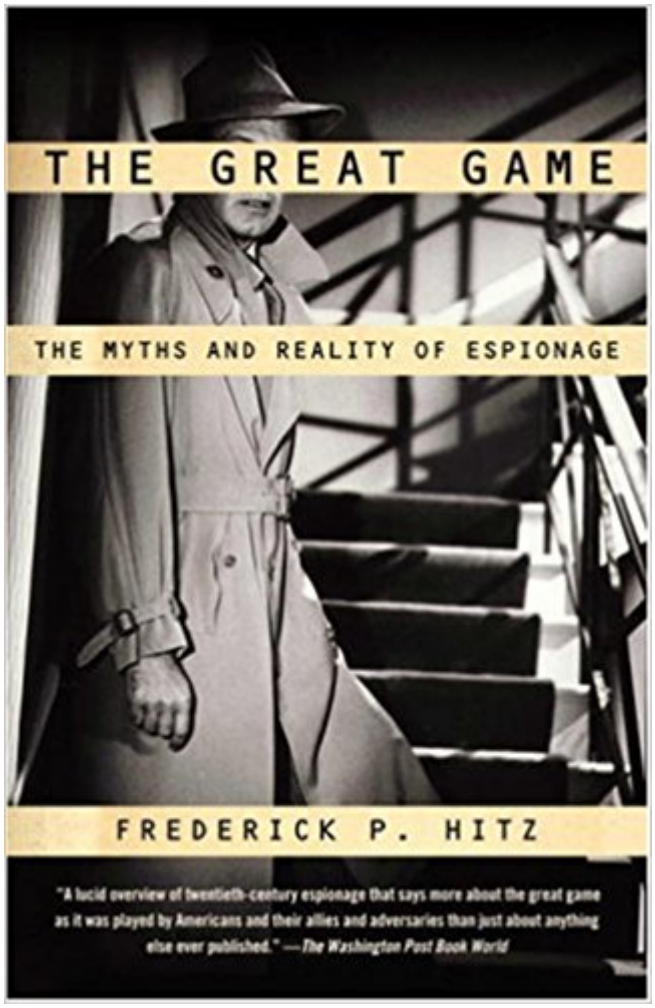
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The Great Game: The Myths And Reality Of Espionage



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Synopsis

In this riveting insiderÃ¢â ¬â„¢s account, a former inspector general of the CIA compares actual espionage cases and practices with classic and popular spy fiction, showing that the real world of espionage is nearly always stranger and more complicated than even the best spy fiction.Exploring everything from tradecraft and recruitment to bureaucracy and betrayal, The Great Game contrasts fictional spies created by such authors as John Le Carr?, Tom Clancy and Joseph Conrad with their real-life counterparts from Kim Philby to Aldrich Ames. Drawing on his thirty year career with the CIA, Frederick P. Hitz shows that even the most imaginative authors fail to capture the profound human dilemmas raised by real-life cases. Engaging and insightful, The Great Game shines a fascinating light on the veiled history of intelligence.From the Trade Paperback edition.

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Customer Reviews

Got the book to use in a Graduate-level class for intelligence and government policy. Despite the fact that I had to speed-read through the book, it was an interesting read. Does a good job of illustrating fact and fiction on the subject of intelligence work in the past. While a little brief on certain

subjects or points in history, it gives a good overview on the subject of intelligence/spy-craft in real life and the fictional works demonstrated in books, television, and in the movies.

This book is a gem and not dry. The author knows the truth very well. Brought back chills.

I enjoyed reading this book. Very well written.

THE GREAT GAME is a very enjoyable read for fans of the fiction of Graham Greene, John Le Carre, Ian Fleming, Tom Clancy, and Somerset Maugham. Author Frederic Hitz looks at what really happened with 20th century spying with what the leading espionage writers put in their novels. Greene and le Carre are the unquestioned stars, always pointing out how the great game has corrupted the players on every side.

This book, along with "Why Spy" covers topics that were within my professional purview in the 1960's and, thus, I will attest to the accuracy of the author's discourse. The business can be boring, deadly, even historic, but it has been and remains necessary. I recommend this work to anyone looking for a good introduction to a delicate topic.

For some reason haven't gotten interested yet, opening it a few times. Maybe sometime I'll read the whole thing and love it. First blush, a bit boring. We'll see. The idea of it is fabulous though.

There not much new here if you are a frequent reader. However, this is agood source of spy novels.

I liked the premise of the book, to contrast our view of intelligence gathering with "real life". Each section has something good. Too much information is repeated throughout the book. It is very American-centric, which is OK, but there are other spy organizations in the world.

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