



The Art of Making Money: The Story of a Master Counterfeiter

By Jason Kersten

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The Art of Making Money: The Story of a Master Counterfeiter By Jason Kersten

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The true story of a brilliant counterfeiter who "made" millions, outwitted the Secret Service, and was finally undone when he went in search of the one thing his forged money couldn't buy him: family.

Art Williams spent his boyhood in a comfortable middle-class existence in 1970s Chicago, but his idyll was shattered when, in short order, his father abandoned the family, his bipolar mother lost her wits, and Williams found himself living in one of Chicago's worst housing projects. He took to crime almost immediately, starting with petty theft before graduating to robbing drug dealers. Eventually a man nicknamed "DaVinci" taught him the centuries-old art of counterfeiting. After a stint in jail, Williams emerged to discover that the Treasury Department had issued the most secure hundred-dollar bill ever created: the 1996 New Note. Williams spent months trying to defeat various security features before arriving at a bill so perfect that even law enforcement had difficulty distinguishing it from the real thing. Williams went on to print millions in counterfeit bills, selling them to criminal organizations and using them to fund cross-country spending sprees. Still unsatisfied, he went off in search of his long-lost father, setting in motion a chain of betrayals that would be his undoing.

In *The Art of Making Money*, journalist Jason Kersten details how Williams painstakingly defeated the anti-forging features of the New Note, how Williams and his partner-in-crime wife converted fake bills into legitimate tender at shopping malls all over America, and how they stayed one step ahead of the Secret Service until trusting the wrong person brought them all down. A compulsively readable story of how having it all is never enough, *The Art of Making Money* is a stirring portrait of the rise and inevitable fall of a modern-day criminal mastermind.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Kersten traces the history of Art Williams from his impoverished childhood to (infamous) career as one of the greatest counterfeiters in modern times. Though Williams serves as the center, Kersten also provides critical commentary on the institutions that shaped Williams, notably his family structure and the American prison system. The prose proves accessible and enjoyable, but Jim Bond's performance makes the book significantly more intriguing. His deep projection coupled with his matter-of-fact delivery make even the most technical passages enjoyable and relatable, and his masterful emphasis and pace help listeners slip into Williams's psyche. *A Gotham hardcover (Reviews, Apr. 20). (June)*

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Review

Jason Kersten delves into the arcane world of a master counterfeiter with a fine eye for detail and novelist's grasp of character. A story about fathers and sons, filled with crime-fueled aslammainga trips, drug pirates, and obsessive desire, I couldn't put it down. After reading this true tale of money and crime, I'll never be able to look at a C- note the same way again. *Julia Flynn Siler, author of the New York Times bestseller, The House of Mondavi: The Rise and Fall of an American Wine Dynasty*

About the Author

Jason Kersten writes for various national magazines, including Rolling Stone and Men's Journal. Also the author of the New York Times Notable Book *Journal of the Dead: A Story of Friendship and Murder in the New Mexico Desert*, he lives in New York.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lela Hird:

Do you have favorite book? In case you have, what is your favorite's book? Book is very important thing for us to understand everything in the world. Each publication has different aim or maybe goal; it means that reserve has different type. Some people experience enjoy to spend their a chance to read a book. They are reading whatever they get because their hobby is actually reading a book. Why not the person who don't like reading through a book? Sometime, man feel need book after they found difficult problem or maybe exercise. Well, probably you'll have this *The Art of Making Money: The Story of a Master Counterfeiter*.

Deborah Hayes:

Nowadays reading books be than want or need but also become a life style. This reading addiction give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the actual information inside the book which improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of reserve you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want really feel happy read one with theme for entertaining for instance comic or novel. The actual *The Art of Making Money: The Story of a Master Counterfeiter* is kind of publication which is giving the reader erratic

experience.

Michael Hansen:

Reading can be called imagination hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book particularly book entitled *The Art of Making Money: The Story of a Master Counterfeiter* your brain will drift away through every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe not known for but surely might be your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a publication then become one web form conclusion and explanation which maybe you never get just before. The *The Art of Making Money: The Story of a Master Counterfeiter* giving you yet another experience more than blown away the mind but also giving you useful data for your better life on this era. So now let us demonstrate the relaxing pattern here is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this extraordinary investing spare time activity?

Robert Mayo:

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