

Between Silk and Cyanide: A Code Maker's War 1941-45

Leo Marks

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NEW, UPDATED EDITION OF ONE OF THE LAST GREAT SECOND WORLD WAR MEMOIRS. In 1942, with a black-market chicken under his arm, Leo Marks left his father's famous bookshop, 84 Charing Cross Road, and went to war. He was twenty-two and a cryptographer of genius. In Between Silk and Cyanide, his critically acclaimed account of his time in SOE, Mark tells how he revolutionised the codemaking techniques of the Allies, trained some of the most famous agents dropped into France including Violette Szabo and 'the White Rabbit', and why he wrote haunting verse including his 'The Life that I have' poem. He reveals for the first time the disastrous dimensions of the code war between SOE and the Germans in Holland; how the Germans were fooled into thinking a Secret Army was operating in the Fatherland itself; and how and why he broke General de Gaulle's secret code. Both thrilling and poignant, Mark's book is truly one of the last great Second World War memoirs.



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