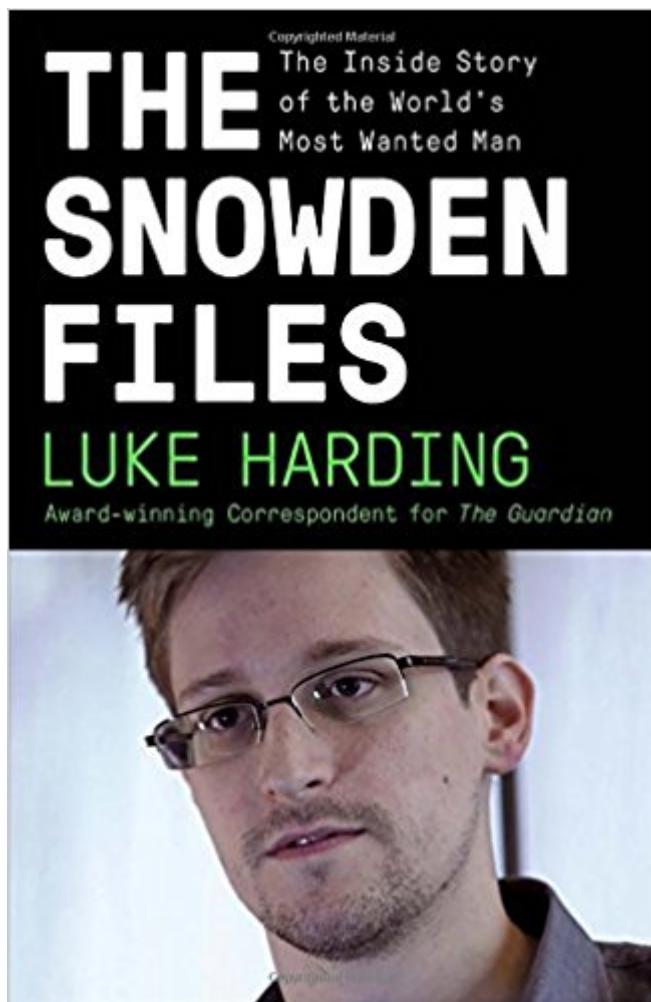


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# The Snowden Files: The Inside Story Of The World's Most Wanted Man



## Synopsis

Now a major motion picture, directed by Oliver Stone and starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt. Edward Snowden was a 29-year-old computer genius working for the National Security Agency when he shocked the world by exposing the near-universal mass surveillance programs of the United States government. His whistleblowing has shaken the leaders of nations worldwide, and generated a passionate public debate on the dangers of global monitoring and the threat to individual privacy. In a tour de force of investigative journalism that reads like a spy novel, award-winning Guardian reporter Luke Harding tells Snowden's astonishing story "from the day he left his glamorous girlfriend in Honolulu carrying a hard drive full of secrets, to the weeks of his secret-spilling in Hong Kong, to his battle for asylum and his exile in Moscow. For the first time, Harding brings together the many sources and strands of the story "touching on everything from concerns about domestic spying to the complicity of the tech sector" while also placing us in the room with Edward Snowden himself. The result is a gripping insider narrative "and a necessary and timely account of what is at stake for all of us in the new digital age.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Reads like a le Carré novel crossed with something by Kafka. . . . A fast-paced, almost novelistic narrative. . . . [The book] gives readers . . . a succinct overview of the momentous events of the past year. . . . Leave[s] readers with an acute understanding of the serious issues involved." Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times Snowden's story is one of the most

compelling in the history of American espionage. . . . *The Snowden Files*, by Luke Harding, a correspondent for the *Guardian* newspaper, which broke the initial Snowden story, is the first to assemble the sequence of events in a single volume. The book captures the drama of Snowden's operation in often-cinematic detail. . . . Harding has delivered a clearly written and captivating account of the Snowden leaks and their aftermath. "The Washington Post" Engaging and lucid. . . . A gripping read. . . . Harding is a gifted writer. . . . The strength of Harding's book is its ability to bring Snowden's story to life while elucidating the contours of a much larger set of issues. . . . In rendering the complicated comprehensible in an entertaining way, Harding's book provides an important public service. "San Francisco Chronicle" The *Snowden Files*, the first book on what British journalist Luke Harding calls "the biggest intelligence leak in history," is a readable and thorough account. The narrative is rich in newsroom details, reflecting Harding's inside access as a correspondent for the London-based *Guardian* newspaper, which broke the story. . . . The writer deserves unqualified praise for fueling the debate on privacy that Snowden so hoped to ignite. "Newsday" A super-readable, thrillerish account of the events surrounding the reporting of the documents. . . . Harding has done an amazing and speedy job of assembling material from a wide variety of sources and turning it into an exciting account. "The London Review of Books" *The Snowden Files* is a one-stop shop, covering his formative years, the government jobs that would eventually give him access, and even the development of the data-gathering programs he exposed to the world. It's as impressive in its execution as it is infuriating to revisit how much government manipulation and duplicity was involved. (Harding does an equally thorough job explaining the role played by the UK's version of the NSA "the GCHQ" and their appallingly thuggish actions as the news stories broke.) . . . Harding is unflinchingly honest. . . . [He] asks hard questions about the consequences of Snowden's actions. While Harding is a Snowden supporter, he's hardly a blind one. "San Francisco Book Review" A newsworthy, must-read book about what prompted Edward Snowden to blow the whistle on his former employer, the National Security Agency, and what likely awaits him for having done so. . . . Whether you view Snowden's act as patriotic or treasonous, this fast-paced, densely detailed book is the narrative of first resort. "Kirkus Reviews" (starred) Engaging. . . . Harding's well-researched and compelling book is highly recommended. "Library Journal" Recounts the incredible story of how Snowden becomes angry about the abuses he says he witnessed inside the system, resolves to pull off a stunning electronic heist by downloading the NSA's and its partners' most sensitive files, and gives them to journalists he has persuaded to meet him in Hong Kong. Harding captures nicely the

moment when The Guardian pushes the button on its first Snowden story, an intense, adrenaline-filled cocktail of high-minded journalistic zeal and the sheer thrill of publishing sensitive information.â „ "Financial Times

