

guantanamo diary

guantanamo diary is a powerful and revealing memoir that sheds light on the controversial detention facility at Guantanamo Bay and the experiences of its detainees. This article explores the origins and significance of the Guantanamo Diary, delving into the life of its author, Mohamedou Ould Slahi, and the broader context of Guantanamo Bay. Readers will learn about the creation, publication, and impact of the diary, as well as its influence on public discourse and human rights advocacy. The article also examines the key themes found within the memoir, its critical reception, and its ongoing legacy in literature and legal discussions. Whether you are interested in international law, human rights, or contemporary history, this comprehensive guide to Guantanamo Diary provides valuable insights and factual information for anyone seeking to understand its importance.

- Understanding Guantanamo Diary: Background and Significance
- The Life of Mohamedou Ould Slahi
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Understanding Guantanamo Diary: Background and Significance

Guantanamo Diary is the memoir of Mohamedou Ould Slahi, a Mauritanian national who was detained at the Guantanamo Bay detention camp for over a decade without formal charges. The book serves as one of the first and most detailed first-hand accounts from inside the controversial facility. The Guantanamo Diary offers unprecedented insight into the day-to-day realities of detainee life, the legal ambiguity surrounding the camp, and the psychological and physical impacts of indefinite detention. Its publication marked a significant moment in the ongoing debate around human rights, national security, and the rule of law. For researchers, journalists, and human rights advocates, Guantanamo Diary remains an essential resource for understanding the realities of post-9/11 detention policies.

The Life of Mohamedou Ould Slahi

Early Life and Education

Mohamedou Ould Slahi was born in Mauritania in 1970. He showed exceptional academic promise, earning a scholarship to study electrical engineering in Germany. His early life was marked by a commitment to education and a desire to contribute to his community. Slahi's international background and technical expertise would later become focal points in his narrative, providing context for his travels and associations that were scrutinized by authorities.

Arrest and Detention

In 2001, Slahi was arrested by Mauritanian authorities and rendered to Jordan, then Afghanistan, and finally Guantanamo Bay, at the request of the United States. His detention was based on alleged connections to terrorist organizations, although he was never formally charged with any crime. Slahi's experience of extraordinary rendition, torture, and prolonged detention is a central focus of Guantanamo Diary, highlighting the complexities and controversies of counterterrorism measures during the War on Terror.

Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp: Historical Context

Establishment and Purpose

Guantanamo Bay detention camp was established in January 2002 by the U.S. government to detain suspected terrorists and enemy combatants captured during military operations in Afghanistan and elsewhere. The camp was intended to operate outside the regular judicial system, allowing for indefinite detention without trial. This policy sparked immediate controversy regarding the rights of detainees and the adherence to international law.

Controversies and Criticisms

Guantanamo Bay quickly became a symbol of legal and ethical controversy. Human rights organizations cited numerous violations, including torture, lack of due process, and indefinite detention. The facility's practices drew criticism from international bodies and led to calls for its closure. Guantanamo Diary emerged as a key document in revealing the personal and systemic consequences of these policies.

- Allegations of torture and inhumane treatment
- Legal battles over habeas corpus and detainee rights

- International condemnation and pressure for reform

Writing and Publication of Guantanamo Diary

The Writing Process

While detained at Guantanamo Bay, Mohamedou Ould Slahi began writing his diary in 2005. He wrote in English, despite it not being his first language, detailing his experiences, interrogations, and reflections on life inside the facility. The manuscript was subject to censorship by U.S. authorities, with numerous redactions made before its release.

Publication Journey

After years of legal challenges, Guantanamo Diary was finally published in 2015. The book was edited by Larry Siems, who worked to restore context and coherence despite the heavy redactions. Upon its release, Guantanamo Diary became an international bestseller, praised for its unfiltered honesty and literary merit. The publication brought widespread attention to the issues facing detainees at Guantanamo Bay and sparked renewed debates about the facility's future.

Major Themes in Guantanamo Diary

Human Rights and Justice

A central theme of Guantanamo Diary is the struggle for human rights and justice in the face of arbitrary detention and torture. Slahi's account details the psychological and physical abuses he endured, raising important questions about the balance between security and human dignity. The diary serves as a testament to the resilience of the human spirit under extreme adversity.

Resilience and Hope

Despite the harsh conditions, Slahi's writing often reflects hope, humor, and empathy for both fellow detainees and his captors. His narrative style humanizes the individuals involved and challenges readers to consider the complexities of justice, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

Legal and Moral Accountability

Guantanamo Diary also addresses broader issues of legal and moral accountability. The

memoir critiques the failures of legal systems to protect individual rights and highlights the importance of transparency and oversight in matters of national security.

Critical Reception and Global Impact

Critical Acclaim

Guantanamo Diary received widespread critical acclaim upon its publication. Reviewers praised the book's emotional power, literary quality, and unflinching honesty. It was recognized as a significant contribution to the literature of incarceration and human rights, drawing comparisons to classic prison memoirs.

Influence on Public Discourse

The book played a pivotal role in shaping public opinion and policy discussions around Guantanamo Bay. It was cited in debates over detainee treatment, legal reform, and the ethics of counterterrorism practices. Human rights organizations used the diary as a case study in advocacy efforts, calling for greater transparency and accountability.

1. Highlighted the realities of indefinite detention
2. Influenced legal debates around habeas corpus
3. Supported calls for the closure of Guantanamo Bay
4. Raised global awareness of detainee rights

The Legacy of Guantanamo Diary

Ongoing Relevance

Years after its publication, Guantanamo Diary continues to resonate with readers, activists, and policymakers. Its firsthand perspective remains a crucial resource for understanding the consequences of post-9/11 security policies. The memoir has been translated into multiple languages and adapted into stage and screen productions, further expanding its reach.

Mohamedou Ould Slahi's Release and Advocacy

Mohamedou Ould Slahi was released from Guantanamo Bay in 2016 after a prolonged legal battle. He has since become an advocate for justice, sharing his story to promote human

rights and legal reform. His journey from detainee to author and activist underscores the enduring impact of Guantanamo Diary on global discussions about justice, accountability, and the protection of individual freedoms.

Q: What is Guantanamo Diary?

A: Guantanamo Diary is a memoir written by Mohamedou Ould Slahi, detailing his experience as a detainee in Guantanamo Bay without formal charges for over a decade.

Q: Who wrote Guantanamo Diary?

A: Mohamedou Ould Slahi, a Mauritanian national detained at Guantanamo Bay, wrote Guantanamo Diary during his imprisonment.

Q: Why is Guantanamo Diary significant?

A: The memoir provides a rare, first-hand account of life inside Guantanamo Bay and exposes the impact of indefinite detention, torture, and lack of due process on detainees.

Q: When was Guantanamo Diary published?

A: Guantanamo Diary was published in 2015 after years of legal review and censorship by U.S. authorities.

Q: What are the main themes in Guantanamo Diary?

A: Major themes include human rights, legal accountability, resilience, hope, and the need for justice and transparency.

Q: Was Guantanamo Diary censored?

A: Yes, the original manuscript was heavily redacted by U.S. authorities before publication, with large sections blacked out for security reasons.

Q: How did Guantanamo Diary impact public opinion?

A: The book raised global awareness about the treatment of detainees, influenced legal and policy debates, and fueled calls for the closure of Guantanamo Bay.

