

## 9 Stoicism An Ex Spy S Guide To The Stoic Way Of Life Master The Ancient Philosophies Of Productivity Peace Of Mind Spy Self Help Book 9

Imagine how different your life would be if you could effortlessly think like a spy to get the most out of every situation. James Daugherty is an intelligence expert & former CIA Spy who specializes in all forms of human behavior. Thinking Like A Spy: An Ex-SPY's guide is designed to help you with every element of human interaction. It is a combination of the following three books stacked one on top of the other to help you with the high level communication skills, influence techniques, persuasion strategies, negotiation tactics & body language skills required to gain the upper hand in any situation. (Persuasion: An Ex-SPY's Guide to Master the Art of Mind Control Through Powerful Persuasion Techniques & Conversational Tactics for Ultimate Influence in Any Situation) Better understand Cialdini's 6 "Weapons" of Influence Interpreting the classic human psychological motivators What Aristotle can teach you about persuasion The different types of persuasion techniques explained The right way to use the "reverse psychology" principle Spy tactics for high-pressure/stakes situations Conversational strategies & personality traits to win over even the toughest adversary Importance of small talk, greetings & goodbyes in persuasion Dealing with insults/arguments like a Professional (Negotiation: An Ex-SPY's Guide to Master the Psychological Tricks & Talking Tools to Become an Expert Negotiator in Any Situation) Identify the 3 negotiator personality profiles (and which one you are) Build the verbal and nonverbal rapport critical for productive talks The two absolute terms to know before entering any negotiating table The clever psychological buyer/seller negotiation tricks (for the car, house & yourself) What an Arms Dealer can teach you about an auction style negotiation Understand the strategies best suited for business and the boardroom Use the "I agree" principle for handling objections A Spy's behavioral modification tricks to execute in the moment (Body Language: An Ex-SPY's Guide to Master the Art of Nonverbal Communication to Know What People Are Really Thinking in Any Situation) Understand the biochemistry behind body language Identify the 5 C's of context for non-verbal communication Implement reading strategies and behavioral tactics for the real world Pick up on the largely unconscious signals of the lower limbs Know what crossing and pointing of the arms/hands are really telling you Facial features that hold most weight (hint eyes & mouth) Understand the "Pinocchio Principle" when it comes to lying Deception detectors in general

Instant #1 New York Times Bestseller & Wall Street Journal Bestseller In The Obstacle Is the Way and Ego Is the Enemy, bestselling author Ryan Holiday made ancient wisdom wildly popular with a new generation of leaders in sports, politics, and technology. In his new book, Stillness Is the Key, Holiday draws on timeless Stoic and Buddhist philosophy to show why slowing down is the secret weapon for those charging ahead. All great leaders, thinkers, artists, athletes, and visionaries share one indelible quality. It enables them to conquer their tempers. To avoid distraction and discover great insights. To achieve happiness and do the right thing. Ryan Holiday calls it stillness--to be steady while the world spins around you. In this book, he outlines a path for achieving this ancient, but urgently necessary way of living.

Drawing on a wide range of history's greatest thinkers, from Confucius to Seneca, Marcus Aurelius to Thich Nhat Hanh, John Stuart Mill to Nietzsche, he argues that stillness is not mere inactivity, but the doorway to self-mastery, discipline, and focus. Holiday also examines figures who exemplified the power of stillness: baseball player Sadaharu Oh, whose study of Zen made him the greatest home run hitter of all time; Winston Churchill, who in balancing his busy public life with time spent laying bricks and painting at his Chartwell estate managed to save the world from annihilation in the process; Fred Rogers, who taught generations of children to

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9 see what was invisible to the eye; Anne Frank, whose journaling and love of nature guided her through unimaginable adversity. More than ever, people are overwhelmed. They face obstacles and egos and competition. Stillness Is the Key offers a simple but inspiring antidote to the stress of 24/7 news and social media. The stillness that we all seek is the path to meaning, contentment, and excellence in a world that needs more of it than ever.

