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*Robert L. Vernon*

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#1519197 in Books 1993-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.75 x 6.50 x 1.00l, #File Name: 1561791245254 pages | File size: 51.Mb

**Robert L. Vernon : L.A. Justice** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised L.A. Justice:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Read! By Shelia B. Pradia I read this book and loaned it to several friends. They all informed me that they couldn't put it down. Bob Vernon tells his story clearly and with conviction. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Glad to have it again By Stephen This book was referred to me years ago a friend of the author. Lost my first copy. Glad to have it again. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Not bad for a old copper By JOE-JOE BOOKS This book is something more like two books, rather than one. Vernon spends the first half of the book telling his view of the department and what his career was like and how it ended during the aftermath of the LA Riots of 1992. If you are interested in police work and in the LAPD in particular you will enjoy that part. If you are interested a police officer's view during the Los Angeles Riots of 1992 it also for you. Robert Vernon's father was a 20-year veteran of LAPD and he tells of his father's frustration of working in the (then) terribly corrupt department. Vernon then writes of his rise up the ranks and chronicles the evolution of the department during his time there. The second part of the book deals with Vernon's observations on American society and the things that have contributed its changes, not all of them for the better. These personal observations seem to be the recollections of an older gentleman who wishes to impart some of his acquired knowledge to a younger generation that might have a chance to make some changes for the better. I met Mr. Vernon earlier this year at a Pointman Leadership Seminar that my employer sponsored. It was well worth my time and inspired me to read this book, which I had just acquired a month prior to the seminar. Having met the man prior to reading the book and getting a more

insightful view of what makes him tick made the book more inspiring. I hope he might update the book and make it available to participants in his seminar as I believe he has grown a lot, spiritually, since it was written and that aspect of his personality could better be presented in the book today.

The great drama began routinely enough. State Highway Patrol and L.A. police were chasing a suspected drunk driver in the early morning hours of Sunday, March 3, 1991. After the driver, Rodney King, was stopped, however, history-making events unfolded. In what appeared to be a display of excessive force, captured on a home videotape, the officers hit King repeatedly with their batons. They kicked him as well, and King had to be hospitalized for treatment of his injuries. Assistant Chief Bob Vernon was on duty as acting chief the day the story hit the news, and in L.A. Justice he provides the inside view of how the LAPD responded to those events. When the tape was televised, cries of outrage rained down on the LAPD. In the weeks and months that followed, many people, including Mayor Tom Bradley, portrayed the department as racist and demanded the resignation of Chief Daryl Gates. Some in law enforcement, including Bob Vernon, knew that civil unrest was likely to occur at the end of the trial of the four officers charged in the King incident. So plans were made and training was ordered to ensure the police were prepared. Now, for the first time, those plans are described -- along with why most weren't carried out. Why were the verdicts acquitting the officers followed by explosive violence that rocked the nation and left 58 people dead? What smoldering tensions ignited the powder keg and transformed the City of Angels into a raging inferno? And what caused the chaos to spread like wildfire from city to city? These questions are of vital concern to us all, because what happened in L.A. could soon happen across America. We must learn from these tragic events. Fortunately, there is real hope. Bob Vernon sifts through the rubble of American dreams, examining the societal ills that fan the flames of unrest across our land. Then he offers thought-provoking solutions for a nation of families in crisis.

About the Author Bob Vernon started on the streets as a foot beat officer on Skid Row and worked his way up the ranks as a narcotic officer, field sergeant, detective and then through the leadership ranks. He finished as Assistant Chief of Police and Director of operations over ten thousand officers and civilian support personnel.