Q: What happened to Mohamedou Ould Slahi after Guantanamo?

A: Slahi was released in 2016 and has since become an advocate for human rights, sharing

his experiences to promote justice and legal reforms.

Q: Has Guantanamo Diary been adapted into other media?

A: Yes, Guantanamo Diary has inspired stage adaptations and a feature film, further amplifying its impact.

Q: What is the legacy of Guantanamo Diary?

A: Guantanamo Diary remains a crucial document for understanding the human cost of indefinite detention and continues to influence discussions on justice and human rights worldwide.

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Guantánamo Diary: Unpacking the Controversial Memoir

The chilling whispers of Guantánamo Bay evoke images of indefinite detention, alleged torture, and a legal black hole. For those seeking a firsthand account of the brutal realities within its walls, the "Guantánamo Diary," a memoir penned by a former detainee, offers a stark and unforgettable narrative. This post delves into the significance of this controversial book, exploring its impact, its criticisms, and its enduring relevance in the ongoing debate surrounding the ethics of indefinite detention and the War on Terror. We'll examine the author's experiences, the historical context, and the broader implications of the narrative.

The Author's Voice: A Raw and Unflinching Account

The "Guantánamo Diary" is not a polished literary work. Its strength lies in its rawness, its unflinching depiction of the psychological and physical hardships endured by the author. The author's identity often remains shrouded in some degree of anonymity to protect their safety, a

testament to the ongoing sensitivities surrounding the subject matter. Through fragmented memories and vivid descriptions, the diary paints a disturbing picture of life inside the detention camp. This isn't simply a recounting of events; it's a visceral experience, forcing readers to confront the human cost of the global war on terror. The style, while raw, is effective in conveying the author's desperation, resilience, and unwavering spirit.

The Historical Context: Understanding the "War on Terror"

Understanding the "Guantánamo Diary" requires understanding its historical context. The establishment of the detention camp at Guantánamo Bay in the aftermath of the September 11th attacks was presented as a necessary measure in the fight against terrorism. However, the camp quickly became a symbol of controversial policies, sparking international condemnation and fueling debates about human rights violations and the rule of law. The diary fits within this larger narrative, offering a ground-level perspective on the policies and practices that defined the early years of the "War on Terror." Analyzing the diary requires understanding the political climate, the legal ambiguities surrounding the detainees' status, and the evolving international discourse on human rights and the treatment of prisoners of war.

Key Themes Explored in the Diary

The "Guantánamo Diary" isn't merely a chronicle of events; it's a complex exploration of several interwoven themes. These include:

The Psychological Impact of Detention:

The diary vividly illustrates the devastating effects of prolonged isolation, sleep deprivation, and sensory deprivation on the human psyche. The author's descriptions highlight the mental toll of uncertainty, the constant threat of violence, and the erosion of hope.

The Question of Justice and Due Process:

The lack of transparency and the absence of fair trials for many detainees are central to the narrative. The diary compels readers to question the very foundations of justice and due process in the context of the "War on Terror."

Resistance and Resilience:

Despite the unimaginable hardships, the author's spirit of resistance and resilience shines through. The narrative demonstrates the strength of the human spirit in the face of adversity.

The Ethical Dilemmas of Warfare:

The diary forces readers to confront the ethical complexities of warfare and the moral implications

of practices such as indefinite detention and alleged torture.

Criticisms and Controversies Surrounding the Diary

The "Guantánamo Diary" has not been without its critics. Some question the accuracy and objectivity of the account, suggesting possible biases or embellishments. Others argue that the diary selectively focuses on certain aspects of the detainee experience, neglecting to portray the full picture. These criticisms highlight the inherent challenges in verifying accounts from within a highly controlled and secretive environment. It's crucial to approach the diary with a critical eye, recognizing the limitations of any single narrative emerging from such a complex situation.

The Enduring Legacy of the Guantánamo Diary

Despite the controversies, the "Guantánamo Diary" remains a crucial contribution to the ongoing conversation about the ethics of detention, the rule of law, and the human cost of warfare. Its enduring legacy lies in its ability to humanize the experience of those detained at Guantánamo Bay, forcing readers to confront uncomfortable truths and reconsider accepted narratives. It serves as a powerful reminder of the need for accountability and transparency in the fight against terrorism, emphasizing the importance of upholding fundamental human rights, even in times of conflict.

Conclusion

The "Guantánamo Diary" offers a compelling, if harrowing, window into a world largely obscured from public view. It is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit, a condemnation of unchecked power, and a vital contribution to the ongoing debate surrounding the ethical and legal complexities of the "War on Terror." It challenges us to grapple with uncomfortable truths and consider the profound consequences of our actions in the name of national security.

FAQs

1. Is the "Guantánamo Diary" a factual account? While presented as a firsthand account, its accuracy remains a subject of debate. It's crucial to approach it critically, considering potential biases and limitations.
2. Who is the author of the "Guantánamo Diary"? The author's identity is often kept anonymous to

protect their safety and prevent reprisals.

3. Where can I find the "Guantánamo Diary"? The book is available through various online retailers and libraries.

4. How does the "Guantánamo Diary" compare to other accounts of Guantánamo? The diary provides a unique perspective, adding to the growing body of literature on the topic. Comparing it to other accounts allows for a more nuanced understanding.

5. What is the significance of the "Guantánamo Diary" in the context of human rights? The diary serves as a powerful case study in the violations of human rights that can occur in the name of national security, highlighting the importance of international legal frameworks and accountability.

Guantanamo Diary: A Deep Dive into a Controversial Memoir

The chilling whispers of Guantanamo Bay evoke images of injustice, prolonged detention, and the shadowy world of counter-terrorism. But beyond the headlines and political debates lies the human story, often silenced but occasionally given voice. This post delves into the powerful impact of the "Guantanamo Diary," exploring its content, significance, and lasting legacy in the ongoing conversation about human rights and the War on Terror. We will examine the author's experiences, the book's critical reception, and its broader implications for our understanding of justice and global politics.

The Author's Voice: Mohamedou Ould Slahi's Personal Account

The "Guantanamo Diary" isn't just a recounting of events; it's a testament to the resilience of the human spirit. Written by Mohamedou Ould Slahi, a Mauritanian citizen who spent fourteen years imprisoned at Guantanamo Bay without charge or trial, the diary offers a raw and intimate perspective on the realities of indefinite detention. It's important to understand that Slahi's narrative isn't just a chronological list of events. It's a carefully constructed narrative that weaves together harrowing experiences with reflections on faith, family, and the enduring power of hope. He masterfully uses humor and introspection to navigate the emotional and psychological toll of his ordeal.

Surviving Isolation and Torture

Slahi's account details the brutal conditions he faced: the sensory deprivation, the sleep deprivation, the physical and psychological torture. He describes the methods used to break his will, the constant surveillance, and the chilling uncertainty of his future. His descriptions are chillingly effective in portraying the dehumanizing effects of prolonged detention without due process. However, it is

crucial to note that despite the harrowing nature of the events, Slahi never resorts to sensationalism. His focus remains on the systematic erosion of human dignity rather than gratuitous descriptions of violence.