While the Ancient Stoic advice is still the very best playbook for adversity, you might need to give yourself an upgrade on these timeless teachings. To adopt a more progressive, 21st-century approach to problems. This makes dealing with issues so much easier when they do arise! This book lays out these upgrades in clear, concise, actionable steps.

Do you lack the resilience to deal with tough times? Want to develop this strength while effortlessly attaining peace of mind? Stoicism is a timeless ancient philosophy which can teach you just that. Its guiding tenets provide a clear road map on exactly how to better handle misfortunes & hardships we all inevitably face in life.

StoicismAn Ex-spys Guide to the Stoic Way of Life - Master the Ancient Philosophies of Productivity & Peace of MindCreatespace Independent Publishing Platform

Imagine how different your life would be if you knew how to develop the resilience to deal with tough times, whilst effortlessly getting on the path to peace of mind. Stoicism is a timeless ancient philosophy which can teach you just that. Unlike many religious and new age thinking methods, Stoic teachings provide a clear road map on exactly "How" to think, not simply "What" to think. Thus giving its practitioners a way to better deal with the misfortunes and hardships they face. James Daugherty is an intelligence expert & former CIA Spy who specializes in all forms of human behavior. But there's one trait which is critical to a productive life, obtaining and retaining a pragmatic and stable mindset. A spy would be worthless without it. Daugherty is a huge proponent of the Stoic philosophies, as a result of being exposed to highly stressful and testing situations over the years. A Stoic mindset is not a luxury for a field agent, but a necessity. In this insightful and functional book, Daugherty gives readers a firsthand look into: What Stoicism is, and where this wisdom came from The trials and tribulations of Marcus Aurelius, Epictetus & Seneca Cultivating Virtues, human emotion and connection to mankind Dealing with modern day demands using "The Art of Acquiescence" Seneca's rules to eradicate stress - lessons from the Greeks Practical tips on problem solving, perseverance & pragmatism Daily Stoic Meditations and Affirmations ... and much more.

Imagine how different your life would be if you knew how to combine the classic Stoic principles with modern day success seeking behavior. Stoicisms ancient teachings are the very best playbook for adversity. Unlike many religious and new age thinking methods, Stoic principles provide a clear road map on exactly "How" to think, not simply "What" to think. Thus giving its practitioners a way to better deal with the misfortunes and hardships they face. However, this is only half of the battle. If you truly want to make the most of these principles, then you need to give yourself a leg up to begin with. To adopt a more progressive approach towards success which makes dealing with issues so much easier when they do arise. Daugherty is a huge proponent of the Stoic philosophies, as a result of being exposed to highly stressful and testing situations over the years. A Stoic mindset is not a luxury for a field agent, but a necessity. In this insightful 3rd edition to the Stoicism series, Daugherty gives readers a firsthand look into: The importance of finding your purpose over passion The wonders of persistent and massive action Why you should never use excuses again The magic of re-contextualization - re-framing obstacles & set-backs How to goal set and properly assess progress for rapid growth The power of delaying gratification & fostering an "attitude of gratitude" Learning the art of "dying before you die" ... and much more.

