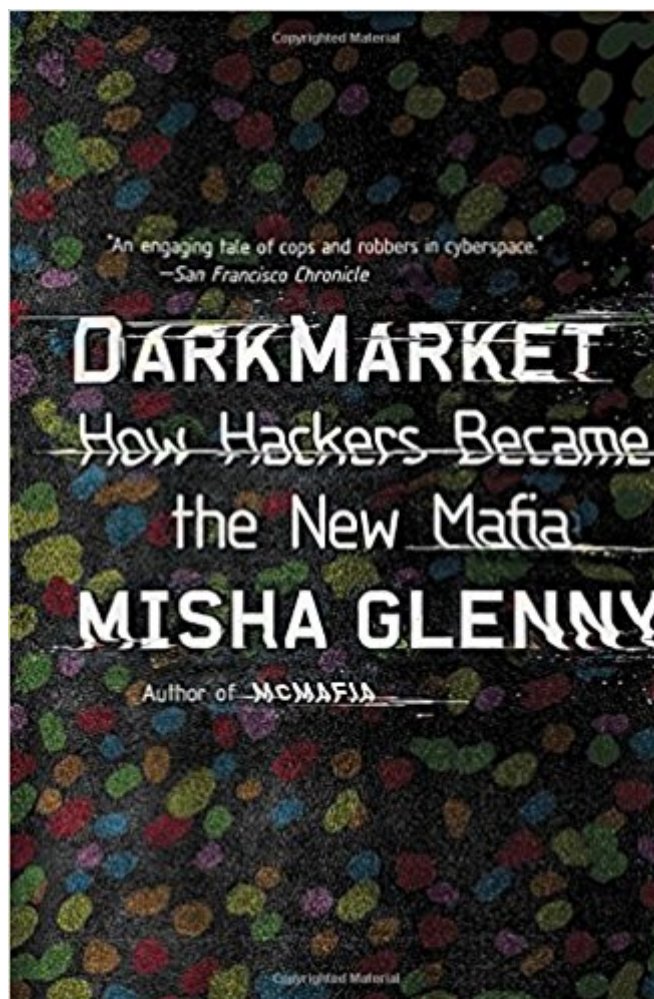


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# DarkMarket: How Hackers Became The New Mafia



## Synopsis

In this fascinating and compelling book—a must-read for anyone who owns a computer—Misha Glenny exposes our governments' multi-billion-dollar war against an ever-morphing, super smart new breed of criminal: the hacker. The benefits of living in a digital, globalized society are enormous; so too are the dangers. We bank online, shop online, date, learn, work, and live online, but have the institutions that keep us safe on the streets learned to protect us from the deadly "new mafia" of cybercriminals? To answer this question, Glenny offers a vivid examination of the rise of the criminal hacking website DarkMarket and its ultimate fall. Along the way, he presents alarming and illuminating stories about both the shadowy individuals behind its scenes and the organizations tasked with bringing them to justice.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"[An] engaging tale of cops and robbers in cyberspace."—San Francisco Chronicle  
"An eminently readable, witty narrative that sustains suspense until the very last pages."—The Wall Street Journal  
"Misha Glenny tells us that cyber crime is right here and has been for years—hiding in plain sight. . . . Required reading."—The New Yorker  
"A truly remarkable story. . . . Magnificent."—Financial Times  
"This extraordinarily powerful book demonstrates how utterly we lack the shared supranational tools needed to fight

cybercrime. • Roberto Saviano, author of Gomorrah

Misha Glenny is a former BBC Central Europe correspondent. Glenny covered the fall of Communism and the wars in the former Yugoslavia. He is the author of *McMafia; The Rebirth of History; The Fall of Yugoslavia* (which won the Overseas Press Club Award in 1993 for Best Book on Foreign Affairs); and *The Balkans: Nationalism, War and the Great Powers, 1804-1999*. He has been regularly consulted by U.S. and European governments on major policy issues. Misha Glenny lives in London.

