

FROM CHASING CROOKS TO WRITING BOOKS



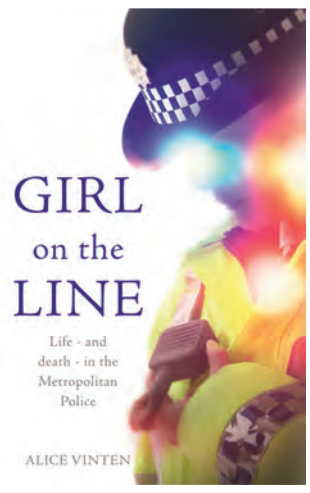
When police constable Alice Vinten enrolled on a home-study course with The Writers Bureau, she never dreamed she'd end up leaving the Met' to write full time. She'd always wanted to be a police officer but now in her latest book, *Girl on the Line*, she tells us what it was really like for a woman on the front-line of London's constant battle against crime.

During her ten years as a London copper, writing helped Alice to process and deal with the challenges of her job. After a while a memoir began to take shape. Over time it became increasingly important to her that she portray the real struggles and experiences of front-line police constables, and how they affected women in particular. With her book she hopes to bridge the gap between the public and the people who protect them on a daily basis.

The idea that her memoirs might be interesting to other people developed when she began a writing course with The Writers Bureau. She quickly gained praise from her tutors for her writing, giving her the confidence to pitch her memoir to a number of publishers.

When she found Two Roads Books and read about their mission to publish voice-driven narratives, she knew she'd found the perfect home for her book, *Girl on the Line*. Using their online submission portal she pitched her idea and was delighted when she was invited in to meet the team, and ecstatic when they offered to publish her memoir.

"We're so pleased for Alice, she's written a cracking book," says Susie Busby, Principal of The Writers Bureau. "She's worked hard and taken chances to progress as a writer. We're very proud to have played a part in her development and wish her all the best for the future."



Alice has been an avid reader since childhood. Growing up, she demolished mountains of books ranging from Point Horror through to the Bronte sisters and Jane Austen. Particular favourites were (and still are) Stephen King, Christopher Pike, Judith Kerr, Roald Dahl and Judy Blume.

From a young age she was determined to join in with everything that 'the boys' did. Along with a friend, she became one of the first girl scouts in Hertfordshire, a fact she is still proud of to this day! After completing her A-Levels, she studied Social Policy at Portsmouth University, before working at the local council in the homeless department whilst waiting to join the Metropolitan Police.

As a mother to two boys she's always nagging them to read more. She is also a lover of all things creative. As well as her memoir, Alice has also written four craft tutorial books and contributed to UK craft magazines. Her passion, however, is crime writing and she is currently working on her first crime novel.

Alice had two ambitions when she was young: to be a police officer and an author. She never dreamed that she would achieve both.

If you've got a gift for words, or have a story to tell and want some advice on telling it, contact The Writers Bureau at: www.writersbureau.com 0800 856 2008. Please quote AT918

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