9 What if your father wasn't the man you thought he was? Former KGB assassin Max Austin's peaceful life in Paris is shattered when his mother's imminent death brings him back to a world he only wants to forget. Before he's even unpacked his bags, a brutal act of terrorism sends Max running for his life and forces him to uncover secrets about his father's past to save his family's lives. Max's sister and nephew become pawns in a game that started a generation ago. As Max races from the alleyways of Minsk to the tony neighborhoods of Zurich, and finally to the gritty streets of Prague, he must confront his past and come to terms with his future to preserve his family name. If you like intrigue, twists, and high-octane excitement, you'll love this tight, fast-paced adventure, starring Jack Arbor's stoic hero, ex-KGB assassin-for-hire Max Austin. A deep-cover CIA agent races across Europe to save the daughter he never knew in this electrifying debut thriller—an international sensation billed as “Homeland meets Stieg Larsson” that heralds the arrival of a new master sure to follow in the footsteps of Stieg Larsson, John Le Carré, and Graham Greene. In the end, you cannot hide who you are. Klara Walldén was raised by her grandparents on a remote archipelago in the Baltic Sea, learning to fish and hunt and sail a boat through a storm. Now, as an EU Parliament aide in Brussels, she is learning how to navigate the treacherous currents of international politics: the lines between friend and enemy, truth and lies. But Klara has accidentally seen something she shouldn't have: a laptop containing information so sensitive that someone will kill to keep hidden. Suddenly, she is thrown into a terrifying chase across Europe, with no idea who is hunting her or why. Meanwhile, in Virginia, an old spy hides from his past. Once, he was a man of action, an operative so dedicated that he abandoned his infant daughter to keep his cover. Now, he is the only man who can save Klara . . . and she is the only woman who can allow him to lay old ghosts to rest.

"If Mr. and Mrs. Smith had kids and wrote a parenting book, this is what you'd get: a practical guide for how to utilize key spy tactics to teach kids important life skills--from self-defense to effective communication to conflict resolution." --Working Mother Christina was a single, successful CIA analyst with a burgeoning career in espionage when she met fellow spy, Ryan, a hotshot field operative who turned her world upside down. They fell in love, married, and soon they were raising three children from his first marriage, and later, two more of their own. Christina knew right away that there was something special about the way Ryan was parenting his kids, although she had to admit their obsession with surviving end-of-world scenarios and their ability to do everything from archery to motorcycle riding initially gave her pause. More than that, Ryan's kids were much more security savvy than most adults she knew. She soon realized he was using his CIA training and field experience in his day-to-day child-rearing. And why shouldn't he? The CIA trains its employees to be equipped to deal with just about anything. Shouldn't parents strive to do the same for their kids? As Christina grew into her new role as a stepmom and later gave birth to their two children, she got on board with Ryan's unique parenting style--and even helped shape it using her own experiences at the CIA. Told through honest and relatable parenting anecdotes, Christina shares their distinctive approach to raising confident, security-conscious, resilient children, giving practical takeaways rooted in CIA tradecraft along the way. License to Parent aims to provide parents with the tools necessary to raise savvier, well-rounded kids who have the skills necessary to navigate through life.

9 The FBI veteran behind the Russia investigation draws on decades of experience hunting foreign agents in the United States to lay bare the threat posed by President Trump.

When George Washington beat a hasty retreat from New York City in August 1776, many thought the American Revolution might soon be over. Instead, Washington rallied—thanks in large part to a little-known, top-secret group called the Culper Spy Ring. He realized that he couldn't defeat the British with military might, so he recruited a sophisticated and deeply secretive intelligence network to infiltrate New York. Drawing on extensive research, Brian Kilmeade and Don Yaeger have offered fascinating portraits of these spies: a reserved Quaker merchant, a tavern keeper, a brash young longshoreman, a curmudgeonly Long Island bachelor, a coffeehouse owner, and a mysterious woman. Long unrecognized, the secret six are finally receiving their due among the pantheon of American heroes.

Competitive gaming and eSports among youths became a major theme these days. For an e-Athlete, having the best strategy or belonging to a team with the best skills are sometimes not enough for success. Real life tournaments are tougher than we can imagine. The Invisible Game covers the necessary mental development of eSport players. The book helps to prepare the players' minds for the challenges, both on the map and in real life. Nowadays we overestimate the power of our thoughts, and we forget the potential of our inner wisdom. This book guides you with honest life experiences of an eSport team manager on a journey to find the mental balance for peak performance.

