



Working on the Dark Side of the Moon

Thomas Reed Willemain

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To most Americans, the NSA is an organization shrouded in secrecy, where the most clandestine of operations are carried out in the name of national security. Dr. Thomas Willemain, successful software entrepreneur and statistics professor, spent the equivalent of three years alternating between his life “outside” and working “inside” at the NSA and an affiliated, shadowy think tank.

Once inside, Dr. Willemain would be challenged to adjust to life in an intense, complex and sometimes alien organization, while also encountering brilliant and quirky colleagues, the moral challenges of wielding math and statistics as weapons, a charming (if kitschy) gift shop, and ultimately, some of the most rewarding time of his career.

A deeply personal account of the years spent within the most secretive organization in the world, *Working on the Dark Side of the Moon* explores the range of emotions an outsider experiences while crossing over to the “inside.” It also shows the positive side of an Agency whose secrecy hides dedicated men and women devoted to protecting the country while honoring the Constitution.

Working on the Dark Side of the Moon Details

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From Reader Review Working on the Dark Side of the Moon for online ebook

Mark says

A Recent Glimpse Inside a Schizophrenic Bureaucracy

A humane glimpse inside NSA focusing on a very small group of mathematical researchers. Well written, but a quite skewed view since it does not address any aspect of the operational side of the house. For anyone living in the Baltimore-Washington corridor, a significant portion of the redactions do not "protect" any sensitive information.

Phi Beta Kappa Authors says

Thomas Reed Willemain
ΦBK, Princeton University, 1969
Author

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Tom Schulte says

"Shrouded in secrecy, the United States Department of Defense's National Security Agency (NSA) is where the most clandestine of U.S. operations are carried out in the name of national security. The author, a software entrepreneur and statistics professor, spent a few years alternating working "outside" and working "inside" at the NSA and the Central Security Service (CSS). This affiliated, shadowy think tank has a cryptologic charter.

[...]

Indeed, Willemain appeared to have a much more difficult time with the thought of protocol peccadilloes: "I

was visited by nightly nightmares about Security blunders during my first weeks..." Pulling back a tad the curtain on the inner workings of the NSA at the cubicle and cookie cart level is an engaging read for anyone drawn to the mundane details supporting national intelligence in a post-Snowden world, but expect nothing like an exposé in this officially cleared work."

[Look for my entire unredacted review at [MAA Reviews](#)]

Cindelu says

I won this book on Goodreads. It was the strangest book I've ever read. On several pages almost all of the page was blacked out. Just about every page had from one to two phrases blacked out if not whole paragraphs. Obviously I couldn't understand what was written if large portions were blacked out. It basically told of the types of people (all with fake names in the book) who work at the NSA. The author also told of his work which was pretty much over my head. It had some interesting parts but overall it didn't seem like they got much accomplished there.