Luke Harding is an award-winning foreign correspondent with the Guardian. He has reported from Delhi, Berlin and Moscow and has also covered wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. He is the author of Mafia State and co-author of WikiLeaks: Inside Julian Assange's War on Secrecy (2011) and The Liar: The Fall of Jonathan Aitken (1997), nominated for the Orwell Prize. The film rights to WikiLeaks were sold to Dreamworks and the film, "The Fifth Estate," came out in 2013. His books have been translated into 13 languages. Luke lives in England with his wife and their two children.

I enjoyed reading about E's motivation and determination. I would like to have found out more about his personal life that may have influenced the greatest intelligence coup in the history of intelligence gathering. Anyone with an interest in intelligence should definitely read this masterful exposé.

GREAT book, but the story doesn't actually end so I only gave it 4 stars. You know that until Snowden's situation is resolved it leaves you hanging wondering, "WHAT is going to happen to him?" I am a strong conservative and a retired police officer, so I could lean towards this guy being a traitor? Some of the stuff that he took out could put peoples lives in danger! However, Snowden and the Guardian took extra care to keep it all safe and secure. However, I still wonder if the Russians could get some dangerous info out of him or his computers. In the end I consider that Snowden did THE RIGHT THING! What the government (NSA, CIA, etc.) has been doing VIOLATES the Constitution of the United States, which is to protect us from UNREASONABLE searches and seizures. I had to be careful as a policeman for over 20 years, and I do not think that THIS should change. The Constitution ALSO keeps the three branches of the federal government in BALANCE. We NEED something like that in our state governments as well...I think that most citizens do not really appreciate our Constitution, and how IT has led our country to being a strong and just country. I know it is not perfect. I have seen it myself, first hand, but I am over 70 years old and I have lived and traveled in 22 different nations. Some of them very good nations but none of them as good as America. If you hate this country or THINK that other countries are better then let me suggest that you go live in ANY OTHER NATION for 6 months. If it is a Communist nation or any other country that is not a true democracy then go live in them for 6 WEEKS. I traveled extensively behind the Iron Curtain for THREE years so I know that 6 weeks would be MORE than enough time in one of

them.BTW our country is better than a democracy because it is a REPUBLIC and not a true democracy. I heard someone say one time, "The problem with a true democracy is like having children vote! They would always elect the candy maker and the toy maker to office!" So what do we have when everyone votes for their favorite guy, politicians who give EVERYTHING AWAY to people who contribute nothing to the good of this country.

I was pretty pumped to check this out, when it came to quality/price this was right in the ballpark. It got to my door in just a couple days like promised and sure enough its pretty neat. So far this seems to be providing good info on a person of interest. Whatever you think of him we should be grateful for a bit of insight. I received this item at a discount for my un-biased review which was very kind, if you'd like the same please click yes below. I think the value is decent for the money and considering it shipped so lightning quick, thanks!

It was a pretty good presentation of how it all transpired. The risk all that Snowden has taken and the risk of the people he intrusted to present this story is more than your normal publisc can understand. I would like to see a followup on the people that were involved, from N Y to the UK to Russia, Argentina and beyond. I am not an alarmist but these journalists should be very aware and I would be concerned for their well being, this will not go away. It is sad that we cannot trust our own country and I am most likely/probably subjecting myself for scrutiny just by typing this. We no longer have Heros in Washington ! It appears ours are in exile ! It took me quite awhile to read this because I would get so mad at the end of each chapter I had to wait to begin another.

I forget who, but someone once said "Absolute power can corrupt absolutely." Also, "The road to hell is paved with good intentions." I feel that the NSA's basic intentions are noble. To prevent terrorist attacks. But the agency has gone completely beyond reason when it comes to the number of people they're spying on. Millions of people in a number of different countries. Thanks to Edward Snowden for blowing the whistle on this abuse of power. And thanks to Luke Harding for a very detailed 5 star book.

Real interesting story. Not near the monster he is portrayed. We needed to know what he found. Unfortunately, what he found was also very destructive to the US and that has to be weighed in to the disclosures. We all know everyone is spying on everyone else. I don't know why anyone bothers to be shocked about that. BUT when spying spreads out to include every person in the US then

someone needs to step up and let us all know. I don't know how this can be undone but it needs to be stopped.

This an excellent companion to Greenwald's book, No place to hide, it brings into focus the ensuing efforts of the government spies and politicians to subvert public knowledge and to prevent accountability by the spies and their bosses. This book reveals the actions taken in 2013 /14 and shows that too many people think spying doesn't affect or is ok with them . The governmental oversight by congressional committees is a farce, and laws passed to assuage the irate public have been a sham. Spying continues and funding is expanded. The emperor is not going to give up the mantle of power inherent with total data collection. A sad commentary on what has happened to Snowden , as Obama and Kerry desperately demonize him. Certainly being trapped in Russia and facing possible death sentence is retribution enough. Americans wake up, speak up, and demand real change.

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