Reviews over 10,000 films, and includes star, director, and theme indexes. The first ever true story told by an MI5 officer - an explosive, shocking and honest account revealing never-before-seen detail into MI5's operation. 'I do it because it is all I know. I'm a hunter of people and I'm damn good at it.' Recruited after the 7/7 attacks on London, Tom quickly found himself immersed in the tense world of watching, following and infiltrating networks of terrorists, spies and foreign agents. It was a job that took over his life and cost him dear, taking him to the limit of physical and mental endurance. Filled with extraordinary accounts of operations that saved countless lives, Soldier Spy is the only authentic account by an ex-MI5 officer of the round-the-clock battle to keep this country safe.

\_\_\_\_\_ 'Very well written, gives a startling amount of operational detail, the biggest shock of all - MI5 agreed to its publication' Sunday Times 'A blistering, visceral insight into life on the front line against terror, revealed in remarkable detail' Daily Telegraph 'Startling, absolutely fascinating. A footsoldier's account out on the street.' Radio 4 'Gripping. One of the most successful MI5 undercover surveillance officers of his time' Sun

Imagine how different your life would be if you knew the practical ways to harness your emotions & thrive with the timeless philosophy of Stoicism. Stoicisms ancient teachings are the very best playbook for adversity. Unlike many religious and new age thinking methods, Stoic principles provide a clear road map on exactly "How" to think, not simply "What" to think. Thus giving its practitioners methods to better deal with the misfortunes and hardships which

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A former spy with dangerous secrets fears nothing...except his dark desire for the delicate virgin he cannot have. "It had me captivated from the beginning with a hot alpha and dark sensual promises; all mixed in with romance and a gripping mystery." -Nicola, Goodreads "Gabriel and Thea from this book were two of the best characters I read this year." -Romantic Historical Reviews A Prisoner of His Past Gabriel Ridgley, the Marquess of Tremont, is dubbed The Angel for his pristine reputation. Yet he harbors a dark secret: a spy during the Napoleonic Wars, he bears deep and dangerous scars. When he meets Miss Dorothea Kent, a delicate virgin, he is torn between carnal desire—and the need to protect her from his inner demons. A Captive of Her Passions Despite a frail constitution, Thea Kent has strength of spirit and heart. A wild attraction blooms between her and Gabriel, a widowed aristocrat with tortured eyes, yet he resists the pull between them. When fate places his disabled son in her care, she's determined to guard the boy—and unravel the mystery of Gabriel's past. Freed by Love and Passion Someone is killing Gabriel's former colleagues, and he may be next on the list. As the desperate hunt for the villain begins, he and Thea get entangled in

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Intrigue, betrayal, and desire too powerful to resist. Will trust help them to survive... and true love set them free? Grace's books feature scorching hot historical romance, fun and feel-good happily ever afters, and exciting mystery and adventure. Her books are standalones which can also be enjoyed as part of her interconnected series. Heart of Enquiry (The Kents) series (hot Regency romance) Prequel Novella: The Widow Vanishes (Will & Annabel) 1: The Duke Who Knew Too Much (Alaric & Emma) 2: M is for Marquess (Gabriel & Thea) 3: The Lady Who Came in from the Cold (Marcus & Penny) 4: The Viscount Always Knocks Twice (Richard & Violet) 5: Never Say Never to an Earl (Sinjin & Polly) 6: The Gentleman Who Loved Me (Andrew & Primrose) Game of Dukes series (hot Victorian romance) 1: The Duke Identity (Harry & Tessa) 2: Enter the Duke (Ransom & Maggie) 3: Regarding the Duke (Garrity & Gabby) 4: The Duke Redemption (Wickham & Beatrice) 5: The Return of the Duke (Knight & Fancy) 6: Steamy Winter Wishes: A Hot Historical Romance Short Story (featuring characters from all of Grace's series) Lady Charlotte's Society of Angels series (hot Victorian romance) 1. Lady Olivia and the Masked Duke (Olivia & Ben) 2. Pippa and the Prince of Secrets (Pippa & Cull, Preorder for Sept 2021) Mayhem in Mayfair series (hot Regency Romance) 1: Her Husband's Harlot (Helena & Nicholas) 2: Her Wanton Wager (Percy & Gavin) 3: Her Protector's Pleasure (Marianne & Ambrose) 4: Her Prodigal Passion (Charity & Paul)