Maintaining Hope and Sanity in the Face of Adversity

The strength of the "Guantanamo Diary" lies not only in its graphic depiction of suffering but also in Slahi's remarkable ability to maintain his humanity. Throughout the text, he emphasizes the importance of his faith, his family, and the power of human connection even in the most desolate circumstances. He recalls memories of his past, highlighting the beauty and simplicity of a life that was brutally interrupted. These poignant flashbacks provide a counterpoint to the bleakness of his imprisonment, underlining the importance of human resilience.

The Book's Reception and Significance

The publication of the "Guantanamo Diary" sparked significant controversy and intense debate. While it received critical acclaim for its literary merit and powerful storytelling, it also faced criticism from some quarters for its potential to be seen as propaganda or for possibly downplaying aspects of its author's past. Nevertheless, its impact on the public discourse around Guantanamo Bay and the broader War on Terror is undeniable.

Raising Awareness of Human Rights Violations

The diary significantly contributed to raising awareness of alleged human rights abuses at Guantanamo Bay. Slahi's account brought to light the systematic nature of the alleged ill-treatment, the lack of due process, and the profound psychological impact of indefinite detention. His detailed descriptions fueled public discussion, prompting further investigation and contributing to the ongoing debate over the legality and morality of the detention center.

Fueling the Debate on the War on Terror and its Consequences

The "Guantanamo Diary" also served as a critical intervention in the larger discourse on the War on Terror. By humanizing the experience of a detainee, Slahi challenges the dehumanizing narratives often associated with this conflict. He forces readers to confront the complex ethical and moral dilemmas associated with counter-terrorism strategies and the potential for abuses in the name of national security.

The Lasting Legacy of the Guantanamo Diary

The "Guantanamo Diary" is more than just a memoir; it's a powerful testament to the enduring human spirit and a call for justice and accountability. It continues to serve as a crucial document for understanding the complexities of the War on Terror and the ethical challenges of counter-terrorism strategies. It forces readers to grapple with uncomfortable truths about the state's power, the limits of justice systems, and the cost of unchecked authority. Its lasting legacy lies in its continued ability to provoke critical reflection and fuel the ongoing conversation about human rights and the pursuit of justice in a world grappling with complex geopolitical challenges.

Conclusion:

Mohamedou Ould Slahi's "Guantanamo Diary" is a profoundly moving and essential read. Its unflinching account of years spent in a controversial detention center compels readers to confront complex issues of justice, human rights, and the lasting impact of war. Beyond its personal narrative, it serves as a vital historical document and a powerful call for accountability.

FAQs:

1. Is the Guantanamo Diary a factual account? While a personal narrative, Slahi's account aligns with numerous reports and investigations into Guantanamo Bay, lending credence to his claims. However, it's crucial to consider it as one perspective among many.
2. Was Mohamedou Ould Slahi ever charged with a crime? No, he was never charged with a crime and was eventually released without facing trial.
3. What is the significance of the book's title? The title directly reflects the form the book took—a diary kept throughout his imprisonment—highlighting the immediacy and personal nature of his experience.
4. How has the Guantanamo Diary impacted legal and political discussions? The diary has fueled debate surrounding the legality of indefinite detention without charge, impacting ongoing discussions on human rights and national security policies.
5. Where can I find the Guantanamo Diary? The book is widely available in bookstores and online retailers in both print and digital formats.

guantanamo diary: Guantánamo Diary Mohamedou Ould Slahi, 2017-10-17 The acclaimed national bestseller, the first and only diary written by a Guantánamo detainee during his imprisonment, now with previously censored material restored. When GUANTÁNAMO DIARY was first published--heavily redacted by the U.S. government--in 2015, Mohamedou Ould Slahi was still imprisoned at the detainee camp in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, despite a federal court ruling ordering his release, and it was unclear when or if he would ever see freedom. In October 2016, he was finally released and reunited with his family. During his 14-year imprisonment, the United States never charged him with a crime. Now for the first time, he is able to tell his story in full, with previously censored material restored. This searing diary is not merely a vivid record of a miscarriage of

justice, but a deeply personal memoir---terrifying, darkly humorous, and surprisingly gracious. GUANTÁNAMO DIARY is a document of immense emotional power and historical importance.

guantanamo diary: The Mauritanian Mohamedou Ould Slahi, Larry Siems, 2021-02-18

Previously published as Guantánamo Diary, this momentous account and international bestseller is soon to be a major motion picture The first and only diary written by a Guantánamo detainee during his imprisonment, now with previously censored material restored. Mohamedou Ould Slahi was imprisoned in Guantánamo Bay in 2002. There he suffered the worst of what the prison had to offer, including months of sensory deprivation, torture and sexual assault. In October 2016 he was released without charge. This is his extraordinary story, as inspiring as it is enraging.

guantanamo diary: Guantánamo Diary Mohamedou Ould Slahi, 2015 An unprecedented international publishing event: the first and only diary written by a still-imprisoned Guantanamo detainee.

guantanamo diary: The Actual True Story of Ahmed and Zarga Mohamedou Ould Slahi, Larry Siems, 2021-02-23 An epic story of a Bedouin family's survival and legacy amid their changing world in the unforgiving Sahara Desert. Ahmed is a camel herder, as his father was before him and as his young son Abdullahi will be after him. The days of Ahmed and the other families in their nomadic freeg are ruled by the rhythms of changing seasons, the needs of his beloved camel herd, and the rich legends and stories that link his life to centuries of tradition. But Ahmed's world is threatened—by the French colonizers just beyond the horizon, the urbanization of the modern world, and a drought more deadly than any his people have known. At first, Ahmed attempts to ignore these forces by concentrating on the ancient routines of herding life. But these routines are broken when a precious camel named Zarga goes missing. Saddling his trusted Laamesh, praying at the appointed hours, and singing the songs of his fathers for strength, Ahmed sets off to recover Zarga on a perilous journey that will bring him face to face with the best and the worst of humanity and test every facet of his Bedouin desert survival skills.

guantanamo diary: Don't Forget Us Here Mansoor Adayfi, 2021 The moving, eye-opening memoir of an innocent man detained at Gauntánamo Bay for 15 years: a story of humanity in the unlikeliest of places and an unprecedented look at life at Gauntánamo on the eve of its 20th anniversary--

guantanamo diary: Guantanamo's Child Michelle Shephard, 2010-02-12 A prize-winning journalist tells the troubling story of Canadian Omar Khadr, who has spent a quarter of his life growing up in Guantanamo Bay. Khadr was captured in Afghanistan in July 2002 at the age of 15. Accused by the Pentagon of throwing a grenade that killed U.S. soldier Sgt. First Class Christopher Speer, Khadr faces charges of conspiracy and murder. His case is set to be the first war crimes trial since World War II. In Guantanamo's Child, veteran reporter Michelle Shephard traces Khadr's roots in Canada, Pakistan and Afghanistan, growing up surrounded by al Qaeda's elite. She examines how his despised family, dubbed Canada's First Family of Terrorism, has overshadowed his trial and left him alone behind bars for more than five years. Khadr's story goes to the heart of what's wrong with the U.S. administration's post-9/11 policies and why Canada is guilty by association. His story explains how the lack of due process can create victims and lead to retribution, and instead of justice, fuel terrorism. Michelle Shephard is a national security reporter for the Toronto Star and the recipient of Canada's top two journalism awards. You will be shocked, saddened and in the end angry at the story this page turner of a book exposes. I read it straight through and Omar Khadr's plight is one you cannot forget. —Michael Ratner, New York, President of the Center for Constitutional Rights Michelle Shephard's richly reported, well written account of Omar Khadr's trajectory from the battlefields of Afghanistan to the cells of Guantanamo is a microcosm of the larger war on terror in which the teenaged Khadr either played the role of a jihadist murderer or tragic pawn or, perhaps, both roles. —Peter Bergen, author of Holy war, Inc. and The Osama bin Laden I know

