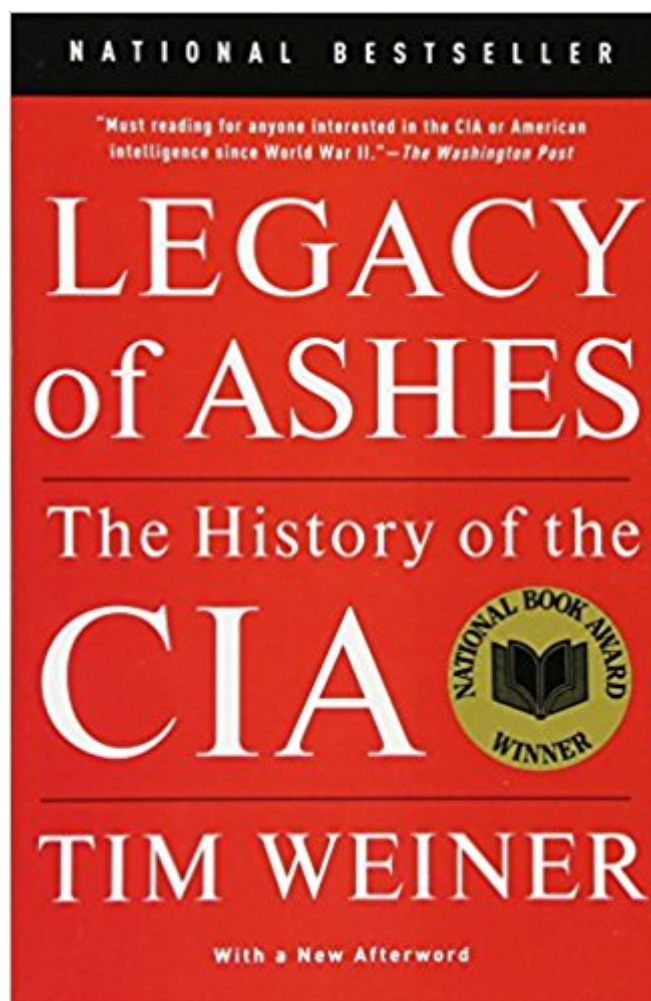


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# Legacy Of Ashes: The History Of The CIA



## Synopsis

With shocking revelations that made headlines in papers across the country, Pulitzer-Prize-winner Tim Weiner gets at the truth behind the CIA and uncovers here why nearly every CIA Director has left the agency in worse shape than when he found it; and how these profound failures jeopardize our national security.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Pulitzer Prizeâ “winner Weiner combed through the history books and recently declassified records to offer up this fascinating, comprehensive and sometimes appalling history of the Central Intelligence Agency. Weiner documents everything from the agency’s formation in the aftermath of WWII to its failure to prevent the events of September 11, 2001, and every misstep, blunder and international incident in between. For an important book like this one, it’s important for an audiobook narrator to have a certain gravitas, and Rudnicki has plenty. His deep, resonant voice keeps the listener riveted and is ideally suited to the serious, historicalâ ”and often grimâ ”subject matter. Rudnicki occasionally uses accents to add flavor to the text when reading quotations, but for the most part wisely eschews this practice and simply brings Weiner’s words to life. Rudnicki is one of the best narrators in the business, and he’s in top form hereâ ”Legacy of Ashes is one of the best audiobooks of the year. Copyright Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Tim Weiner, multiple Pulitzer Prize winner, longtime New York Times reporter, and the author of *Betrayal: The Story of Aldrich Ames, American Spy* (1995) and *Blank Check: The Pentagon's Black Budget* (1991) hits his marks in *Legacy of Ashes*. Drawing on more than 50,000 documents and 300 on-the-record interviews with key players (10 of them former directors of the agency; all of the book's many notes and quotations are attributed), Weiner treats his subject with a ruthless, journalistic eye, skewering Republican and Democratic administrations alike for the CIA's slide into mediocrity. One critic finds a weakness in Weiner's exuberant dismantling of the old guard at the expense of more contemporary analysis. Still, this is an important book that will capture the attention of anyone interested in the CIA's checkered history. Copyright © 2004 Phillips & Nelson Media, Inc. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Amazing and yet disturbing

Very good read would be even better if he didn't have to leave out the still (to many) secret actions of the CIA

It was difficult to put this book down; very captivating. So many revelations that seem almost unbelievable. Nonetheless, I thoroughly enjoyed this book.

book came as advertised and it a great read...

Good history of our secret spy agency.

Amazing history, excellent sourcing and a neutral bent. Not many of those anymore! One hopes the CIA has improved.

Wow, what an eye opener!!

An in depth look at the (mostly) failures of the CIA. It was, in the beginning, supposed to be what the National Director of Intelligence is trying to be today. Since the Military did not share intel, the Old Guard of the OSS decided to go their own way. It is a sad commentary on the inability of the US to actually have any idea what is going on elsewhere. There is a lengthy and detailed rebuttal on the

CIA website. Sadly, too many 'non-denial denials' are there, with nitpicking on details to debunk the whole. Well written, easy to read, except the parts where American lives were wasted because of the dearth of intelligence, in many meanings of the word.

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