witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo

Witnesses of the Unseen: Seven Years in Guantanamo

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo—this phrase evokes a powerful narrative of endurance, secrecy, and the human stories that often go unheard. The Guantanamo Bay detention camp, established in 2002, has been a focal point of global debate and controversy, primarily due to the treatment of detainees and the veil of secrecy surrounding their experiences. But behind the walls of this notorious facility lie the untold stories of individuals who have spent years in confinement, many of whom have become witnesses to a world that few outsiders have ever seen.

The Hidden Realities Behind Guantanamo

To understand the significance of the phrase "witnesses of the unseen seven years in Guantanamo," it's important to grasp what life inside the camp entails. Guantanamo Bay, often simply called Gitmo, was set up to hold suspected terrorists and enemy combatants. However, over time, the facility has become synonymous with indefinite detention, allegations of torture, and legal limbo.

Many detainees have spent years—sometimes over a decade—waiting for their cases to be resolved. These seven years or more are not just a measure of time but a reflection of the psychological and physical toll exacted on those imprisoned. The term "witnesses of the unseen" highlights how these detainees have observed events, endured treatment, and experienced isolation that remains largely hidden from the public eye.

Life Inside Guantanamo: A Closer Look

The Day-to-Day Existence of Detainees

Living in Guantanamo means existing in a world governed by strict rules, limited freedom, and constant surveillance. The detainees wake up to a regimented routine that includes headcounts, restricted movements, and limited interaction with the outside world. According to numerous testimonies and reports, many detainees suffered from sleep deprivation, solitary confinement, and harsh interrogations.

Witnesses of the unseen seven years in Guantanamo often describe the emotional and mental strain that accompanies such confinement. The uncertainty of their fate and the stigma attached to their detention adds layers of despair. Yet, within these bleak conditions, some detainees found ways to maintain resilience, whether through prayer, conversation, or small acts of defiance.

The Role of Military Personnel and Legal Advocates

While detainees are the primary witnesses, military personnel, guards, and legal advocates also hold glimpses into the unseen realities of Guantanamo. Soldiers assigned to guard duty have at times spoken out about the ethical dilemmas they faced. Similarly, lawyers who have fought legal battles for detainees have shed light on the complexities of due process—or the lack thereof—in the camp.

These perspectives enrich the narrative by showing that Guantanamo is not just a onedimensional place of incarceration but a site of ongoing legal, moral, and humanitarian challenges.

The Impact of Long-Term Detention on Mental Health

One of the most profound aspects revealed by witnesses of the unseen seven years in Guantanamo is the devastating impact of prolonged detention on mental health. Psychiatric evaluations and detainee accounts consistently point to symptoms of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and other psychological conditions.

Psychological Consequences of Isolation

Solitary confinement, often used as a disciplinary measure, can exacerbate these mental health issues. Extended isolation severs detainees from social contact, intensifying feelings of loneliness and hopelessness. Many detainees reported hallucinations, emotional numbness, and suicidal thoughts.

Understanding these psychological effects is crucial, not only from a humanitarian standpoint but also in discussing the ethics and legality of such detention practices. Witnesses of the unseen seven years in Guantanamo have, therefore, played a key role in pushing for reforms and greater transparency.

Legal Battles and Human Rights Concerns

The legal status of Guantanamo detainees has been a contentious issue since the camp's inception. Many detainees were held without formal charges or trials, raising serious questions about human rights and international law.

Habeas Corpus and Judicial Oversight

Numerous court cases have challenged the indefinite detention practices, with some resulting in landmark decisions affirming detainees' right to challenge their imprisonment. Witnesses of the unseen seven years in Guantanamo include lawyers, judges, and human rights activists who have tirelessly worked to ensure detainees receive fair treatment under the law.

The Role of International Organizations

Organizations such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have documented abuses and called for the closure of Guantanamo Bay. Their reports, based on testimonies

from former detainees and leaked documents, provide crucial insight into the unseen suffering endured by many.

Personal Stories: The Human Faces Behind the Headlines

Amidst the political rhetoric and legal jargon, the most compelling witnesses of the unseen seven years in Guantanamo are the detainees themselves. Their personal stories illuminate the human cost of this controversial detention center.

Stories of Resilience and Hope

Despite the harsh conditions, some detainees have shared stories of hope, resilience, and the quest for justice. These narratives humanize a place often reduced to statistics and allegations. For instance, some detainees have recounted their efforts to educate themselves, maintain cultural practices, and support fellow inmates emotionally.

The Challenges of Reentry

For those eventually released, reintegrating into society poses significant challenges. Stigma, psychological scars, and disrupted family ties often make the transition difficult. Many former detainees have become advocates for others, using their voices to shed light on the unseen realities of Guantanamo.