First published in 1916, this book contains a revised version of The Cambridge Companion to the Bible from 1892. The authors explain much of the political, social and religious background to the books of the Bible, as well as examining how biblical texts have come down to the present day. The text is accompanied by photographs of important biblical sites and artefacts. This book will be of value to anyone with an interest in the Bible and biblical scholarship.

In this gripping page-turner, an ex-agent on the run from her former employers must take one more case to clear her name and save her life. She used to work for the U.S. government, but very few people ever knew that. An expert in her field, she was one of the darkest secrets of an agency so clandestine it doesn't even have a name. And when they decided she was a liability, they came for her without warning. Now she rarely stays in the same place or uses the same name for long. They've killed the only other person she trusted, but something she knows still poses a threat. They want her dead, and soon. When her former handler offers her a way out, she realizes it's her only chance to erase the giant target on her back. But it means taking one last job for her ex-employers. To her horror, the information she acquires only makes her situation more dangerous. Resolving to meet the threat head-on, she prepares for the toughest fight of her life but finds herself falling for a man who can only complicate her likelihood of survival. As she sees her choices being rapidly whittled down, she must apply her unique talents in ways she never dreamed of. In this tautly plotted novel, Meyer creates a fierce and fascinating new heroine with a very specialized skill set. And she shows once again why she's one of the world's bestselling authors.

Former MI5 agent Harry Tate is drawn back into the field when an old friend goes missing – and discovers the stakes could not be higher. Harry Tate has one rule: you don't abandon your friends. When he learns that former colleague Rik Ferris has had a

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breakdown and disappeared, allegedly in possession of highly sensitive secrets from MI6's archives, he agrees to look for him and, if possible, bring him back in. But where to begin? Rik could be anywhere in the world. All Harry knows is, if he doesn't find Rik, others will be sent out instead. And they won't play by the same rules. What Harry doesn't know is that Rik is being held prisoner and tortured for information relating to a high-level mole in the British establishment. If he doesn't tell his captors what he knows, it will result in a devastating cyber attack designed to bring the UK to its knees. "Paul Vidich's likable and reluctant spy, George Mueller, will keep readers guessing in this eerily real Cuba of 1958. The Good Assassin is a keen historical adventure from the best noir tradition."—Elizabeth Kostova, #1 New York Times bestselling author "The Good Assassin opens up Hemingway's Cuba. Possessing Alan Furst's attention for period detail and the deft character touches of John Le Carré, Vidich has quickly carved out a place for himself among the very first rank of espionage writers. It's a masterful effort and the author's best work to date."—Michael Harvey, New York Times bestselling author of The Chicago Way "The Good Assassin is first-rate literary espionage . . . Author Paul Vidich has evoked not only the intrigue and brutality of Batista's Cuba, but the island itself . . . a masterful work of noir fiction."—Susan Isaacs, New York Times bestselling author of A Hint of Strangeness Paul Vidich follows up his acclaimed debut spy thriller with a suspenseful tale of Cold War espionage set in 1950s Cuba, as foreign powers compete to influence the outcome of a revolution. Former CIA Agent George Mueller arrives in Havana in August 1958—the last months before the fall of Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista—to look into the activities of Toby Graham, a CIA officer suspected of harboring sympathies for the rebel forces fighting the unpopular Batista regime. Mueller knew Graham as an undergraduate and later they were colleagues in Berlin fighting the Soviet NKVD. Under the guise of their long acquaintance Mueller is recruited to vet rumors that Graham is putting weapons, covertly provided by the CIA to Batista, into the hands of Castro's forces. Public exposure of the CIA weapons mission, and the activity of one rogue agent, threaten to embarrass the agency. Mueller uncovers a world of deceit as the FBI, CIA, and State Department compete to influence the outcome of the revolution in the face of the brutal dictatorship's imminent collapse. Graham, meanwhile, is troubled by the hypocrisy of a bankrupt US foreign policy, and has fallen in love with a married American woman, Liz Malone. Paul Vidich has written a powerful story of ideals, passions, betrayals, and corrupting political rivalries in the months before Castro's triumphant march into Havana on New Year's Day 1959. This sequel showcases the widely praised talents of Paul Vidich, who Booklist says, "writes with an economy of style that acclaimed novelists might do well to emulate."

