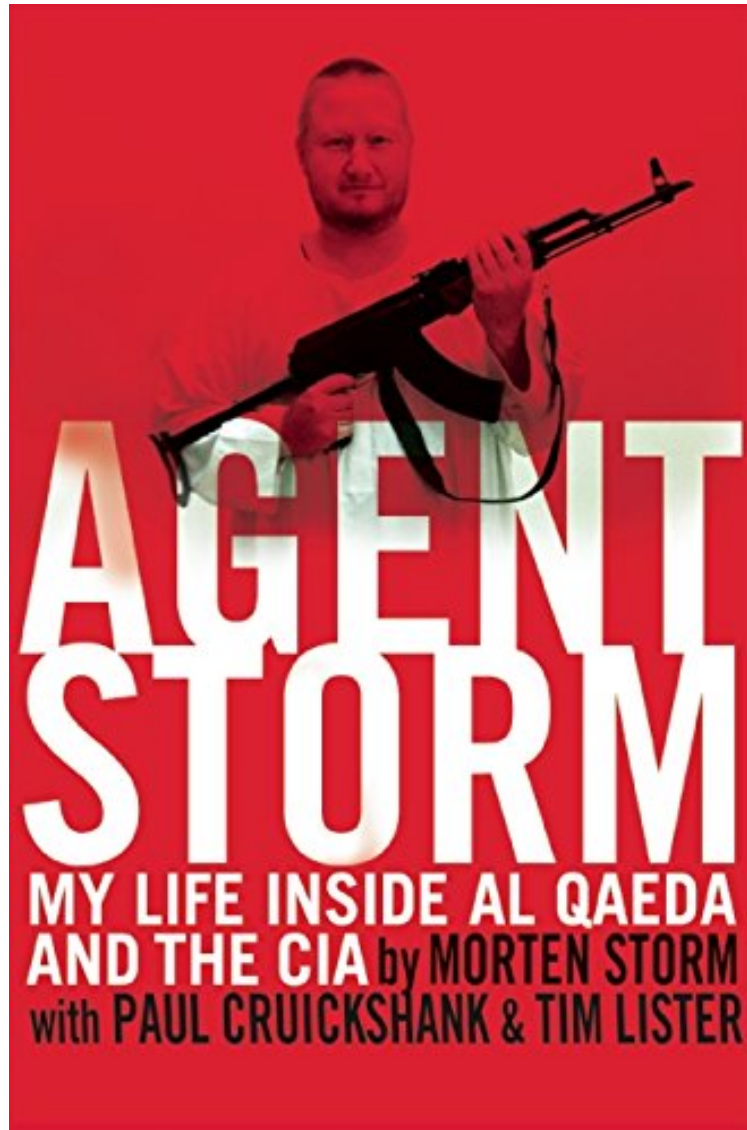


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## Agent Storm: My Life Inside al Qaeda and the CIA

*Morten Storm, Paul Cruickshank, Tim Lister*  
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**Morten Storm, Paul Cruickshank, Tim Lister : Agent Storm: My Life Inside al Qaeda and the CIA** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Agent Storm: My Life Inside al Qaeda and the CIA:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Likely not 100% accurate, but still an important book.By Lance B. HillsingerAgent Storm: My life inside Al Qaeda and the CIA is obviously an unusual book. The author, Morten Storm, is a Danish citizen. In his youth his was drawn to Islam and quickly radicalized. Years later he became disillusioned

