

99 Nights with the 99 Percent: Dispatches from the First Three Months of the Occupy Revolution

Chris Faraone



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Occupy Wall Street was the biggest news story of 2011. *Boston Phoenix* staff writer Chris Faraone followed the movement like a storm chaser, standing out among some of the movement's most unique activist and journalistic voices. He is one of the rare few who gained the trust of the Occupiers as he blogged about OWS on a daily basis, from locations all across the country. But he also stepped back to investigate and analyze the protests from a bigger-picture perspective, through in-depth weekly features. This powerful analysis and insight is what fuels **99 Nights with the 99 Percent:** *Dispatches from the First Three Months of the Occupy Revolution*.

"99 Nights" features just-completed, unpublished work as well as many of Faraone's acclaimed Boston Phoenix features and profiles on the Occupy movement, streamlined into an engaging 224-page political travelogue, with exclusive photographs, illustrations and more.

As noted in a December 2011 *Columbia Journalism Review* profile of Faraone entitled "Movement Man," his approach to covering Occupy was wholly unique. He became "a one-man swarm: embedding full-time at Boston's Dewey Square encampment; visiting other movements around the country; juggling feature stories, blog posts, radio spots, and Twitter fights."

Beginning in September 2011, Faraone - a writer with numerous News and Investigative awards from the **Association of Alternative News Media (AAN)** and **New England Newspaper & Press Association** (**NENPA**) - published a series of intricate Occupy portraits in the *Phoenix*, as he traveled across the country, touching down **from Miami and Chicago to Seattle and Oakland**. His work digs deep, explains Occupy operations in a variety of settings, and gets to know the characters that make the movement tick. Along the way, he landed nationwide exclusives, including a major scoop on an underground legion of police who support OWS.

Although Faraone is an unabashed left-winger, he writes with a reporter's objective, unflinching and investigative eye. Over the course of Occupy's first three months, he refused to play favorites, engaging and - at times - aggravating readers of all political stripes. For him it wasn't about taking sides - the fun was in digging up the roots of topics ranging from **Paul Fetch**, an accused thief who moved between camps; to **C.T. Butler of Food Not Bombs**, a seasoned activist who, inspired by Occupy, snapped back into revolutionary action. Also included as a *99 Nights* bonus chapter: Faraone's award-winning 2008 *Phoenix* feature on "hactivist" organization **Anonymous** and its war on Scientology.

As Occupy Wall Street continues to grab front-page headlines throughout 2012, Chris Faraone's *99 Nights with the 99 Percent* is required reading for anyone wishing to fully understand this enduring force for social change.

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