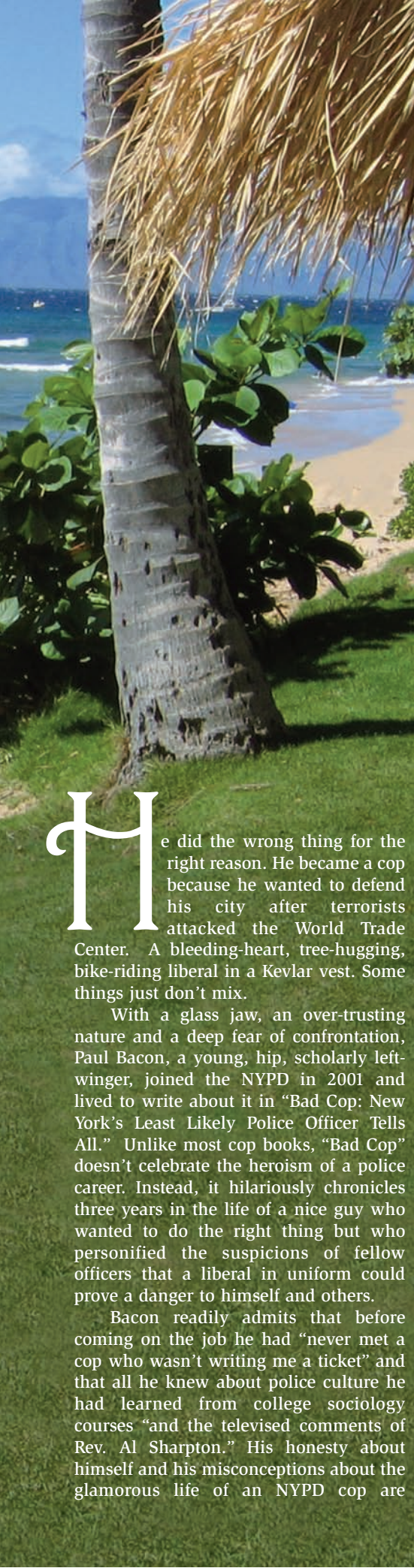


"BAD COP" —

GOOD SCUBA DIVER



The author on a rooftop in the 32 Pct.



By
Zink

PBA RECORDING SECRETARY

riotously funny and deadly accurate. He describes Mayor Bloomberg’s appearance at his swearing-in ceremony this way:

“Bob Denver could have sauntered onstage in his Gilligan hat and made a more commanding entrance.” It gave him the impression that “City Hall was run by effeminate old fogies.”

The next speaker, PBA president Pat Lynch, on the other hand, emerged as “a barrel-chested man with a pinstripe suit and a slicked-backed Gordon Gecko hairdo” who had some real news for them.

Lynch, he writes, “leveled one indictment after another against the department’s top brass, painting them as more dangerous to cops than all the city’s gangs put together.” Lynch described how the public didn’t pay attention to police work until we made a mistake... Then, everything we did in the heat of the moment would be judged by people with nothing but time on their hands and no idea of the pressures we faced.”

Lynch, he continues, delivered the sobering news that these recruits “have never been closer to getting arrested than you are at this very moment” and that the PBA would be there to defend them through it all. For a humorous book, there’s a lot of truth there and we’re only up to page 25!

“Bad Cop” takes us through the trials and tribulations of a recruit issuing his first summons, doing car stops and

encountering a ripe DOA near the end of a tour when he was already exhausted from working in a short-staffed precinct. He is confused by being on the opposite side of political protest barriers, trying to keep peace among people he agreed with, or at least used to. He wonders how he ever took himself so seriously during his protesting days.

But sandwiched between anecdotes and antics, the author explores serious issues like summons and arrests “non-quota quotas” and the pressure on young cops to downgrade crimes, all seen through the eyes of an inexperienced idealist. In about 30 months, Bacon goes from gung-ho cop to a self-described “hairbag” doing his best to shit-can jobs. The stress and exhaustion of policing took a physical and mental toll on him. But he had the courage to admit that he shouldn’t be a cop. The incident that finally made him realize this is just too funny to give up here. Read the book and I promise you’ll laugh.

The good news for him: There is life after the NYPD. He now lives in Hawaii, where he teaches scuba diving — which was his true ambition all along. And after having rescued a drowning scuba student, Paul Bacon finally knows what it feels like to be a real cop.

“Bad Cop” hits the local bookshelves and Amazon.com in April.