Media Coverage and Public Perception

The media has played a pivotal role in shaping public understanding of Guantanamo Bay. However, coverage has often been limited by government restrictions and the secretive nature of the facility.

Breaking the Silence

Investigative journalists and documentary filmmakers have sought to penetrate the veil of secrecy, bringing to light stories that were once hidden. Their work has been instrumental in amplifying the voices of witnesses of the unseen seven years in Guantanamo, fostering greater awareness and empathy among the global community.

The Importance of Balanced Reporting

While some reports focus on alleged security threats posed by detainees, balanced journalism also highlights concerns about human rights abuses and the need for due process. This nuanced approach helps the public grasp the complex realities behind Guantanamo's walls.

Lessons Learned and the Path Forward

Reflecting on the experiences of witnesses of the unseen seven years in Guantanamo invites us to consider broader questions about justice, security, and human dignity. The camp's legacy is a reminder of the delicate balance between protecting national security and upholding fundamental rights.

Calls for Transparency and Accountability

Experts and activists continue to advocate for greater transparency regarding detention practices and the conditions inside Guantanamo. Documentation from witnesses has been vital in these efforts, pushing for reforms that respect human rights.

The Future of Detention Policies

As the world grapples with terrorism and security challenges, the Guantanamo experience offers valuable lessons. Policies that prioritize legal safeguards, humane treatment, and rehabilitation are essential to prevent repeating past mistakes.

The stories of witnesses of the unseen seven years in Guantanamo remain a testament to resilience amid adversity. Their voices, once silenced by walls and secrecy, now contribute to an ongoing dialogue about justice, humanity, and the power of bearing witness to the unseen.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'Witnesses of the Unseen: Seven Years in Guantanamo' about?

'Witnesses of the Unseen: Seven Years in Guantanamo' is a documentary that explores the experiences of detainees held at Guantanamo Bay, highlighting their stories and the conditions they endured during their imprisonment.

Who directed 'Witnesses of the Unseen: Seven Years in Guantanamo'?

The documentary was directed by Aline Akiki, who focused on giving a voice to former detainees and shedding light on human rights issues related to Guantanamo Bay.

When was 'Witnesses of the Unseen: Seven Years in Guantanamo' released?

The documentary was released in 2023, capturing recent testimonies and reflections from former detainees and human rights advocates.

What themes are explored in 'Witnesses of the Unseen: Seven Years in Guantanamo'?

The film explores themes of injustice, human rights violations, the psychological impact of indefinite detention, and the broader geopolitical implications of Guantanamo Bay.

How does 'Witnesses of the Unseen' contribute to the conversation about Guantanamo Bay?

It provides firsthand accounts from former detainees, raising awareness about the human cost of the detention center and advocating for policy changes and closure of Guantanamo Bay.

Are there interviews with former detainees in 'Witnesses of the Unseen'?

Yes, the documentary features exclusive interviews with former detainees who share their personal experiences and the challenges they faced during and after their imprisonment.

What impact has 'Witnesses of the Unseen' had on public perception?

'Witnesses of the Unseen' has sparked renewed public interest and debate about Guantanamo Bay, encouraging discussions on justice, accountability, and human rights.

Is 'Witnesses of the Unseen: Seven Years in Guantanamo' available for streaming?

As of 2024, the documentary is available on select streaming platforms and through various human rights organizations' websites for public viewing.

Why is the documentary titled 'Seven Years in Guantanamo'?

The title reflects the duration of time some detainees spent in Guantanamo Bay, emphasizing the prolonged and indefinite nature of their captivity.

Additional Resources

Witnesses of the Unseen Seven Years in Guantanamo: An Investigative Review

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo reveal a complex narrative that intertwines human rights, legal ambiguities, and global political tensions. The Guantanamo Bay detention camp, established in 2002, has been a focal point of controversy and scrutiny, with detainees often held for prolonged periods without trial. This article delves into the lesser-known testimonies and experiences of those who have witnessed the camp's

operations over an extended period, shedding light on the realities behind the headlines.

Understanding the Context: Guantanamo Bay's Role and Reputation

Since its inception, Guantanamo Bay has symbolized the United States' fight against terrorism post-9/11. However, it quickly became synonymous with indefinite detention and allegations of human rights abuses. Over the years, multiple reports and witness accounts have surfaced, revealing the conditions and treatment of detainees. The phrase "witnesses of the unseen seven years in Guantanamo" refers to those who have either been detained, worked within the facility, or have had direct exposure to its operations during extended periods.

The camp's secrecy and restricted access have contributed to a scarcity of firsthand information. This has made testimonies from witnesses invaluable in piecing together the camp's true nature. These accounts often paint a picture that contrasts sharply with official statements, highlighting issues such as the psychological and physical impact on detainees.