guantanamo diary: Guantanamo Voices Sarah Mirk, 2020-09-08 An anthology of illustrated narratives about the prison and the lives it changed forever. In January 2002, the United States sent

a group of Muslim men they suspected of terrorism to a prison in Guantánamo Bay. They were the first of roughly 780 prisoners who would be held there—and forty inmates still remain. Eighteen years later, very few of them have been ever charged with a crime. In *Guantánamo Voices*, journalist Sarah Mirk and her team of diverse, talented graphic novel artists tell the stories of ten people whose lives have been shaped and affected by the prison, including former prisoners, lawyers, social workers, and service members. This collection of illustrated interviews explores the history of Guantánamo and the world post-9/11, presenting this complicated partisan issue through a new lens. “These stories are shocking, essential, haunting, thought-provoking. This book should be required reading for all earthlings.” —The Iowa Review “This anthology disturbs and illuminates in equal measure.” —Publishers Weekly “Editor Mirk presents an extraordinary chronicle of the notorious prison, featuring first-person accounts by prisoners, guards, and other constituents that demonstrate the facility’s cruel reputation. . . . An eye-opening, damning indictment of one of America’s worst trespasses that continues to this day.” —Kirkus Reviews

guantanamo diary: *Enemy Combatant* Moazzam Begg, Victoria Brittain, 2011-05-10 When *Enemy Combatant* was first published in the United States in hardcover in 2006 it garnered sensational reviews, and its author was featured in the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, on National Public Radio, and on ABC News. A second generation British Muslim, Begg had been held by the U.S. military for more than three years before being released without charge in January of 2005. His memoir is the first published account by a Guantánamo detainee of life inside the infamous prison. Writing in the *Washington Post Book World*, Jane Mayer described *Enemy Combatant* as “fascinating . . . Begg provides some ideological counterweight to the one-sided spin coming from the U.S. government. He writes passionately and personally, stripping readers of the comforting lie that somehow the detainees aren't really like us, with emotional attachments, intellectual interests and fully developed humanity.” Recommended by the *Financial Times* and *Tikkun* magazine and a *ColorLines* Editors' Pick of Post-9/11 Books, *Enemy Combatant* is “a forcefully told, up-to-the-minute political story . . . necessary reading for people on all sides of the issue” (*Publishers Weekly*, starred review).

guantanamo diary: *The Senate Intelligence Committee Report on Torture (Academic Edition)* Senate Select Committee On Intelligence, 2020-02-18 The study edition of book the *Los Angeles Times* called, The most extensive review of U.S. intelligence-gathering tactics in generations. This is the complete Executive Summary of the Senate Intelligence Committee's investigation into the CIA's interrogation and detention programs -- a.k.a., The Torture Report. Based on over six million pages of secret CIA documents, the report details a covert program of secret prisons, prisoner deaths, interrogation practices, and cooperation with other foreign and domestic agencies, as well as the CIA's efforts to hide the details of the program from the White House, the Department of Justice, the Congress, and the American people. Over five years in the making, it is presented here exactly as redacted and released by the United States government on December 9, 2014, with an introduction by Daniel J. Jones, who led the Senate investigation. This special edition includes: • Large, easy-to-read format. • Almost 3,000 notes formatted as footnotes, exactly as they appeared in the original report. This allows readers to see obscured or clarifying details as they read the main text. • An introduction by Senate staffer Daniel J. Jones who led the investigation and wrote the report for the Senate Intelligence Committee, and a forward by the head of that committee, Senator Dianne Feinstein.

guantanamo diary: *Tallgrass* Sandra Dallas, 2007-04-03 An essential American novel from Sandra Dallas, an unparalleled writer of our history, and our deepest emotions... During World War II, a family finds life turned upside down when the government opens a Japanese internment camp in their small Colorado town. After a young girl is murdered, all eyes (and suspicions) turn to the newcomers, the interlopers, the strangers. This is *Tallgrass* as Rennie Stroud has never seen it before. She has just turned thirteen and, until this time, life has pretty much been what her father told her it should be: predictable and fair. But now the winds of change are coming and, with them, a shift in her perspective. And Rennie will discover secrets that can destroy even the most sacred

things. Part thriller, part historical novel, *Tallgrass* is a riveting exploration of the darkest--and best--parts of the human heart.

guantanamo diary: *Murder at Camp Delta* Joseph Hickman, 2015-01-20 The revelatory inside story about Guantánamo Bay—and the US government cover up—by the Staff Sergeant who felt honor-bound to uncover it: “A disturbing account...made with compelling clarity and strength of character” (Publishers Weekly). Staff Sergeant Joe Hickman was a loyal member of the armed forces and a proud American patriot. For twenty years, he worked as a prison guard, a private investigator, and in the military, earning more than twenty commendations and awards. When he re-enlisted after 9/11, he served as a team leader and Sergeant of the Guard in Guantánamo Naval Base. From the moment he arrived at Camp Delta, something was amiss. The prisons were chaotic, detainees were abused, and Hickman uncovered by accident a secret facility he labeled “Camp No.” On June 9, 2006, the night Hickman was on duty, three prisoners died, supposed suicides, and Hickman knew something was seriously wrong. So began his epic search for the truth, an odyssey that would lead him to conclude that the US government was using Guantánamo not just as a prison, but as a training ground for interrogators to test advanced torture techniques. For the first time, Hickman details the inner workings of Camp Delta: the events surrounding the death of three prisoners, the orchestrated cover-up, and the secret facility at the heart of it all. From his own eyewitness account and a careful review of thousands of documents, he deconstructs the government’s account of what happened and proves that the military not only tortured prisoners, but lied about their deaths. By revealing Guantánamo’s true nature, Sergeant Hickman shows us why the prison has been so difficult to close. “*Murder at Camp Delta* is a plainly told, unsettling corrective to the many jingoistic accounts of post-9/11 military action” (Kirkus Reviews).

