

# A Clean Hell

## Anarchy and Abolition in America's Most Notorious Dungeon

**Eric King**

**Foreword by Raymond Luc Levasseur**

**Edited by Josh Davidson**

*A Clean Hell* opens the doors of America's most secretive prison and lets the reader step into the cell to experience all the horrors the Federal Bureau of Prisons tries to keep hidden underground.

In 1995 the Bureau of Prisons opened the ADX, its "escape-proof" supermax prison in Florence, Colorado. The nation's most secure supermax prison, it was meant to hold the most high-profile prisoners. The "Alcatraz of the Rockies" has since been home to World Trade Center bombers, Oklahoma City and Boston Marathon bombers, gang leaders, disruptive prisoners, and those deemed "enemies of the state."

Now, thirty years after the ADX first opened, *A Clean Hell* offers readers an up close and personal look at life in the most restrictive prison in the United States. After defying the odds and beating the government in a crooked criminal trial, antifascist prisoner Eric King found himself inside the ADX for eighteen months at the end of a ten-year bid. In telling his story of his trial and life inside this underground supermax, Eric vividly captures what life inside ADX is like for both the most infamous prisoners, as well as those prison rebels you have never heard of.

Whether you're facing time in a federal prison, have clients or loved ones locked inside the ADX, are concerned about the United States prison machine, or are an abolitionist combating the carceral state, *A Clean Hell* presents a clear picture of survival under the most restrictive levels of state repression. It is both an indictment of American atrocities and an invitation to fight back.

### ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

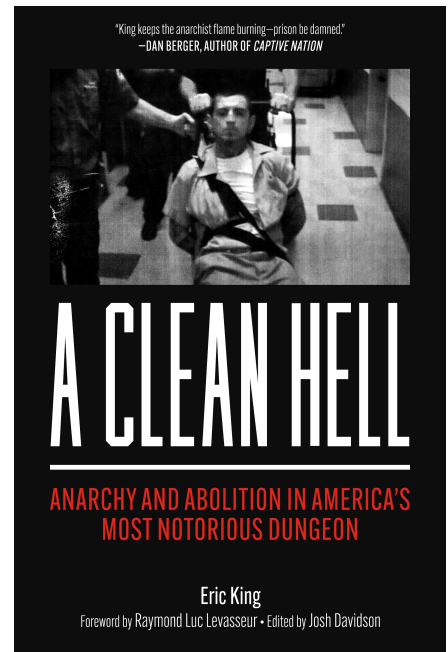
**Eric King** is an anarchist who was imprisoned in 2014 for acts of solidarity with the Ferguson, Missouri, uprising. While in federal custody Eric was indicted for a self-defense incident at FCI-Florence. Eric took it to trial and is one of the absolute few people to ever win at Federal Trial. After his victory Eric was sent to the Federal Supermax, ADX, where he spent most of his final two years of his prison bid. During his time in prison Eric coedited the political prisoner anthology *Rattling the Cages: Oral Histories of North American Political Prisoners*. Eric survived years of documented physical and psychological torture and made it out of prison with heart and soul intact. Eric is an activist, antifascist, and loving father and husband. He lives in Denver, CO.

**Raymond Luc Levasseur** is a Vietnam veteran, human rights activist, revolutionary, writer, and political prisoner. Levasseur was part of a revolutionary Marxist organization that waged a militant struggle in the 1970s and '80s against racism and imperialism.

**Josh Davidson** is an abolitionist, a member of the Certain Days: Freedom for Political Prisoners calendar collective, and part of the Children's Art Project with political prisoner Oso Blanco. Josh coedited *Rattling the Cages: Oral Histories of North American Political Prisoners* with Eric King. He works in communications with the Zinn Education Project, which promotes the teaching of radical people's history in classrooms and provides free lessons and resources for educators.

### ACCOLADES

"Sentenced to the US's most repressive 'supermax' prison, Eric King defied the government's unrelenting attempts to crush his spirit through years of isolation and physical and mental attacks. His profound dignity shines through this account of survival and resistance, offering lessons to everyone committed to fighting the forces of repression."  
—Donna Willmott, former political prisoner



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