Over the years, the internet has transformed from a luxury to necessity. It is fast becoming a fundamental human right. In Finland, it already is. With internet proliferation comes a group of people who are exploiting it for making money. For instance, you have either heard about or received emails regarding the promise of treasure out of nowhere commonly referred to as the Nigerian scam. There are a whole lot of other scams. Misha Glenny uses his background in investigative journalism to trace the rise and fall of DarkMarket, one of the sites favored by hackers. In order to uncover the complex world of secrecy and anonymity, he travels from Brazil to Turkey via Scandinavian and East European countries. Although the book chronicles the rise and fall of the website named DarkMarket, it is not a straight narrative. It does lack a chronological narrative. The book jumps back and forth between different characters and time periods. As a result, the book confuses anyone who is not reading this at a stretch. The book also will disappoint you if you are looking for conclusions. The authorities catch a major player behind the website as documented in the book. But after capture of this criminal, no one is sure if they have got the right person. The major success of the book turns out to be the shocker it delivers to a person who has adopted technology with both hands without realizing its darker side. These days, we conduct a lot of our day to day activities using the internet. Our online identities are vulnerable. An experienced hacker can effortlessly extract this information from our computers. The extracted information is sold cheaply to fraudsters who then uses it for various schemes. Any legal procedures against these people take enormous efforts, and sometimes fruitless, because these crimes extend international boundaries. With law enforcers spread across the world, it is difficult to keep it a secret and also to get everybody to cooperate. Since there is a lot of money involved here, the organizations behind these websites are becoming like the modern mafia. Technology makes our lives easy. At the same time, technology also has an evil side. We have been ignorant of the negative aspects. Misha Glenny wakes up from the slumber. Forget the lack of structure in the book. This book is still a must-read for

you to understand the darker side of the internet. I am sure you will be afraid to use even the nearest ATM machine after reading this book.

This book is disappointing in the sense that it is a follow up to the original Dark Market and appears to be a reprint of that book, with merely a new prologue to link the new publication to the old one. Ninety percent of the paperback seems to be a repeat of the splendid investigative record of the first book meaning that there is basically nothing new apart from the linking prologue. Many readers will feel angry that they have spent money to read a book they had already read. Still the author is doing a good job in alerting unsuspecting millions to the inherent dangers of the hackers and carders who use the internet to pickpocket the innocent people of the new electronic age. Yet the feeling persists that this paperback is a money making endeavour that really has no eminent place on the bookshelves. Misha Glenny is at his best in the original Dark Market, a cracking and educative read.

Just reading the preface had me hooked on reading this interesting book. It's intriguing as a spy novel and would make a great movie except that it may be hard to follow with all that goes on in it. I feel like all hackers should be punished whether they actually steal money/identities/information or not. My daughter was hacked by a guy she met on a social network and he became like a stalker - nothing was stolen because she has no money but the trauma of someone sneaking around in your PC without permission is just disgusting - she called the police but they didn't believe her. Anyway I wanted to read up on what makes a hacker and this book helped somewhat. In one part it describes what motivates a hacker: "Science has shown that people who take risks experience a rush of the so-called happiness hormone. That hormone multiplied by whatever quantity of rustling dollar bills, plays the fundamental, decisive part in motivating someone to keep working in this not entirely honest industry." Oh boy... "not entirely honest" - can you believe it? Hackers do it just for the rush, just like a drug addict! Great read for all geeks!

Got it for a class. It succeeds in being a book so gets 5 stars.

I read this book because it was recommended reading in an article that I saw from Robert Herjavec and I have recently become interested in cyber crimes and cyber security. The book was fairly interesting and well written with some good and thought provoking information. I found several times that it was a little confusing to follow because of the way it was organized.

While the book itself can sometimes be difficult to follow, I would recommend it. Very entertaining and full of interesting insights about cyber crime.

I found the book riveting. Not only does it reveal the under world of cyber crime, but does it in dramatic fashion. The only fault is the lack of graphics or a dramatis personae that would help the reader keep the characters straight and illustrate their roles and relationships to one another and their respective crime sites.

This book is really cool the stories make you understand the cyber world

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