

***Not in Your Lifetime: The Defining Book on the J.F.K. Assassination*** ANTHONY SUMMERS. You want to get the 2013 edition of *Not in Your Lifetime*. This is, I think, the single best book to read to get a solid foundation of “JFK 101” material. Summers is a UK investigative journalist who is careful, documents everything, and is not given to overstatement. If anything, he’s overly cautious about not drawing conclusions he can’t explicitly prove. If you read this book, you will have a solid grounding in JFK basics.

***On the Trail of the Assassins: One Man's Quest to Solve the Murder of President Kennedy*** JIM GARRISON. Interesting account from Garrison’s point of view about his investigation and prosecution of Clay Shaw.

***The Last Investigation*** GAETON FONZI. Fonzi was an investigator for the HSCA, and watched firsthand as witnesses died before he could get to them. This is a great account of the HSCA investigation itself, as well as Fonzi’s role in unmasking the true identity of the CIA officer known as Maurice Bishop.

***The Man Who Knew Too Much: Hired to Kill Oswald and Prevent the Assassination of JFK*** DICK RUSSELL. Fascinating story that I’d hoped we’d have time to cover in the course, but we didn’t have time. This book focuses on Richard Nagell, a US intelligence operative who was assigned (by whom is not exactly clear) to keep tabs on Oswald in 1963. Well written and fascinating.

***Harlot's Ghost: A Novel*** NORMAN MAILER. A truly remarkable novel, and one of the few that can be described as a magnificent work of art. In a foreword, Mailer says that because fiction is more real than non-fiction, he has fictionalized the events of the book in order to make them more real. I think he has done it. The novel traces the career of a young CIA officer as he rises through the Agency and encounters the CIA heavy hitters –most spectacularly, James Angleton and William Harvey. (Angleton’s character is named Hugh Montague.) I don’t have any idea how Mailer got access to the information he did, but reading this book makes you feel like you are living within the intelligence structure during these years. Mailer halts the story before the JFK assassination, and reportedly had planned a sequel that he never published.

***The Ghost: The Secret Life of CIA Spymaster James Jesus Angleton*** by JEFFERSON MORLEY. Clearly the best biography of James Angleton you can buy. Perhaps a more comprehensive account resides in side a vault in Langley, but we’ll never know.

***Our Man in Mexico: Winston Scott and the Hidden History of the CIA*** by JEFFERSON MORLEY. A wonderful biography of Win Scott, who trained with James Angleton and William Harvey in the early days of the OSS, and eventually became CIA Chief of Station in Mexico City. That was Win’s position when the man who called himself Oswald appeared in Mexico City, and those mysterious goings on remain at the center of the Oswald enigma. What Win Scott learned appears to have cost him his life when he tried to publish a book about it.

***Best Evidence*** DAVID LIFTON. Remarkable book that carefully reviews the medical evidence regarding Kennedy’s autopsy, based on information available up through the HSCA years. Amazingly, Lifton explains how and why the casket offloaded from Air Force One in Washington DC did not contain the body of the President. Like many of the shenanigans involved in the JFK assassination, this hypothesis sounds highly improbable at first glance, but Lifton does the heavy lifting to get to the bottom of it.

***Oswald and the CIA: The Documented Truth About the Unknown Relationship Between the U.S. Government and the Alleged Killer of JFK*** JOHN NEWMAN. Newman is a retired major and a former assistant to the director of the NSA, a former intelligence analyst turned historian. Newman has the appetite for poring through documents and deciphering the obscure tracking and notational hieroglyphics that appear on them. In doing so, he’s made some remarkable findings. This book is a detailed examination of the available intelligence documents related to Lee Harvey Oswald, including the

perplexing Mexico City trails. This book is for the detail-oriented reader who wants to see for him/herself the documents and what they mean.

***The Killing of a President: The Complete Photographic Record of the Assassination, the Conspiracy*** ROBERT GRODEN. A big, coffee table book with large resolution photographs of many of the important photos pertaining to the JFK assassination. Many of these photos are only available in grainy or lower resolution formats in other places.

***Inside the Assassination Records Review Board*** Volumes 1-5. DOUGLAS HORNE. Horne was a researcher on the ARRB, and this is his account of what they found. Horne made some incredible discoveries regarding the autopsy procedure on the President. While the autopsy had always been known to be incompetently performed and deceptively reported, I don't think anyone seriously imagined what actually took place, according to the witnesses who gave their accounts to Horne. If you are interested in the medical malfeasance related to the JFK assassination, these five volumes are a must-read.

***Mary's Mosaic: The CIA Conspiracy to Murder John F. Kennedy, Mary Pinchot Meyer, and Their Vision for World Peace*** PETER JANNEY. Author Peter Janney is the son of Wistar Janney, a top-echelon CIA officer. Here Janney investigates the murder of the wife of a family friend – Mary Pinchot Meyer, the wife of CIA officer Cord Meyer. Mary was JFK's lover in 1963, and was quite vocal in Georgetown circles about her skepticism about the official assassination explanation. In 1964 she was murdered. Janney examines the circumstances surrounding the murder in detail, including his growing awareness that his father Wistar Janney was involved in the operation to eliminate Mary Meyer.

