

Rizzo

The Last Big Man in Big City America

S.A. Paolantonio

New introduction by John F. Timoney

From the Book Jacket

This biography is the entertaining saga of an immigrant family that begins in the arid Apennine Hills of southern Italy. It is the story of a man who defied his own father and the Irish-controlled Philadelphia Police Department to become one of the toughest cops in America. It is also a portrait of Rizzo's rise to unlikely political prominence, of how he became obsessed with power, betrayed his supporters, and spent more than a decade fighting for redemption.

Rizzo was loved. He was hated. And there was no one else like him. As cop, police commissioner, mayor, and consummate campaigner, Rizzo was the last of the big men who patrolled the urban landscape.

The life of Frank Rizzo is a uniquely American tale, the story of an American city in the American century.