and became an informant for Western intelligence services, including the CIA. His story seems almost impossible, but there is substantial corroboration to many parts of life. There are also many footnotes which help the reader understand the context of the author's particular action. However, by his own admission, the author used cocaine repeatedly. With his use of illicit substances, it strains credulity to assume that he had a 100% perfect recollection of events. While the author's recollection of events, or his analysis of a situation, may not be perfectly correct there remains two viable themes: How he was drawn to militant radical Islam in the first place and later his perceived betrayal by the CIA (and the Danish intelligence service). In order to prevent others from become radicalized, it is important to understand why Storm and others are drawn to militant Islam. As to his perceived betrayal, he presents relevant, substantial evidence to justify these feelings on some points, but less compelling evidence on others. Because of the nature of the narrative, many proper, especially unfamiliar Arabic names, are used repeatedly throughout the text. There is a "dramatis personae" at the end of the book which can great help the reader better understand the narrative. It would have been even much more helpful to put the "dramatis personae" at the beginning of book.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Frightening Read  
By Robert King  
If you read this expose of Islamic belief and pay any attention at all to what is happening in the world, in this country, you will not breathe easy again in your lifetime. Your future, the future of your children, your grandchildren, this country, is under greater threat than at anytime in the last century. Morten Storm's story of his conversion to Islam, his life as a principal provider to al Qaeda's top jihadist for years before suddenly realizing the lie he had been living under, and then how he managed to change sides when the slightest mistake could have caused the literal loss of his head, is the one of the most engrossing story, fiction or non-fiction, I have ever read. Thank you, Morten. Please, please, stay safe.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. and three different Intelligent Organizations in Europe and America  
By Terry S. Collins  
This book was very interesting. It provides an inside look at Militant Extremism in Europe prior to 9/11, Al Qaeda organizations in Yemen and Somalia, and three different Intelligent Organizations in Europe and America. The two questions that drove me on in reading this book were: 1) What factors impelled Morton Storm to embrace Militant Islam with it's murderous ideology and what caused him then to reject it enough to turn against "a band of brothers" and start risking his life to work for impersonal organizations that he, ultimately, could not trust; and 2) what would cause Aminah, a seemingly innocent young woman from a small village in Croatia, to embrace Wahabism and become enthralled by a militant cleric (Anwar al-Awlaki) and religious bigot of the worst kind, who made no secret about his murderous intentions toward the West. Her innocence in thinking that she could travel back and forth between the militant camps of Yemen and Europe makes me wonder if she even knew that Anwar al-Awlaki had declared war against the West. Yet, when she was told that she would not be able to go back to Europe to visit her family, she just couldn't back away from marrying Awlaki. I don't know if the book entirely answered those questions, but I liked the fact that it caused me to reflect deeply on them. For some people, there seems to be an appeal in embracing a simplistic ideology based on selected quotes from an authoritative source, which enables one to adhere unquestionably to a simplistic code of honor. It appears that Morton Storm saw that his life was going down a path to destruction and may have grasped onto this ideology in order to change course. But when he began to think more deeply about it, the house of cards collapsed. I certainly wonder what became of Aminah after Awlaki was vaporized.

Morten Storm was an unlikely jihadi. A six-foot-one red-haired Dane, Storm spent his teens in and out of trouble. A book about the Prophet Mohammed prompted his conversion to Islam, and Storm sought purpose in a community of believers. He attended a militant madrasah in Yemen, named his son Osama, and became close friends with Anwar al-Awlaki, the American-born terrorist cleric. But after a decade of jihadi life, he not only repudiated extremism but, in a quest for atonement, became a double agent for the CIA and British and Danish intelligence. Agent Storm takes readers inside the jihadist world like never before, showing the daily life of zealous men set on mass murder, from dodging drones with al Qaeda leaders in the Arabian desert to training in extremist gyms in Britain and performing supply drops in Kenya. The book also provides a tantalizing look at his dangerous life undercover, as Storm traveled the world for missions targeting its most dangerous terrorists, and into the most powerful spy agencies: their tradecraft, rivalries, and late-night carousing, as well as their ruthless use of a beautiful blonde in an ambitious honey trap. Agent Storm is a captivating, utterly unique, real-life espionage tale.