***Harvey and Lee: How the CIA Framed Oswald*** by JOHN ARMSTRONG. Armstrong dedicated his life to compiling a coherent history of Oswald's life, and discovered that it couldn't be done without postulating that 2 different individuals operated under the name Lee Harvey Oswald from 1947 to 1963. This book is nearly 1000 pages long, the size of a thick encyclopedia volume, and it is incredibly detailed and comprehensive. The book comes with a CD that includes copies of all the documents and photographs referenced in the book. This is a monumental book. Reading it book is likely to appeal to you only if you become thoroughly swept up into the mystery of Oswald.

***Lamia*** PHILIPPE DE VOSJOLI. De Vosjoli had an incredible life, from his entrance into the French resistance as a teenager to his service as a member of French intelligence for decades, until he defected from that agency because he was convinced it had been thoroughly penetrated by the KGB. This is a remarkable and spirited memoir.

***Trained to Kill: The Inside Story of CIA Plots against Castro, Kennedy, and Che*** ANTONIO VECIANA. At 88 years old, Veciana finally felt it was safe to tell his story about his recruitment as a CIA asset in the fight against Castro. A remarkable memoir that ends with Veciana finally revealing the true identity of his CIA case officer, the man whom he knew (officially) only as Maurice Bishop.

***Spy Wars: Moles, Mysteries, and Deadly Games*** TENNENT "PETE" BAGLEY. An engaging Cold War memoir from a man who was for many years at the heart of CIA counterintelligence efforts against the Soviets. Bagley is an unrepentant pro-Angletonian, and eventually the tide of the Agency turned against him. He provides an extensive analysis of the Golitsyn vs. Nosenko case, in which two different Soviet defectors contradicted each other about almost everything – so at least one of them had to be lying. In a nutshell, Golitsyn told CIA that the Russians were far more wily and successful than the West had yet imagined, and Nosenko told CIA they had nothing to worry about and that it was all good. Human nature being what it is, people like being told they're winning and they dislike being told that an opponent is making a fool of them. Management sided with Nosenko, although Bagley makes a strong case that he was completely full of it.

***Into the Nightmare: My Search for the Killers of President John F. Kennedy and Officer J. D. Tippit*** JOSEPH MCBRIDE. A comprehensive account of the assassination, with particular emphasis on matters often neglected, including the death of JD. Tippit and the goings on in New Orleans.

***The Devil's Chessboard: Allen Dulles, the CIA, and the Rise of America's Secret Government*** by DAVID TALBOT. An absolutely fascinating and thorough account of the life of Allen Dulles, with every bit of the skullduggery included.

***Family of Secrets: The Bush Dynasty, America's Invisible Government, and the Hidden History of the Last Fifty Years*** by RUSS BAKER. This is a wonderful and grossing book about the mysterious history of one of American's most powerful families, the Bush family. George H.W. Bush was in the CIA from an early age, was active in the Bay of Pigs operation, and was present in Dallas on Nov 22, 1963 when JFK was assassinated. If you were not aware of all three of the facts in the last sentence, you should read this book.

***The Mighty Wurlitzer: How the CIA Played America*** HUGH WILFORD. There are only two published items that deal in any way with Operation Mockingbird. One is the article written by Carl Bernstein in Rolling Stone, which you can find on the web by Googling it. The other is this book, which deals with Mockingbird, albeit only in the early days.

***The Old Boys: The American Elite and the Origins of the CIA*** BURTON HERSH. Hersch is a skilled and enjoyable story teller, and the story he tells here is the history of the CIA, from the early pre-OSS days up to the dismissal of Allen Dulles in 1961.

***Deep Politics and the Death of JFK*** PETER DALE SCOTT. Scott has an apparently encyclopedic knowledge of remote connections between apparently separate people, groups, corporations, and government agencies. He outlines a complicated web of links and influence that guides US government policy and action from behind the scenes.

***The Night Watch: 25 Years of Peculiar Service*** DAVID ATLEE PHILLIPS. Phillips wrote this memoir after being forced out of the CIA when he came to very public attention during the HSCA years. Described by his ex-wife as a man so fluent in deception that "he lies in his sleep," Phillips' memoir contains some partially disguised references to people and events about which he should probably have said nothing, which can make the book interesting for those who already have a large base of background knowledge of the events.

***Official and Confidential: The Secret Life of J. Edgar Hoover*** ANTHONY SUMMERS. UK investigative journalist Anthony Summers details the almost unbelievably corrupt reign of terror of J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director from its inception in 1935 to his death in 1972. An eye-opening read about the lengths to which a man will go in order to seek and obtain power at all costs.

***Goddess: The Secret Lives of Marilyn Monroe*** ANTHONY SUMMERS, UK investigative journalist Anthony Summers describes the romantic/sexual connections that Marilyn had with both JFK and RFK. He explores the facts of her death in detail, including evidence that RFK was present at Marilyn's residence the night she died, a fact that was skillfully obscured through the Kennedy's connections to local law enforcement in Los Angeles.