupation of fear and intimidation, death and destruction. But the participants in many a conflict not declared a war have been treated as and called Prisoners of War - Vietnam is an example. Bobby went to unimaginable lengths to write these words - to express himself to the world and give us a better understanding. Written in margins of Bible pages, on toilet paper or whatever could be smuggled in and with a "pen" that was a refill which had to be smuggled and hidden as well. The very least people can do is to give his stunning work an open-minded reading and try to imagine yourself in utterly inhumanely deplorable conditions. Such a talent he possessed. We have all lost a significant teacher and his gifts left not on paper, but still in his heart; and, if we are lucky, in ours as well.

Its raw, unorganized, brutal, lovely, savage and soulful. One of the absolute best things I have ever read. As an Irishman and a Republican, this collection spoke to me in ways few things ever have. ANYONE who needs or wishes to understand the plight in Ireland should read this book. RIP Bobby, you are not forgotten, and the struggle has not been abandoned.

I think Bobby Sands was a very interesting person and decent writer, especially considering that he had no formal education to speak of. He shows a variety of writing styles, prose and poetry. However, I think he becomes incredibly repetitive! I understand that this is all he has to write about, but I think he obsesses over certain issues and becomes rather self-indulgent on his own suffering. He seems to leave out many things, such as what the "screws" would taunt them with, perhaps this was because they would say how the IRA killed innocent people! He also leaves out the fact that he abandoned his own child and wife, though she divorced him because of his decision to hold the IRA above his own family. I admire his endurance and unwavering belief in his cause, something which too many people lack today. Conviction!

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