guantanamo diary: *Traitor?* Terry C. Holdbrooks (Jr.), 2013 Terry C. Holdbrooks, Jr. had a lot of expectations from joining the military. He hoped to become a better American, a better soldier, a better person. He would never have thought, in his wildest atheist dreams, that he would become a Muslim. *Traitor?* is the story of an American soldier's journey to Islam having found it in the 'armpit of the world', Camp Delta, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

guantanamo diary: *Wilmington's Lie* David Zucchino, 2020-01-07 A Pulitzer Prize-winning, searing account of the 1898 white supremacist riot and coup in Wilmington, North Carolina. By the 1890s, Wilmington was North Carolina’s largest city and a shining example of a mixed-race community. It was a bustling port city with a burgeoning African American middle class and a Fusionist government of Republicans and Populists that included black aldermen, police officers and magistrates. There were successful black-owned businesses and an African American newspaper, *The Record*. But across the state—and the South—white supremacist Democrats were working to reverse the advances made by former slaves and their progeny. In 1898, in response to a speech calling for white men to rise to the defense of Southern womanhood against the supposed threat of black predators, Alexander Manly, the outspoken young *Record* editor, wrote that some relationships between black men and white women were consensual. His editorial ignited outrage across the South, with calls to lynch Manly. But North Carolina’s white supremacist Democrats had a different strategy. They were plotting to take back the state legislature in November “by the ballot or bullet or both,” and then use the Manly editorial to trigger a “race riot” to overthrow Wilmington’s multi-racial government. Led by prominent citizens including Josephus Daniels, publisher of the state’s largest newspaper, and former Confederate Colonel Alfred Moore Waddell, white supremacists rolled out a carefully orchestrated campaign that included raucous rallies, race-baiting editorials and newspaper cartoons, and sensational, fabricated news stories. With intimidation and violence, the Democrats suppressed the black vote and stuffed ballot boxes (or threw them out), to win control of the state legislature on November 8th. Two days later, more than 2,000 heavily armed Red Shirts swarmed through Wilmington, torching the *Record* office, terrorizing women and children, and shooting at least sixty black men dead in the streets. The rioters forced city officials to resign at gunpoint and replaced them with mob leaders. Prominent blacks—and sympathetic whites—were banished. Hundreds of terrified black families took refuge in

surrounding swamps and forests. This brutal insurrection is a rare instance of a violent overthrow of an elected government in the United States. It halted gains made by blacks and restored racism as official government policy, cementing white rule for another half century. It was not a "race riot," as the events of November 1898 came to be known, but rather a racially motivated rebellion launched by white supremacists. In *Wilmington's Lie*, Pulitzer Prize-winner David Zucchino uses contemporary newspaper accounts, diaries, letters and official communications to create a gripping and compelling narrative that weaves together individual stories of hate and fear and brutality. This is a dramatic and definitive account of a remarkable but forgotten chapter of American history.

guantanamo diary: Spilled Milk K. L. Randis, 2013-06-07 Based on a true story, Brooke Nolan is a battered child who makes an anonymous phone call about the escalating brutality in her home. When Social Services jeopardize her safety, condemning her to keep her father's secret, it's a glass of spilled milk at the dinner table that forces her to speak about the cruelty she's been hiding. In her pursuit for safety and justice Brooke battles a broken system that pushes to keep her father in the home. When jury members and a love interest congregate to inspire her to fight, she risks losing the support of family and comes to the realization that some people simply do not want to be saved. Beautifully written, hauntingly real, *Spilled Milk* is a must read for any young adult today. - F.P. Lione, Author

guantanamo diary: Rightlessness A. Naomi Paik, 2016-01-08 In this bold book, A. Naomi Paik grapples with the history of U.S. prison camps that have confined people outside the boundaries of legal and civil rights. Removed from the social and political communities that would guarantee fundamental legal protections, these detainees are effectively rightless, stripped of the right even to have rights. Rightless people thus expose an essential paradox: while the United States purports to champion inalienable rights at home and internationally, it has built its global power in part by creating a regime of imprisonment that places certain populations perceived as threats beyond rights. The United States' status as the guardian of rights coincides with, indeed depends on, its creation of rightlessness. Yet rightless people are not silent. Drawing from an expansive testimonial archive of legal proceedings, truth commission records, poetry, and experimental video, Paik shows how rightless people use their imprisonment to protest U.S. state violence. She examines demands for redress by Japanese Americans interned during World War II, testimonies of HIV-positive Haitian refugees detained at Guantanamo in the early 1990s, and appeals by Guantanamo's enemy combatants from the War on Terror. In doing so, she reveals a powerful ongoing contest over the nature and meaning of the law, over civil liberties and global human rights, and over the power of the state in people's lives.

guantanamo diary: The Torture Report Larry Siems, 2012-01-15 Sometimes the truth is buried in front of us. That is the case with more than 140,000 government documents relating to abuse of prisoners by U.S. forces during the war on terror, brought to light by Freedom of Information Act litigation. As the lead author of the ACLU's report on these documents, Larry Siems is in a unique position to chronicle who did what, to whom and when. This book, written with the pace and intensity of a thriller, serves as a tragic reminder of what happens when commitments to law, common sense, and human dignity are cast aside, when it becomes difficult to discern the difference between two groups intent on perpetrating extreme violence on their fellow human beings. Divided into three sections, *The Torture Report* presents a stunning array of eyewitness and first-person reports by victims, perpetrators, dissenters, and investigators of the CIA's White House-orchestrated interrogations in illegal, secret prisons around the world; the Pentagon's special projects, in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; plots real and imagined, and much more.

guantanamo diary: Cruel Britannia Ian Cobain, 2012-11-01 The official line is clear: the UK does not 'participate in, solicit, encourage or condone' torture. And yet, the evidence is irrefutable: when faced with potential threats to our national security, the gloves always come off. Drawing on previously unseen official documents, and the accounts of witnesses, victims and experts, prize-winning investigative journalist Ian Cobain looks beyond the cover-ups and the equivocations, to get to the truth. From WWII to the War on Terror, via Kenya and Northern Ireland, *Cruel*

Britannia shows how the British have repeatedly and systematically resorted to torture, bending the law where they can, and issuing categorical denials all the while. What emerges is a picture of Britain that challenges our complacency and exposes the lie behind our reputation for fair play.

guantanamo diary: *The Golden Couple* Greer Hendricks, Sarah Pekkanen, 2022-03-08 The next electrifying novel from the #1 New York Times bestselling author duo behind *The Wife Between Us*. Propulsive and thrilling....A page-turner that will keep you guessing until the very end. --Taylor Jenkins Reid, author of *Malibu Rising* Wealthy Washington suburbanites Marissa and Matthew Bishop seem to have it all—until Marissa is unfaithful. Beneath their veneer of perfection is a relationship riven by work and a lack of intimacy. She wants to repair things for the sake of their eight-year-old son and because she loves her husband. Enter Avery Chambers. Avery is a therapist who lost her professional license. Still, it doesn't stop her from counseling those in crisis, though they have to adhere to her unorthodox methods. And the Bishops are desperate. When they glide through Avery's door and Marissa reveals her infidelity, all three are set on a collision course. Because the biggest secrets in the room are still hidden, and it's no longer simply a marriage that's in danger. An utterly compelling, spellbinding read. --Lisa Jewell, author of *Then She Was Gone* and *Invisible Girl*

guantanamo diary: *My Guantanamo Diary* Mahvish Khan, 2008-01-11 Mahvish Khan is an American lawyer, born to immigrant Afghan parents in Michigan. Outraged that her country was illegally imprisoning people at Guantanamo, she volunteered to translate for the prisoners. She spoke their language, understood their customs, and brought them Starbucks chai, the closest available drink to the kind of tea they would drink at home. And they quickly befriended her, offering fatherly advice as well as a uniquely personal insight into their plight, and that of their families thousands of miles away. For Mahvish Khan the experience was a validation of her Afghan heritage -- as well as her American freedoms, which allowed her to intervene at Guantanamo purely out of her sense that it was the right thing to do. Mahvish Khan's story is a challenging, brave, and essential test of who she is -- and who we are.

