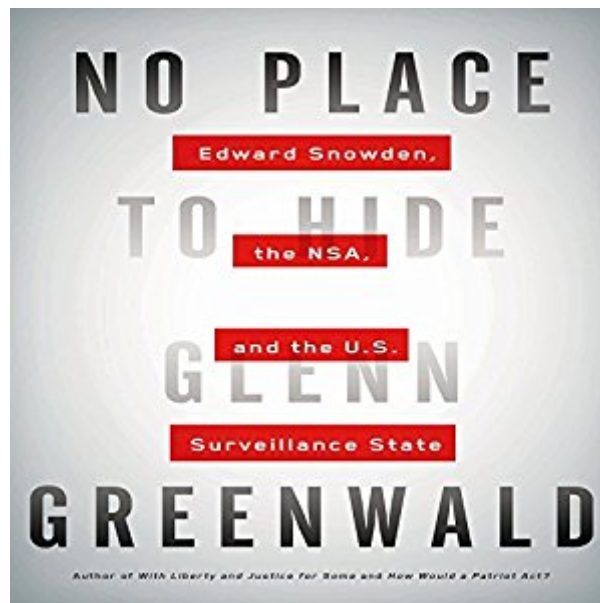




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No Place To Hide: Edward Snowden, The NSA, And The U.S. Surveillance State



Synopsis

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 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 10-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.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It is 4 AM and I have just finished reading, in one sitting, the Kindle download of a book that I only intended to skim because I thought that I knew the full story. What was compelling was encountering the courage and decency of this whistleblower and that of the few brave journalists willing to honestly tell his story. That and the justifiable contempt for those in the housebroken media and compromised government who felt the need to besmirch the character of those willing to bear witness to crimes that almost everyone else in a position to know chose to ignore. The result is a page turner survey of just what the Snowden leaks tell us about the creation of the modern surveillance state and a reminder of the deep wisdom of this nation's founders in insisting on the Constitution's Fourth Amendment. This is a brilliant book that you will want to pass on to that neighbor absolutely convinced that the hollowing out of liberty has made us safer. Glenn Greenwald reminds us just why the Guardian and Washington Post won the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service in publishing the documents that Edward Snowden made available and how outrageous it is that his effort to inform the public of attacks on their freedom has left this brave young man a hunted fugitive.

A brief note before you purchase this book: This is not a book written for the purpose of telling you the US government is watching your every step and every move, everyone knows that. And the author did not waste time replicating news articles you've already read through the media outlets. I finished this book within 5 hours, and thought it was well written and well worth your time. Greenwald, one of the original journalists who revealed Snowden's leaks last year, did a remarkably good job on going over the history of U.S.'s surveillance tactics. In his new book, *No Place to Hide*, Greenwald briefly goes over his adventures/experience on meeting with Edward Snowden and revealing US's NSA surveillance program. Greenwald explains the difficulties and obstacles that were involved before the story went live, mostly by reluctant lawyers, and news agencies such as NYT and Washington Post. For those curious, Greenwald also explains in detail the true intentions of Edward Snowden. Later chapters of the book reveal Greenwald's opinion on the recent NSA leaks, and his classification of US as a surveillance state. Keep in mind that Greenwald was previously a columnist, and his writing style of a columnist is clearly seen throughout the book. This is not merely a book with facts, but a book with opinion, with logical and concrete evidence that not just the U.S., but other state actors are well, are progressing into what George Orwell wrote in his infamous 1984 novel (*Orwellian state*). Greenwald ends the book by warning the consequences involved as we progress into the *Orwellian state* and the issue of journalists not being journalists, but being government puppets instead. This is a highly

recommended book for those who wish to read into detail one of the biggest government leaks in the history.

"No Place to Hide" tells the backdrop of the biggest leak of secret material in US history. In the first section, the author focuses on circumstances, contact with Edward Snowden, travel to Hong Kong and the problems with the publication of articles revealing abuses of the National Security Agency (NSA). The second part contains a number of scans of the original documents confirming the scale, importance and scope of surveillance of the US both to its own citizens and international allies. The third part focuses on the evaluation of the media when disclosing the content of compromising the government. Each part has a different dynamic. The first is like a story book sensational. Other slow down to present evidence and smite accurate author's comments. The whole shocking.

I'd seen the wonderful movie Citizenfour and I thought I knew the whole story of the Snowden leaks. I thought I knew the extent of the NSA wiretapping. I thought I knew that our media was a little biased towards the government sometimes. But I didn't know anything until I read this book. Glenn Greenwald takes us through the whole thing : from the first email he got through his journey half way around the world to Hong Kong all the way to a year after the events. The first part of the book is this intriguing adventure which I couldn't put down. It taught me a lot about what real journalism is all about and it taught me even more about Edward Snowden and why he did what he did. The second part goes through a large amount of the leaked documents and goes into great detail about what they contain and why they are so important. And then Greenwald starts making really interesting and deep arguments about why we should all care about what is happening behind the guise of 'the global war on terror'. The scope of what we learn is just enormous. And it's endlessly fascinating and at the same time incredibly frustrating as well. No matter what your political beliefs, I feel that it's really important for everyone to read this book and get a taste of what's going on. And before you say to yourself: "I've got nothing to hide, I don't care that I'm being spied on", remember this: it's not just about your privacy and your freedom. It's about the privacy and freedom of the people who don't agree with our government. They certainly will be targeted (as was MLK for example). And if you care about making our nation better, if you care about progress and incremental change for the better than you had better well want to protect dissenters.

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