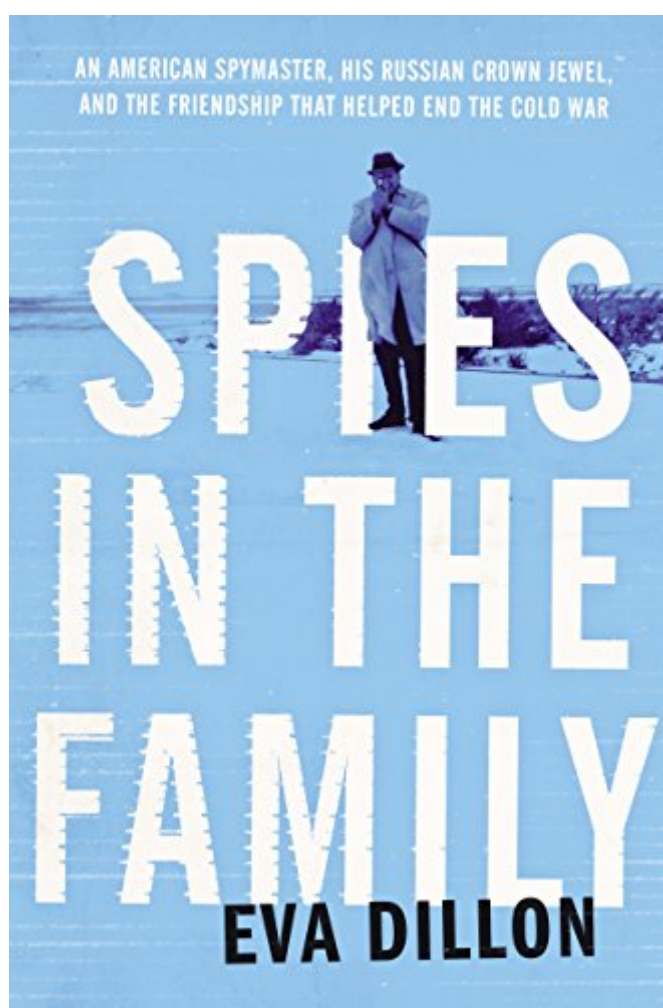


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Spies In The Family: An American Spymaster, His Russian Crown Jewel, And The Friendship That Helped End The Cold War



Synopsis

A riveting true-life thriller and revealing memoir from the daughter of an American intelligence officer—the astonishing true story of two spies and their families on opposite sides of the Cold War. In the summer of 1975, seventeen-year-old Eva Dillon was living in New Delhi with her family when her father was exposed as a CIA spy. Eva had long believed that her father was a U.S. State Department employee. She had no idea that he was handling the CIA's highest-ranking double agent—Dmitri Fedorovich Polyakov—a Soviet general whose code name was TOPHAT.

Dillon's father and Polyakov had a close friendship that went back years, to their first meeting in Burma in the mid-1960s. At the height of the Cold War, the Russian offered the CIA an unfiltered view into the vault of Soviet intelligence. His collaboration helped ensure that tensions between the two nuclear superpowers did not escalate into a shooting war. Spanning fifty years and three continents, *Spies in the Family* is a deeply researched account of two families on opposite sides of the lethal espionage campaigns of the Cold War, and two men whose devoted friendship lasted a lifetime, until the devastating final days of their lives. With impeccable insider access to both families as well as knowledgeable CIA and FBI officers, Dillon goes beyond the fog of secrecy to craft an unforgettable story of friendship and betrayal, double agents and clandestine lives, that challenges our notions of patriotism, exposing the commonality between peoples of opposing political economic systems. Both a gripping tale of spy craft and a moving personal story, *Spies in the Family* is an invaluable and heart-rending work. *Spies in the Family* includes 25 black-and-white photos.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

There are lots of moving parts to this spy story, yet it flows easily from its opening details on spy craft, moving through international intrigue and wrapping up with the poignant family stories behind the players involved. Thrilling and heart-warming at the same time.

“Spies in the Family” is an engaging, beautifully written, true story presenting a view of the Cold War as experienced by the families of an American CIA official and a Russian military officer who provided valuable Soviet intelligence to the United States government. The book is engrossing and gripping as it describes the government’s efforts to obtain that information but at the same time ensure the Russian general’s safety. It is entertaining and humorous as well, relating the exploits of Mr. Dillon’s large family as they moved from country to country when he was assigned to various posts around the globe. At a time when our collective interest is again focused heavily on the former Soviet Union, this book provides some fascinating background; and I recommend it highly.

What a great story! It’s one thing to read about the intrigue of the Cold War, where spies for them become spies for us. But to have this book centered on the families involved in this remarkable time in our history makes the book so much more appealing. And with the current political climate between the US and Russia, the story is more relevant than ever. Un-put-downable to be more specific! Take this book to the beach!

I usually read fiction (and love the cold war intrigue genre), but I overheard someone talking about this book, went online and ordered based on the many positive reviews - and I’m glad I did! As some have noted, even though the book is factual (and meticulously researched), it reads smoothly, more like fiction; doesn’t feel like you are plowing through an educational treatise which is often the case

with historical non-fiction. It would be a great basis for a movie or series :)

Loved the book. Great story about the sacrifice and dedication of our public servants in the CIA as told by the daughter of an unsung American hero and his interaction with a true Russia patriot. The book touches on themes of love of country, love of family and God, greed, fear and the horrors of the Soviet state. This is a first person look into a fascinating and important time in American and world history

Couldn't stop reading.

This is an exceedingly well researched and written book about brave men and women on both sides of the Cold War. As an avid history buff, I was familiar with the story and many of the characters Ms. Dillon so expertly weaves into her personal narrative, from the spymaster James Jesus Angleton to the traitor Aldrich Ames. For readers unfamiliar with the topic, this book does a great job conveying the nuances of the craft that was espionage. The added angle of how each family grew while these events took place, as well as how they survived the end of the Cold War, is unique and a special element not normally found in these histories. The personal photos were a nice addition. Highly recommended.

Through intimate knowledge and impeccable research, the author ferrets out the truth of so many connected lives which have long lay dormant. Intrigue and inter-agency backstabbing are the order of the day. There is honor, treason, and heartbreak on both sides of the Iron Curtain. Spoiler Alert: You will love this book!

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