Edward Snowden: The Man Who Exposed the NSA's Mass Surveillance Program

Edward Snowden is a former intelligence contractor who leaked classified information from the National Security Agency (NSA) in 2013. The information he leaked revealed the NSA's vast surveillance program, which collected data on millions of Americans without their knowledge or consent.

Snowden's leaks sparked a global debate about the balance between national security and privacy. He was hailed as a hero by some for exposing the NSA's overreach, while others condemned him as a traitor for violating his oath to secrecy.



awsd: ada by Gary L. Greenwald

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.6 out of 5

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Snowden's story is a complex one, filled with both heroism and tragedy. He is a man who risked everything to expose the truth, but he also knows that he will never be able to return home.

Early Life and Career

Edward Snowden was born in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, in 1983. He grew up in a military family and attended public schools in Maryland.

After graduating from high school, Snowden enlisted in the Army Reserve. He was assigned to the 193rd Special Operations Battalion, where he learned how to operate and repair computers.

In 2005, Snowden was deployed to Iraq, where he served as a computer technician.

After returning from Iraq, Snowden worked for a number of different companies, including Dell, Booz Allen Hamilton, and Unisys. He also worked as a contractor for the CIA and the NSA.

In 2012, Snowden was working for Booz Allen Hamilton when he was assigned to work at the NSA's headquarters in Fort Meade, Maryland.

The NSA's Surveillance Program

The NSA's surveillance program was a vast and complex system that collected data on millions of Americans. The program was able to track people's phone calls, emails, and online activity.

The NSA justified the program by arguing that it was necessary to prevent terrorist attacks.

However, Snowden believed that the program was a violation of Americans' privacy rights.

The Leaks

In June 2013, Snowden leaked classified information from the NSA to The Guardian and The Washington Post.

The leaks revealed the NSA's surveillance program in unprecedented detail.

The leaks sparked a global debate about the balance between national security and privacy.

Snowden's leaks also led to a number of reforms to the NSA's surveillance program.

Aftermath

After leaking the NSA's classified information, Snowden fled to Hong Kong and then Russia.

The US government charged Snowden with espionage and other crimes.

Snowden has been living in exile in Russia since 2013.

Snowden's story is a complex one, filled with both heroism and tragedy. He is a man who risked everything to expose the truth, but he also knows that he will never be able to return home.

Legacy

Edward Snowden is a controversial figure.

Some people believe that he is a hero who exposed the NSA's surveillance program and protected the privacy of Americans.

Others believe that he is a traitor who violated his oath to secrecy and put the US at risk.

Regardless of your opinion of Snowden, there is no doubt that he has had a significant impact on the world.

His leaks sparked a global debate about the balance between national security and privacy.

They also led to a number of reforms to the NSA's surveillance program.

Snowden's legacy is likely to be debated for many years to come.

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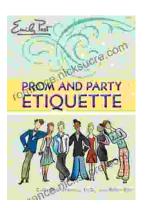
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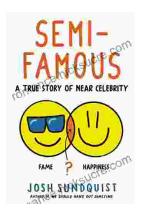
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