Inside Guantanamo: Witness Testimonies and Their Significance

The Human Element: Detainee Experiences

Many detainees who served as witnesses to their own prolonged detention recount the psychological toll of indefinite imprisonment. Being held without charge for seven years or more, often in isolation, has been described as a form of psychological torture. Witnesses detail routines marked by uncertainty, limited contact with the outside world, and the constant fear of abuse or neglect.

Some detainees have shared stories of hunger

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Lakhdar Boumediene and Mustafa Ait Idir's time inside America's most notorious prison. Lakhdar and Mustafa were living quiet, peaceful lives in Bosnia when, in October 2001, they were arrested and accused of participating in a terrorist plot. After a three-month investigation uncovered no evidence, all charges were dropped and Bosnian courts ordered their freedom. However, under intense U.S. pressure, Bosnian officials turned them over to American soldiers. They were flown blindfolded and shackled to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where they were held in outdoor cages for weeks as the now-infamous military prison was built around them. Guantanamo became their home for the next seven years. They endured torture and harassment and force-feedings and beatings, all the while not knowing if they would ever see their families again. They had no opportunity to argue their innocence until 2008, when the Supreme Court issued a landmark ruling in their case, Boumediene v. Bush, confirming Guantanamo detainees' constitutional right to challenge their detention in federal court. Weeks later, the George W. Bush-appointed federal judge who heard their case, stunned by the absence of evidence against them, ordered their release. Now living in Europe and rebuilding their lives, Lakhdar and Mustafa are finally free to share a story that every American ought to know. Learn more at witnessesbook.com or donate to a crowdsourced restitution fund at GoFundMe.com/witnesses.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo: A New No-Man's-Land Esther Whitfield, 2024-07-15 Guantánamo sits at the center of two of the most vexing issues of US policy of the past century: relations with Cuba and the Global War on Terror. It is a contested, extralegal space. In A New No-Man's-Land, Esther Whitfield explores a multilingual archive of materials produced both at the US naval base and in neighboring Cuban communities and proposes an understanding of Guantánamo as a coherent borderland region, where experiences of isolation are opportunities to find common ground. She analyzes poetry, art, memoirs, and documentary films produced on both sides of the border. Authors and artists include prisoners, guards, linguists, chaplains, lawyers, and journalists, as well as Cuban artists and dissidents. Their work reveals surprising similarities: limited access to power and self-representation, mobility restricted by geography if not captivity, and immersion in political languages that have ascribed them rigid roles. Read together, the work of these disparate communities traces networks that extend among individuals in the Guantánamo region, inward to Cuba, and outward to the Caribbean, the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in quantanamo: Doing Harm Roy J. Eidelson, 2023-09-05 Doing Harm pries open the black box on a critical chapter in the recent history of psychology: the field's enmeshment in the so-called war on terror and the ensuing reckoning over do-no-harm ethics during times of threat. Focusing on developments within the American Psychological Association (APA) over two tumultuous decades, Roy Eidelson exposes the challenges that professional organizations face whenever powerful government agencies turn to them for contributions to ethically fraught endeavours. In the months after 9/11 it became clear that the White House, the Department of Defense, and the Central Intelligence Agency were prepared to ignore well-established international law and human rights standards in prosecuting the war on terror. It was less clear, however, that some of Eidelson's fellow psychologists would become part of the abusive and torturous operations at overseas CIA black sites and Guantanamo Bay. Nor was it initially clear that this ruthless enterprise would garner acquiescence and support from the APA's leadership. Doing Harm examines how and why the APA failed to join human rights groups in efforts to constrain the US government's unbridled pursuit of security and retribution. It recounts an ongoing struggle - one that has pitted APA leaders set on preserving strong ties to the military-intelligence establishment against dissident voices committed to prioritizing do-no-harm principles.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo: Fool's Errand Scott Horton, 2017 After more than a decade and a half, the results are in. The U.S. government has been unable to achieve its goals in Afghanistan. Even worse, what state it has been able to achieve there is completely unsustainable and certain to fall apart when the occupation is finally called off, and

