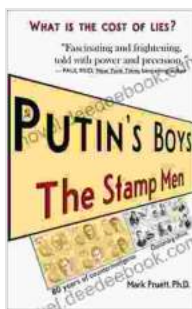


Putin Boys: The Stamp Men Who Control Russia's Security Apparatus

The Federal Security Service (FSB) is the successor to the KGB and is responsible for counterintelligence, internal security, and border security. The FSB is led by Alexander Bortnikov, a close ally of President Vladimir Putin.



Putin's Boys: The Stamp Men by Mark Pruett

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

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Lending : Enabled



The Stamp Men

The FSB is often referred to as the "Stamp Men" because of their use of official stamps to approve documents and issue orders. This practice dates back to the KGB era, when the stamps were used to signify that a document had been approved by the highest levels of the organization.

The Stamp Men are a powerful group within the FSB and are responsible for a wide range of activities, including:

- Counterintelligence
- Internal security

- Border security
- Terrorism prevention
- Organized crime investigation

The Putin Connection

Alexander Bortnikov is a close ally of President Vladimir Putin. He has served as FSB director since 2008 and is widely seen as one of the most powerful men in Russia.

Bortnikov is a former KGB officer and has been close to Putin since the early 1990s. He is a trusted confidant of Putin and is said to have played a key role in the president's rise to power.

The FSB is a powerful tool for Putin and his allies. The agency is used to suppress dissent, intimidate political opponents, and control the media.

The Future of the FSB

The FSB is likely to remain a powerful force in Russian politics for the foreseeable future. The agency is well-funded and has a long history of loyalty to Putin.

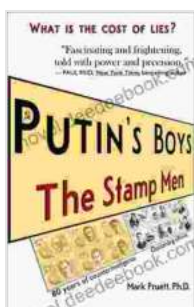
However, the FSB is also facing some challenges. The agency has been criticized for its human rights abuses and its role in suppressing dissent.

It is possible that the FSB will face increasing pressure from both within Russia and abroad. However, the agency is likely to remain a powerful force in Russian politics for the foreseeable future.

The FSB is a powerful and secretive organization that plays a key role in Russian politics. The agency is led by Alexander Bortnikov, a close ally of President Vladimir Putin.

The FSB is used to suppress dissent, intimidate political opponents, and control the media. The agency is facing some challenges, including criticism for its human rights abuses and its role in suppressing dissent.

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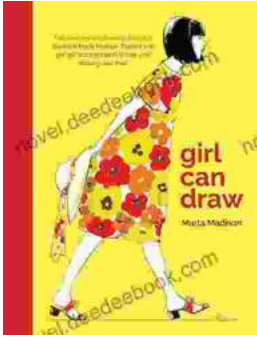
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