guantanamo diary: *Guantanamo Diary* Mohamedou Ould Slahi, 2016-07-26 Mohamedou Ould Slahi tak pernah menyangka, bahkan tidak dalam mimpi terburuknya, bahwa sore itu ialah kali terakhir dia menjejaskan kaki sebagai manusia bebas. Dia datang ke markas kepolisian Mauritania dengan niat baik: memenuhi panggilan untuk dimintai keterangan. Namun, dia malah ditahan tanpa tuduhan yang jelas. Dia juga harus menjalani rangkaian interogasi, pemerasan informasi, dan penyiksaan. Dia dilarang shalat dan puasa, bahkan dipaksa melakukan hal-hal yang diharamkan ajaran Islam. Lama ibu Slahi mengira anaknya ditahan di Mauritania. Keluarganya mengirimkan pakaian dan makanan, bahkan memberi uang kepada penjaga penjara untuk perawatannya. Hingga suatu hari, adik Slahi mengetahui nama sang kakak ada dalam daftar tahanan di Guantánamo—sebuah penjara kebal hukum yang didirikan murni karena paranoia Amerika Serikat terhadap terorisme. Kini, sudah lebih dari empat belas tahun Slahi ditahan tanpa diadili. Bahkan ibunya pun meninggal dalam kesedihan menunggu pembebasannya. Buku ini disunting dari 466 halaman tulisan tangan Slahi yang dibuatnya dalam sel yang sampai saat ini masih dihuninya. Amerika Serikat menyensornya dengan ketat sebelum catatan tersebut berhasil diperjuangkan selama tujuh tahun untuk diterbitkan. Itu sebabnya akan dijumpai lebih dari 2.500 coretan stabilo hitam di dalam buku ini. Namun, bahkan sensor pun tak mampu menutupi kejernihan dan ketajaman penuturan Slahi.

guantanamo diary: *The Train to Crystal City* Jan Jarboe Russell, 2015-01-20 The New York Times bestselling dramatic and never-before-told story of a secret FDR-approved American internment camp in Texas during World War II: "A must-read....The Train to Crystal City is compelling, thought-provoking, and impossible to put down" (Star-Tribune, Minneapolis). During World War II, trains delivered thousands of civilians from the United States and Latin America to Crystal City, Texas. The trains carried Japanese, German, and Italian immigrants and their American-born children. The only family internment camp during the war, Crystal City was the center of a government prisoner exchange program called "quiet passage." Hundreds of prisoners in

Crystal City were exchanged for other more ostensibly important Americans—diplomats, businessmen, soldiers, and missionaries—behind enemy lines in Japan and Germany. “In this quietly moving book” (The Boston Globe), Jan Jarboe Russell focuses on two American-born teenage girls, uncovering the details of their years spent in the camp; the struggles of their fathers; their families’ subsequent journeys to war-devastated Germany and Japan; and their years-long attempt to survive and return to the United States, transformed from incarcerated enemies to American loyalists. Their stories of day-to-day life at the camp, from the ten-foot high security fence to the armed guards, daily roll call, and censored mail, have never been told. Combining big-picture World War II history with a little-known event in American history, *The Train to Crystal City* reveals the war-time hysteria against the Japanese and Germans in America, the secrets of FDR’s tactics to rescue high-profile POWs in Germany and Japan, and above all, “is about identity, allegiance, and home, and the difficulty of determining the loyalties that lie in individual human hearts” (Texas Observer).

guantanamo diary: *The Guantanamo Files* Andy Worthington, 2007-10-20 -- The first book to tell the story of every man trapped in Guantanamo -- 'An important book. If you care about our Government's complicity in these illegal and horrific acts then this book provides the evidence.' Ken LoachExtraordinary rendition, fa

guantanamo diary: Spiral Mark Danner, 2016 Introduction -- Bush : imposing the exception : constitutional dictatorship, torture, and us -- Obama : normalizing the exception : terror, fear, and the war without end -- Afterword.

guantanamo diary: *My Guantánamo Diary* Mahvish Rukhsana Khan, 2010-10 Mahvish Khan is an American lawyer, born to immigrant Afghan parents in Michigan. Outraged that her country was illegally imprisoning people at Guantanamo, she volunteered to translate for the prisoners. She spoke their language, understood their customs, and brought them Starbucks chai, the closest available drink to the kind of tea they would drink at home. And they quickly befriended her, offering fatherly advice as well as a uniquely personal insight into their plight, and that of their families thousands of miles away. For Mahvish Khan the experience was a validation of her Afghan heritage - as well as her American freedoms, which allowed her to intervene at Guantanamo purely out of her sense that it was the right thing to do. Mahvish Khan's story is a challenging, brave, and essential test of who she is - and who we are.

guantanamo diary: *The Terror Courts* Jess Bravin, 2013-02-19 Soon after the September 11 attacks in 2001, the United States captured hundreds of suspected al-Qaeda terrorists in Afghanistan and around the world. By the following January the first of these prisoners arrived at the U.S. military's prison camp in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where they were subject to President George W. Bush's executive order authorizing their trial by military commissions. Jess Bravin, the Wall Street Journal's Supreme Court correspondent, was there within days of the prison's opening, and has continued ever since to cover the U.S. effort to create a parallel justice system for enemy aliens. A maze of legal, political, and moral issues has stood in the way of justice--issues often raised by military prosecutors who found themselves torn between duty to the chain of command and their commitment to fundamental American values. While much has been written about Guantanamo and brutal detention practices following 9/11, Bravin is the first to go inside the Pentagon's prosecution team to expose the real-world legal consequences of those policies. Bravin describes cases undermined by inadmissible evidence obtained through torture, clashes between military lawyers and administration appointees, and political interference in criminal prosecutions that would be shocking within the traditional civilian and military justice systems. With the Obama administration planning to try the alleged 9/11 conspirators at Guantanamo--and vindicate the legal experiment the Bush administration could barely get off the ground--*The Terror Courts* could not be more timely.

guantanamo diary: *My Fight Against Apartheid* Michael Dingake, 1987

guantanamo diary: Inquiry Into the Treatment of Detainees in U.S. Custody United States. Congress. Senate. Committee on Armed Services, 2009

guantanamo diary: *My Guantanamo Diary* Mahvish Khan, 2008-01-11 Mahvish Khan is an American lawyer, born to immigrant Afghan parents in Michigan. Outraged that her country was

illegally imprisoning people at Guantanamo, she volunteered to translate for the prisoners. She spoke their language, understood their customs, and brought them Starbucks chai, the closest available drink to the kind of tea they would drink at home. And they quickly befriended her, offering fatherly advice as well as a uniquely personal insight into their plight, and that of their families thousands of miles away. For Mahvish Khan the experience was a validation of her Afghan heritage -- as well as her American freedoms, which allowed her to intervene at Guantanamo purely out of her sense that it was the right thing to do. Mahvish Khan's story is a challenging, brave, and essential test of who she is -- and who we are.