Three former CIA officers share their techniques for lie detection, outlining methods for identifying deceptiveness as revealed by verbal and non-verbal behaviors from facial expressions and grooming gestures to invoking religion and using qualifying language. Joe Navarro, a former FBI counterintelligence officer and a recognized expert on nonverbal behavior, explains how to "speed-read" people: decode sentiments and behaviors, avoid hidden pitfalls, and look for deceptive behaviors. You'll also learn how your body language can influence what your boss, family, friends, and strangers think of you. Read this book and send your nonverbal intelligence soaring. You will discover: The ancient survival instincts that drive body language Why the face is the least likely

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place to gauge a person's true feelings What thumbs, feet, and eyelids reveal about moods and motives The most powerful behaviors that reveal our confidence and true sentiments Simple nonverbals that instantly establish trust Simple nonverbals that instantly communicate authority Filled with examples from Navarro's professional experience, this definitive book offers a powerful new way to navigate your world. Schottenfreude is a unique, must-have dictionary, complete with newly coined words that explore the idiosyncrasies of life as only the German language can. Ever thought, There should be a German word for that? Well, thanks to the brilliantly original mind behind Schott's Original Miscellany, now there is. In what other language but German could you construct le mot juste for a secret love of bad foods, the inability to remember jokes, Sunday-afternoon depression, the urge to yawn, the glee of gossip, reassuring your hairdresser, delight at the changing of the seasons, the urge to hoard, or the ineffable pleasure of a cold pillow? A beguiling, ideal gift book for the Gelehrte or anyone on your list—just beware of rapidly expanding (and potentially incomprehensible) vocabularies. Smart. Funny. Fearless."It's pretty safe to say that Spy was the most influential magazine of the 1980s. It might have remade New York's cultural landscape; it definitely changed the whole tone of magazine journalism. It was cruel, brilliant, beautifully written and perfectly designed, and feared by all. There's no magazine I know of that's so continually referenced, held up as a benchmark, and whose demise is so lamented" --Dave Eggers. "It's a piece of garbage" --Donald Trump. #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE • Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader's Circle for author chats and more. In boyhood, Louis Zamperini was an incorrigible delinquent. As a teenager, he channeled his defiance into running, discovering a prodigious talent that had carried him to the Berlin Olympics. But when World War II began, the athlete became an airman, embarking on a journey that led to a doomed flight on a May afternoon in 1943. When his Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean, against all odds, Zamperini survived, adrift on a foundering life raft. Ahead of Zamperini lay thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, thirst and starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater. Driven to the limits of endurance, Zamperini would answer desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve, and humor; brutality with rebellion. His fate, whether triumph or tragedy, would be suspended on the fraying wire of his will. Appearing in paperback for the first time—with twenty arresting new photos and an extensive Q&A with the author—Unbroken is an unforgettable testament to the resilience of the human mind, body, and spirit, brought vividly to life by Seabiscuit author Laura Hillenbrand. Hailed as the top nonfiction book of the year by Time magazine • Winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for biography and the Indies Choice Adult Nonfiction Book of the Year award "Extraordinarily moving . . . a powerfully drawn survival epic."—The Wall Street Journal "[A] one-in-a-billion story . . . designed to wrench from self-respecting critics all the blurby adjectives we normally try to avoid: It is amazing,

