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Big Policeman: The Rise and Fall of Thomas Byrnes, America's First, Most Ruthless, and Greatest Detective

J. North Conway

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The remarkable career of one of America’s greatest detectives—a story of murder, mayhem, and intrigue

Philip Marlowe, *Dirty Harry*, and even *Law & Order*—none of these would exist as they do today were it not for the legendary career of nineteenth-century New York City cop Thomas Byrnes. From 1854 to 1895, Byrnes rose through the ranks of the city’s police department to become one of the most celebrated detectives in American history, a larger-than-life figure who paved the way for modern-day police methods, both good and bad.

During the age of *Gangs of New York*, Byrnes solved many of the most sensational and high-profile cases in the city and the country. He captured Manhattan’s Jack the Ripper copy-cat killer; solved the murder of prostitute Maude Merrill, who was killed by her jealous lover—her own uncle; solved the largest bank heist in American history; arrested anarchist Emma Goldman for inciting a riot in Union Square; and accomplished much more. For both good and ill, according to the *New York Times*, Byrnes “shaped not just the New York City Detective Bureau but the template for detective work . . . in every modern American metropolis.” He not only pioneered crime scene investigation, but also perfected the brutal interrogation process called “the third degree.” He revolutionized the gathering of evidence and was the first to use mug shots and keep criminal records. But when Police Commissioner Theodore Roosevelt investigated the corruption that had plagued the department for decades, the man one prominent journalist had dubbed the “big policeman” was forced to resign.

Bringing the Gilded Age to life as he did in his acclaimed *King of Heists: The Sensational Bank Robbery of 1878 That Shocked America*, J. North Conway narrates in thrilling, vivid detail the crimes, murders, corruption, and gritty police work associated with the father of the American detective.

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A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them household or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a book. The book Big Policeman: The Rise and Fall of Thomas Byrnes, America's First, Most Ruthless, and Greatest Detective it is rather good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book offers high quality.

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