



# Biting Through: Five Years in Afghanistan

*John Ratcliffe*

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## **Biting Through: Five Years in Afghanistan** John Ratcliffe

Once belonging to a group of highly trained soldiers, Ratcliffe left the Australian military to pursue a career in Melbourne, practicing alternative medicine. Years later, he was called to Afghanistan for a short assignment as a security contractor. He planned to be back in Australia after a few weeks. Five years later, he finally returned home. *Biting Through* is the story of what happened in those five years, during one man's descent into the behind-the-headlines reality of the war in Afghanistan. Thrust into a world of terrible danger, Ratcliffe encountered human traffickers, drugs lords, and corrupt officials while the international community looked on and went about its business. He tried to find a way to make a difference to those whose lives he touched, all the while negotiating minefields of dishonesty, only to be betrayed at the final hurdle and incarcerated in a medieval Afghan hellhole, awaiting the death penalty. *Biting Through* is the true account of John Ratcliffe's experiences, from the streets of Kabul to the fighting in the south of Afghanistan. It is a story about the people he met, the friends he made, and the lives he saved. A testimony to the brutal realities of one of the longest wars in modern history, which was replete with hideous waste and relentless corruption, it is a unique work, written by a man of remarkable courage and fortitude.

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