9 unforgettable, gripping, harrowing, chilling, and inspiring.”—New York “Staggering . . . mesmerizing . . . Hillenbrand’s writing is so ferociously cinematic, the events she describes so incredible, you don’t dare take your eyes off the page.”—People “A meticulous, soaring and beautifully written account of an extraordinary life.”—The Washington Post “Ambitious and powerful . . . a startling narrative and an inspirational book.”—The New York Times Book Review “Magnificent . . . incredible . . . [Hillenbrand] has crafted another masterful blend of sports, history and overcoming terrific odds; this is biography taken to the nth degree, a chronicle of a remarkable life lived through extraordinary times.”—The Dallas Morning News “An astonishing testament to the superhuman power of tenacity.”—Entertainment Weekly “A tale of triumph and redemption . . . astonishingly detailed.”—O: The Oprah Magazine “[A] masterfully told true story . . . nothing less than a marvel.”—Washingtonian “[Hillenbrand tells this] story with cool elegance but at a thrilling sprinter’s pace.”—Time “Hillenbrand [is] one of our best writers of narrative history. You don’t have to be a sports fan or a war-history buff to devour this book—you just have to love great storytelling.”—Rebecca Skloot, author of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*

Milo Weaver is unwillingly drawn into his bosses' plans for revenge against the Chinese agent who orchestrated the deaths of 33 tourists. Steinhauer, the best espionage writer in a generation, delivers a searing international thriller.

"Harnden skillfully interweaves dramatic action sequences with the backstories of the book's central figures, and briskly highlights the failures of U.S. policy in Afghanistan. Readers will be swept up in this little-known chapter of America's 'forever war.'" -Publishers Weekly

This dramatic true story reveals the secret mission of the eight members of the CIA's Team Alpha, the first Americans to be dropped behind enemy lines in Afghanistan after 9/11. America is reeling; Al-Qaeda has struck and thousands are dead. The country scrambles to respond, but the Pentagon has no plan for Afghanistan—where Osama bin Laden masterminded the attack and is protected by the Taliban. Instead, the CIA steps forward to spearhead the war. Eight CIA officers are dropped into the mountains of northern Afghanistan on October 17, 2001. They are Team Alpha, an eclectic band of linguists, tribal experts, and elite warriors: the first Americans to operate inside Taliban territory. Their covert mission is to track down Al-Qaeda and stop the terrorists from infiltrating the United States again. First Casualty places you with Team Alpha as the CIA rides into battle on horseback alongside the warlord Abdul Rashid Dostum. In Washington, DC, few trust that the CIA men, the Green Berets, and the Americans' outnumbered Afghan allies can prevail before winter sets in. On the ground, Team Alpha is undeterred. The Taliban is routed but hatches a plot with Al-Qaeda to hit back. Hundreds of suicidal fighters, many hiding weapons, fake a surrender and are transported to Qala-i Jangi—the “Fort of War.” Team Alpha's Mike Spann, an ex-Marine, and David Tyson, a polyglot former Central Asian studies academic, seize America's initial opportunity to extract intelligence from men trained by bin Laden—among them a young Muslim

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convert from California. The prisoners revolt and one CIA officer falls—the first casualty in America’s longest war, which will last two decades. The other CIA man shoots dead the Al-Qaeda jihadists attacking his comrade. To survive, he must fight his way out against overwhelming odds. Award-winning author Toby Harnden gained unprecedented access to all living Team Alpha members and every level of the CIA. Superbly researched, *First Casualty* draws on extensive interviews, secret documents, and deep reporting inside Afghanistan. As gripping as any adventure novel, yet intimate and profoundly moving, it tells how America found a winning strategy only to abandon it. Harnden reveals that the lessons of early victory and the haunting foretelling it contained—unreliable allies, ethnic rivalries, suicide attacks, and errant US bombs—were ignored, tragically fueling a twenty-year conflict.

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