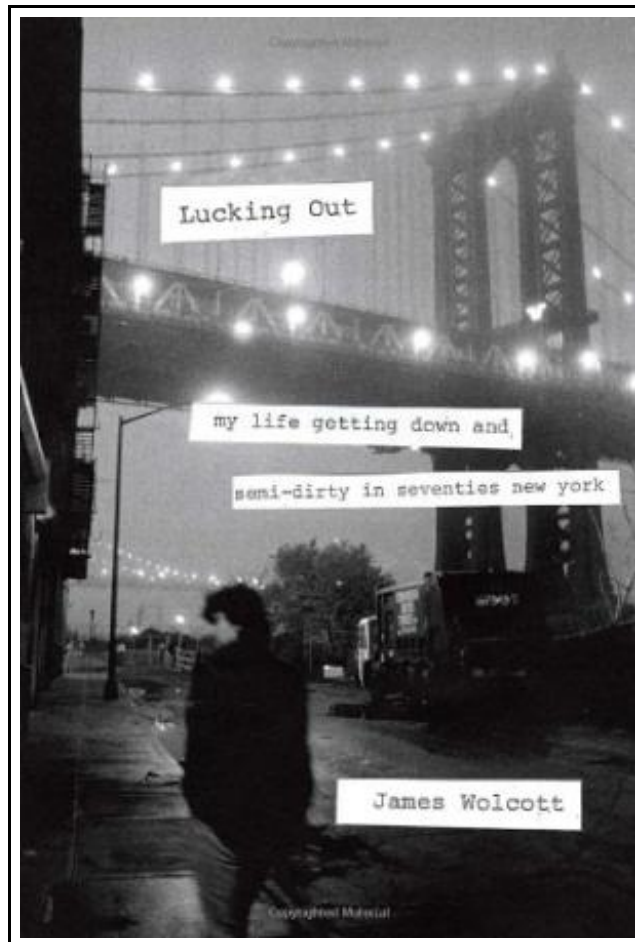


## Lucking Out: My Life Getting Down and Semi-Dirty in the Seventies



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## LUCKING OUT: MY LIFE GETTING DOWN AND SEMI-DIRTY IN THE SEVENTIES



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Doubleday, 2011. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: Praise for Lucking Out : "Longtime Vanity Fair cultural critic Wolcott ( Attack Poodles and Other Media Mutants , 2004, etc.) celebrates the Big Apple as a haven for the writers, artists, musicians and eccentrics who thrived at its core in the 1970s. Of the many sentences in Wolcott's memoir that will have contemporary Manhattan-philes gnashing their teeth in envy is this one recounting how the author dealt with losing his on-site staff job at the Village Voice : "From that point onward I never worked a regular office job again, solely writing for a living, something that would have been impossible if New York hadn't been a city of low rents and crappy expectations that didn't require a trust fund or a six-figure income for the privilege of watching everything fall apart before your eyes." Actually, the entire book is not only a bittersweet valentine to a much-maligned era but a model of exemplary prose that any writer would do well to study. Wolcott's talent for choosing words, shaping sentences, constructing paragraphs and crafting each of the five sections into an essay that stands on its own reveals an architectonic approach lacking in many current memoirs. The author also understands how to apply his individual experiences to the larger context of the zeitgeist . For example, the section entitled "Bodily Contact" weaves personal encounters into a critique of "Me Decade" sexual mores, drawing on Bob Fosse films, the seedy atmosphere of pretourist friendly Times Square, the emerging gay-rights movement and concerns about the dark side of the pick-up culture prevalent at both straight and gay bars. Wolcott also rubbed shoulders with the luminaries of the day, including his mentor, the rabble-rousing author Norman...



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