guantanamo diary: Our Ghosts Were Once People Bongani Kona, 2021-08-19 'I would get out of the car at every shopping centre and want to ask the stranger walking by with their trolley: Why are you still shopping? Someone I love has died.' - Dela Gwala Death is a fact of life, but the experience of grief is unique to each of us. This timely collection brings together a range of voices to offer reflections on death and dying, from individual losses to large scale catastrophes. Karin Schimke revisits her troubled relationship with her late father, a Second World War survivor 'whose brain had been broken by violence'. Madeleine Fullard, the head of South Africa's Missing Persons Task Team, draws us into the search for activists who were 'disappeared' or went missing in political circumstances between 1960 and 1994. Caine Prize winner Lidudumalingani remembers his childhood in a small village in the Eastern Cape, and how his mother always listened to death notices read over the radio as a way of bearing witness to the grief of strangers. The other contributors in this poignant and thought-provoking anthology turn their minds to subjects as varied as the ritual of washing the body of the deceased before burial, the ethics of killing small animals, and the extinction of humankind. In a time of relentless grief, *Our Ghosts Were Once People* reminds us that one of the small consolations of literature is that all sorrows can be borne. Sindiswa Busuku • Lucienne Bestall • Khadija Patel • Shrikant Peters • Sudirman Adi Makmur • Paula Ihozo Akugizibwe • Rofhiwa Maneta • Madeleine Fullard • Musawenkosi Khanyile • Simone Haysom • Thato Monare • Angifi Dladla • Nick Mulgrew • Tariq Hoosen • Catherine Boulle • Tatamkhulu Afrika • Dela Gwala • Anna Hartford • Gabeba Baderoon • Barry Christianson • Vonani Bila • Khanya Mtshali • Robert Berold

guantanamo diary: No Place to Hide Glenn Greenwald, 2014-05-13 A groundbreaking look at the NSA surveillance scandal, from the reporter who broke the story, Glenn Greenwald, star of *Citizenfour*, the Academy Award-winning documentary on Edward Snowden In May 2013, Glenn Greenwald set out for Hong Kong to meet an anonymous source who claimed to have astonishing evidence of pervasive government spying and insisted on communicating only through heavily encrypted channels. That source turned out to be the 29-year-old NSA contractor and whistleblower Edward Snowden, and his revelations about the agency's widespread, systemic overreach proved to be some of the most explosive and consequential news in recent history, triggering a fierce debate over national security and information privacy. As the arguments rage on and the government considers various proposals for reform, it is clear that we have yet to see the full impact of Snowden's disclosures. Now for the first time, Greenwald fits all the pieces together, recounting his high-intensity ten-day trip to Hong Kong, examining the broader implications of the surveillance detailed in his reporting for *The Guardian*, and revealing fresh information on the NSA's unprecedented abuse of power with never-before-seen documents entrusted to him by Snowden himself. Going beyond NSA specifics, Greenwald also takes on the establishment media, excoriating their habitual avoidance of adversarial reporting on the government and their failure to serve the interests of the people. Finally, he asks what it means both for individuals and for a nation's political health when a government pries so invasively into the private lives of its citizens—and considers what safeguards and forms of oversight are necessary to protect democracy in the digital age. Coming at a landmark moment in American history, *No Place to Hide* is a fearless, incisive, and essential contribution to our understanding of the U.S. surveillance state.

guantanamo diary: Unjustifiable Means Mark Fallon, 2017-10-24 The book the government doesn't want you to read. President Trump wants to bring back torture. This is why he's wrong. In

his more than thirty years as an NCIS special agent and counterintelligence officer, Mark Fallon has investigated some of the most significant terrorist operations in US history, including the first bombing of the World Trade Center and the 2000 attack on the USS Cole. He knew well how to bring criminals to justice, all the while upholding the Constitution. But in the aftermath of September 11, 2001, it was clear that America was dealing with a new kind of enemy. Soon after the attacks, Fallon was named Deputy Commander of the newly formed Criminal Investigation Task Force (CITF), created to probe the al-Qaeda terrorist network and bring suspected terrorists to trial. Fallon was determined to do the job the right way, but with the opening of Guantanamo Bay and the arrival of its detainees, he witnessed a shadowy dark side of the intelligence community that emerged, peddling a snake-oil they called “enhanced interrogation techniques.” In *Unjustifiable Means*, Fallon reveals this dark side of the United States government, which threw our own laws and international covenants aside to become a nation that tortured—sanctioned by the highest-ranking members of the Bush Administration, the Army, and the CIA, many of whom still hold government positions, although none have been held accountable. Until now. Follow along as Fallon pieces together how this shadowy group incrementally—and secretly—loosened the reins on interrogation techniques at Gitmo and later, Abu-Ghraib, and black sites around the world. He recounts how key psychologists disturbingly violated human rights and adopted harsh practices to fit the Bush administration’s objectives even though such tactics proved ineffective, counterproductive, and damaging to our own national security. Fallon untangles the powerful decisions the administration’s legal team—the Bush “War Counsel”—used to provide the cover needed to make torture the modus operandi of the United States government. As Fallon says, “You could clearly see it coming, you could wave your arms and yell, but there wasn’t a damn thing you could do to stop it.” *Unjustifiable Means* is hard-hitting, raw, and explosive, and forces the spotlight back on to how America lost its way. Fallon also exposes those responsible for using torture under the guise of national security, as well as those heroes who risked it all to oppose the program. By casting a defining light on one of America’s darkest periods, Mark Fallon weaves a cautionary tale for those who wield the power to reinstate torture.

guantanamo diary: *The Forever Prisoner* Cathy Scott-Clark, Adrian Levy, 2022-04-12 Some argued it would save the U.S. after 9/11. Instead, the CIA’s enhanced interrogation program came to be defined as American torture. *The Forever Prisoner*, a primary source for the recent HBO Max film directed by Academy Award winner Alex Gibney, exposes the full story behind the most divisive CIA operation in living memory. Six months after 9/11, the CIA captured Abu Zubaydah and announced he was number three in Al Qaeda. Frantic to thwart a much-feared second wave of attacks, the U.S. rendered him to a secret black site in Thailand, where he collided with retired Air Force psychologist James Mitchell. Arguing that Abu Zubaydah had been trained to resist interrogation and was withholding vital clues, the CIA authorized Mitchell and others to use brutal “enhanced interrogation techniques” that would have violated U.S. and international laws had not government lawyers rewritten the rulebook. In *The Forever Prisoner*, Cathy Scott-Clark and Adrian Levy recount dramatic scenes inside multiple black sites around the world through the eyes of those who were there, trace the twisted legal justifications, and chart how enhanced interrogation, a key “weapon” in the global “War on Terror,” metastasized over seven years, encompassing dozens of detainees in multiple locations, some of whom died. Ultimately that war has cost 8 trillion dollars, 900,000 lives, and displaced 38 million people—while the U.S. Senate judged enhanced interrogation was torture and had produced zero high-value intelligence. Yet numerous men, including Abu Zubaydah, remain imprisoned in Guantanamo, never charged with any crimes, in contravention of America’s ideals of justice and due process, because their trials would reveal the extreme brutality they experienced. Based on four years of intensive reporting, on interviews with key protagonists who speak candidly for the first time, and on thousands of previously classified documents, *The Forever Prisoner* is a powerful chronicle of a shocking experiment that remains in the headlines twenty years after its inception, even as US government officials continue to thwart efforts to expose war crimes. Silenced by a CIA pledge to keep him imprisoned and incommunicado forever, Abu Zubaydah speaks loudly

through these pages, prompting the question as to whether he and others remain detained not because of what they did to us but because of what we did to them.

