Ed Norris’ career arc was dazzling.

He spent 20 years as a crime-fighting savant with the New York Police Department, rising from beat cop to deputy commissioner of operations at age 36. As police commissioner of Baltimore, he breathed life into a demoralized force that lowered the city’s infamous homicide count for the first time in a decade. After the 911 attacks, he took over the Maryland State Police and pushed innovative anti-terrorism strategies that made him a national leader in the field.

At the University of Virginia, they taught a graduate course about how his leadership techniques transformed one of the most violent cities in the country.

He was the golden boy of law enforcement, a brash, larger-than-life figure with a taste for fine restaurants, bespoke clothing and fast motorcycles.

Then it all came crashing down.

An investigation into a little-known police expense account morphed into what many felt was a politically-motivated hit job by federal prosecutors. Corruption charges were spiced with lurid allegations of pricey dinners with women and gifts purchased at Victoria’s Secret. Ed Norris protested his innocence, but landed in federal prison. Thus began the hellish ordeal that ultimately cost him his livelihood, reputation, health and marriage.

This is the incredible story of America’s most promising cop, the dark forces that brought him down and his long, emotional journey back from the abyss.

Kevin Cowherd, Co-author

Kevin has co-authored six novels with Hall of Famer, Cal Ripken, Jr., including the New York Times Bestseller, Hothead. Kevin has also published non-fiction books with Apprentice House Press, The Art of Crisis Leadership with Rob Weinhold (FallstonGroup.com), The Opening Act: Comedy, Life and the Desperate Pursuit of Happiness, a look at the career of Baltimore comic Larry Noto, and Hale Storm: The Incredible Saga of Baltimore’s Ed Hale, Including a Secret Life with the CIA.

Eddie Norris was a cop’s cop and is a man’s man. The story he tells of being one of the nation’s best crime fighters, and then getting caught in the grinding wheels of the very justice system he was raised by is an example of the old adage: he who speaks the truth should have at least one foot in the stirrups. It is the rise and fall and rise story you can’t put down.”

—John Miller, former Deputy Commissioner of the NYPD & former Assistant Director of the FBI
A Brooklyn, New York native, Ed began his career with the New York Police Department in 1980. During his tenure, he was promoted often and held the positions of Police Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Deputy Inspector, Deputy Chief and Deputy Commissioner of Operations. While with the NYPD, he created the Cold Case Squad which would later go on to inspire the book “The Restless Sleep: Inside New York City's Cold Case Squad” by Stacy Horn and A&E’s television series, “Cold Case Files.” Ed is a “cop’s cop” who knew how to handle himself and the streets.

In 2000, Ed was recruited by Baltimore’s mayor and became Police Commissioner of the Baltimore Police Department, where his honors included the NAACP President’s Award for police and community relations. Under Ed’s leadership, he improved the policing culture and for the first time in more than a decade, helped drive homicides below 300 for the first time in many, many years.

In 2002, Ed was again recruited, this time by Maryland’s governor, and appointed Maryland State Police Superintendent. It was here he helped reduce crime and improve the quality of life for Maryland’s residents.

Ed is widely known for his role as Detective Ed Norris on HBO’s critically-acclaimed television series, The Wire. He also played an investigator in the 2009 film, “Jack the Ripper in America.”

Currently, in addition to authoring his new book Way Down in the Hole, Ed is a popular American radio personality and actor. He is the co-host of the weekday morning Norris & Long Show on CBS WJZ-FM (105.7 The FAN) in Baltimore, Maryland and is also featured in weekly news segments on WBFF Fox45 News in Baltimore.

Way Down in the Hole is available for order on Amazon.