A National Bestseller  
One of the Guardians Top Ten Books About Spies  
Highly credible. . . . Both a rollicking read and a rare insiders account of Western spying in the age of al Qaeda, where the risk if exposed is not Cold War-style expulsion but gruesome execution. . . . A valuable window on both sides in a lethal underground war.  
New York Times Book  
This book reads like a screenplay for a James Bond movie written by Joel and Ethan Coen. . . . Anyone interested in the saga of terrorist fanatics will find Agent Storm compelling.  
Washington Post  
Morten Storm has done the Western world a great service. . . . And by the way, the CIA owes him 5 million dollars.  
Brian Kilmeade, Fox News  
An extraordinary story, well told and convincing.  
Foreign Affairs [A] gripping firsthand account . . . . Storms work provides valuable and fascinating insight into the quiet battle being waged between clandestine national agencies

and various terrorist organizations. Christian Science Monitor Agent Storm feels like a James Bond story or one of John Le Carré's marvelous spy-thrillers. Yet, the story written by CNN's Paul Cruickshank and Tim Lister is a true account. . . . First-rate. War on the Rocks Morten Storm's account of his nerve-wracking life spying on Al Qaeda for Western intelligence gives us the most detailed, compelling, and human look at modern espionage in the lethal world of jihadist terrorism that we are likely to get. This ground-level view of the shadowy struggle between these two clandestine groups is truly gripping. Mark Stout, former CIA officer and Director, MA in Global Security Studies, Johns Hopkins University Picture Homelands Nicholas Brody getting jacked during his time as a POW and you'll get an idea of Morten Storm, the 61, red-haired Dane who went from unlikely jihadi to double agent. . . . Storm's tale of dodging drones and navigating alliances may read like a great espionage thriller (complete with a blonde honey trap), but his deeply personal struggle with extremism and atonement is the real story. Maxim Agent Storm is the remarkable memoir of a Danish convert-turned-extremist who managed not only to infiltrate al Qaeda's ranks but would later become one of the West's most valued human intelligence assets in the war on terrorism. As a true spy-story, this book brings you incredibly close to what it actually takes to be an extremist and get into a terrorist group while balancing loyalty and treachery in the world of intelligence. Essential reading for everyone interested in how the war on terrorism is actually fought in the shadows. Dr. Magnus Ranstorp, a leading expert on international terrorism and Research Director of the Centre for Asymmetric Threat Studies at the Swedish National Defence College Agent Storm opens a unique window onto bleak interlocking landscapes: the radicalization of European Muslims that has now been energized by the Syrian civil war, the leadership and organization of global jihad, and the twilight struggle waged by western intelligence agencies against an elusive and implacable enemy. Steven Simon, bestselling co-author of *The Age of Sacred Terror* and *The Next Attack* In Agent Storm, Morten Storm, Paul Cruickshank, and Tim Lister tell an astonishing and unknown tale of the exploits, change of allegiances, double crosses and inner workings of both al Qaeda terrorist groups and the Western intelligence agencies charged with stopping them. Storm's unlikely path puts him at the center of much of the al Qaeda activity and affiliated plots in Western Europe as well as in Somalia and Yemen since 9/11. Grounded in the necessary broader geopolitical context, Agent Storm is hard to put down. Mitch Silber, former Director of Intelligence Analysis at the NYPD and author of *The Al Qaeda Factor* "Gripping." Publishers Weekly Probably the best account of a modern-day secret agent. Morten Storm, a convert to Islam, vividly recounts his work for the CIA and British intelligence, against extremists in Europe and al-Qaeda in the Yemen. Guardian (Top Ten Books About Spies) Remarkable. . . . Morten Storm is the living embodiment of the theory that it is the bad boys at school who make the best spies. . . . Agent Storm is an astonishing expose not only of the world of jihadi, but also the workings of those who secretly protect us. Telegraph (UK) Storm has been involved in many of the most critical terrorism cases since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. This means if the revelations in his newly released memoir, Agent Storm, are true, he is not only this decade's most intriguing informant: he could also be the most important. Toronto Star "[A] gripping story." Daily Mail (UK) Storm's memoir is manna from heaven for counterterrorism experts. Sunday Times (UK) [Storm's] allegations have proved explosive. Independent (UK)