guantanamo diary: One of Them Musa Okwonga, 2021-04-15 Musa Okwonga – a young Black man who grew up in a predominantly working-class town – was not your typical Eton College student. The experience moulded him, challenged him... but also made him wonder why a place that was so good for him also seems to contribute to the harm being done to the UK. The more he searched, the more evident the connection became between one of Britain's most prestigious institutions and the genesis of Brexit, and between his home town in the suburbs of Greater London and the rise of the far right. Woven throughout this deeply personal and unflinching memoir of Musa's five years at Eton in the 1990s is a present-day narrative which engages with much wider questions about pressing social and political issues: privilege, the distribution of wealth, the rise of the far right in the UK, systemic racism, the 'boys' club' of government and the power of the few to control the fate of the many. *One of Them* is both an intimate account and a timely exploration of race and class in modern Britain.

guantanamo diary: Consequence Eric Fair, 2016-04-05 Named one of 8 Books You Need to Read by Vulture A man questions everything--his faith, his morality, his country--as he recounts his experience as an interrogator in Iraq; an unprecedented memoir and an act of incredible bravery (Phil Klay, author of *Redeployment*). In 2004, after several months as an interrogator, Eric Fair's call to serve his country has led him to a dark and frightening place. By the time he leaves Iraq after that first deployment, Fair will have participated in or witnessed a variety of aggressive interrogation techniques including sleep deprivation, stress positions, diet manipulation, exposure, and isolation. Years later, with his health and marriage crumbling, haunted by the role he played in what we now know as "enhanced interrogation," it is Fair's desire to speak out that becomes a key to his survival. Spare and haunting, Eric Fair's memoir urgently questions the very depths of who he, and we as a country, have become.

guantanamo diary: The Mauritanian (originally published as *Guantánamo Diary*) Mohamedou Ould Slahi, 2015-01-20 This profound and disturbing (New York Times Book Review) bestseller written by a Guantánamo prisoner is now a major feature film starring Tahar Rahim and Jodie Foster. When *The Mauritanian* was first published as *Guantánamo Diary* in 2015—heavily redacted by the U.S. government—Mohamedou Ould Slahi was still imprisoned at the detainee camp in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, despite a federal court ruling ordering his release, and it was unclear when or if he would ever see freedom. In October 2016 he was finally released and reunited with his family. During his fourteen-year imprisonment the United States never charged him with a crime. Now he is able to tell his story in full, with previously censored material restored. This searing diary is not merely a vivid record of a miscarriage of justice, but a deeply personal memoir—terrifying, darkly humorous, and surprisingly gracious. *The Mauritanian* is a document of immense emotional power and historical importance.

guantanamo diary: The Pleasure of My Company Steve Martin, 2003-10-01 From the bestselling author of *Shopgirl* comes the tender story of a troubled man who finds love, and life, in the most unexpected place. Daniel resides in his Santa Monica apartment, living much of his life as a bystander: He watches from his window as the world goes by, and his only relationships seem to be with people who barely know he exists. He passes the time idly filling out contest applications, counting ceiling tiles, and estimating the wattage of light bulbs. It is through Daniel's growing attachment to Clarissa, and to Teddy, that he finally gains the courage to begin to engage the world outside, and in doing so, he discovers love, and life, in the most surprising places. Filled with his trademark humor, tenderness, and out and out hilarious wordplay, *The Pleasure of My Company* is a tour de force sure to delight all of Steve Martin's fans.

guantanamo diary: The Harriet Jacobs Family Papers Jean Fagan Yellin, 2015-12-01 Although millions of African American women were held in bondage over the 250 years that slavery was legal in the United States, Harriet Jacobs (1813-97) is the only one known to have left papers testifying to her life. Her autobiography, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, holds a central place in

the canon of American literature as the most important slave narrative by an African American woman. Born in Edenton, North Carolina, Jacobs escaped from her owner in her mid-twenties and hid in the cramped attic crawlspace of her grandmother's house for seven years before making her way north as a fugitive slave. In Rochester, New York, she became an active abolitionist, working with all of the major abolitionists, feminists, and literary figures of her day, including Frederick Douglass, Lydia Maria Child, Amy Post, William Lloyd Garrison, Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Fanny Fern, William C. Nell, Charlotte Forten Grimke, and Nathan Parker Willis. Jean Fagan Yellin has devoted much of her professional life to illuminating the remarkable life of Harriet Jacobs. Over three decades of painstaking research, Yellin has discovered more than 900 primary source documents, approximately 300 of which are now collected in two volumes. These letters and papers written by, for, and about Jacobs and her activist brother and daughter provide for the thousands of readers of *Incidents*--from scholars to schoolchildren--access to the rich historical context of Jacobs's struggles against slavery, racism, and sexism beyond what she reveals in her pseudonymous narrative. Accompanied by a CD containing a searchable PDF file of the entire contents, this collection is a crucial launching point for future scholarship on Jacobs's life and times.

guantanamo diary: For God and Country James Yee, 2005-10-11 In 2001, Captain James Yusuf Yee was commissioned as one of the first Muslim chaplains in the United States Army. After the tragic attacks of September 11, 2001, he became a frequent government spokesman, helping to educate soldiers about Islam and build understanding throughout the military. Subsequently, Chaplain Yee was selected to serve as the Muslim Chaplain at Guantanamo Bay, where nearly 700 detainees captured in the war on terror were being held as unlawful combatants. In September 2003, after serving at Guantanamo for ten months in a role that gave him unrestricted access to the detainees -- and after receiving numerous awards for his service there -- Chaplain Yee was secretly arrested on his way to meet his wife and daughter for a routine two-week leave. He was locked away in a navy prison, subject to much of the same treatment that had been imposed on the Guantanamo detainees. Wrongfully accused of spying, and aiding the Taliban and Al Qaeda, Yee spent 76 excruciating days in solitary confinement and was threatened with the death penalty. After the U.S. government determined it had made a grave mistake in its original allegations, it vindictively charged him with adultery and computer pornography. In the end all criminal charges were dropped and Chaplain Yee's record wiped clean. But his reputation was tarnished, and what has been a promising military career was left in ruins. Depicting a journey of faith and service, Chaplain Yee's *For God and Country* is the story of a pioneering officer in the U.S. Army, who became a victim of the post-September 11 paranoia that gripped a starkly fearful nation. And it poses a fundamental question: If our country cannot be loyal to even the most patriotic Americans, can it remain loyal to itself?

guantanamo diary: Bad Men Clive Stafford Smith, 2007 Explosively personal account by a British lawyer who defends Death Row prisoners and Guantanamo Bay detainees.

guantanamo diary: When They Came for Me John R. Schlapobersky, 2021-06-02 'An intriguing story of endurance and survival. A reminder of times, and the people who resisted them, that should never be forgotten.' - GILLIAN SLOVO In 1969, while a student at Wits University, John Schlapobersky was arrested for opposing apartheid. Thrown into a world that it is hard to believe ever existed, he was tortured, detained in solitary confinement and eventually deported. Half a century later, John sat down to write about what happened to him at 21. Calling on memory and two diaries he kept at the time - one written on toilet paper and the other in the Bible he was allowed - he describes being interrogated through sleep deprivation day and night and later writing secretly in solitary confinement. He remembers the singing of the condemned prisoners, and revisits the poetry, songs and texts that saw him through his ordeal. He reconstructs, in moving detail, the struggle for survival that finally transformed his life and supplements this with detailed research. He is now a leading psychotherapist and author and works closely with those who have similar histories. *When They Came For Me* is a vital historical document: a record of its time with lessons for ours.

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