



Teaching in the Terrordome: Two Years in West Baltimore with Teach for America (Paperback)

By Heather Lanier

University of Missouri Press, United States, 2012. Paperback. Condition: New. New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Only 50 percent of kids growing up in poverty will earn a high school diploma. Just one in ten will graduate college. Compelled by these troubling statistics, Heather Kirn Lanier joined Teach For America (TFA), a program that thrusts eager but inexperienced college graduates into America's most impoverished areas to teach, asking them to do whatever is necessary to catch their disadvantaged kids up to the rest of the nation. With little more than a five-week teacher boot camp and the knowledge that David Simon referred to her future school as The Terrordome, the altruistic and naive Lanier devoted herself to attaining the program's goals but met obstacles on all fronts. The building itself was in such poor condition that tiles fell from the ceiling at random. Kids from the halls barged into classes all day, disrupting even the most carefully planned educational activities. In the middle of one lesson, a wandering student lit her classroom door on fire. Some colleagues, instantly suspicious of TFA's intentions, withheld their help and supplies. (They think you're trying to save the...

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