America does come home. The politicans, generals, and intelligence officers behind this unending catastrophe, who always promise they can fix these problems with just a little bit more time, money and military force, have lost all credibility. The truth is America's Afghan war is an irredeemable disaster. It was meant to be a trap in the first place. America is not only failing to defeat its enemies, but is destroying itself, just as Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda always intended. Fool's Errand is an attempt to present the American people with the reality of this forgotten war, because only the ignorance of pride and refusal to admit they have been deceived can prevent Americans from realizing they have supported a policy that is destructive to the United States as well as Afghanistan. -- from Introduction.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo: Law's Wars Richard L. Abel, 2018-08-16 The US 'war on terror', which Bush declared and Obama continued, repeatedly violated fundamental rule of law values. Law's Wars: The Fate of the Rule of Law in the US 'War on Terror' is the first comprehensive account of efforts to resist and correct those violations. It focuses on responses to abuses in Abu Ghraib, efforts by Guantánamo Bay detainees to improve conditions of confinement in and win release, exposés of and efforts to end torture and electronic surveillance, and civilian casualties on the battlefield, including targeted killings. Abel deploys a law and society perspective to construct and analyze detailed narratives of the roles of victims, whistle-blowers, the media, NGOs, lawyers, doctors, politicians, military personnel, foreign governments and international organizations in defending the rule of law. Only by understanding past errors can we hope to prevent their repetition in what promises to be an endless 'war on terror'.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo: Humbling Faith Peter Admirand, 2019-03-22 This is a book hoping to embolden doubt and sharpen unanswerable questions, all in the context of loving the self and one another. Ridiculously, it believes the world can be healed through such a hope. It is especially addressed to those allergic to the word "faith," and others who feel confident and proud in the faith they profess or system of thought they live by. Humbling Faith helps us see how our beliefs, or non-beliefs, our belongings and identities, often remain flawed, myopic, self-absorbed, unredeemed. The hope is that such awareness of our brokenness can fuel greater ethical partnerships and dialogue, promoting peace from our recognized need for one another. Humbling Faith is not only a resource towards humbling other faiths, but most importantly, your own.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo: Terror and Counter-Terror in Contemporary British Children's Literature Blanka Grzegorczyk, 2020-05-10 The widespread threat of terrorist and counter-terrorist violence in the twenty-first century has created a globalized context for social interactions, transforming the ways in which young people relate to the world around them and to one another. This is the first study that reads post-9/11 and 7/7 British writing for the young as a response to this contemporary predicament, exploring how children's writers find the means to express the local conditions and different facets of the global wars around terror. The texts examined in this book reveal a preoccupation with overcoming various forms of violence and prejudice faced by certain groups within post-terror Britain, as well as a concern with mapping out their social relations with other groups, and those concerns are set against the recurring themes of racist paranoia, anti-immigrant hostility, politicized identities, and growing up in countries transformed by the effects of terror and counter-terror. The book concentrates on the relationship between postcolonial and critical race studies, Britain's colonial legacy, and literary representations of terrorism, tracing thematic and formal similarities in the novels of both established and emerging children's writers such as Elizabeth Laird, Sumia Sukkar, Alan Gibbons, Muhammad Khan, Bali Rai, Nikesh Shukla, Malorie Blackman, Claire McFall, Miriam Halahmy, and Sita Brahmachari. In doing so, this study maps new connections for scholars, students, and readers of contemporary children's fiction who are interested in how such writing addresses some of the most pressing issues affecting us today, including survival after terror, migration, and community building.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo: The Universal Enemy Darryl Li, 2023-05-25 Winner of the 2021 William A. Douglass Prize: A new perspective on the concept of

international jihad and its connection to the 1990s Balkans crisis. No contemporary figure is more demonized than the Islamist foreign fighter who wages jihad around the world. Spreading violence, disregarding national borders, and rejecting secular norms, so-called jihadists seem opposed to universalism itself. In a radical departure from conventional wisdom on the topic, The Universal Enemy argues that transnational jihadists are engaged in their own form of universalism: These fighters struggle to realize an Islamist vision directed at all of humanity, transcending racial and cultural difference. Anthropologist and attorney Darryl Li reconceptualizes jihad as armed transnational solidarity under conditions of American empire, revisiting a pivotal moment after the Cold War when ethnic cleansing in the Balkans dominated global headlines. Muslim volunteers came from distant lands to fight in Bosnia-Herzegovina alongside their co-religionists, offering themselves as an alternative to the US-led international community. Li highlights the parallels and overlaps between transnational jihads and other universalisms such as the War on Terror, United Nations peacekeeping, and socialist Non-Alignment. Developed from more than a decade of research with former fighters in a half-dozen countries, The Universal Enemy explores the relationship between jihad and American empire to shed critical light on both. [Li] effectively confronts the demonization of jihadists in the aftermath of 9/11, particularly in the US. . . . The author's linguistic skills and the depth of the interviews are impressive, and the case selection is intriguing. Recommended. — Choice This important book offers many insights for scholars and students of political thought, anthropology, and law. Li's breadth and acumen in navigating these different fields of study is impressive. — Political Theory

witnesses of the unseen seven years in quantanamo: Special Advocates in the Adversarial System John Jackson, 2019-07-24 The last twenty years have seen an unprecedented rise in the use of secret courts or 'closed material proceedings' largely brought about in response to the need to protect intelligence sources in the fight against terrorism. This has called into question the commitment of legal systems to long-cherished principles of adversarial justice and due process. Foremost among the measures designed to minimise the prejudice caused to parties who have been excluded from such proceedings has been the use of 'special advocates' who are given access to sensitive national security material and can make representations to the court on behalf of excluded parties. Special advocates are now deployed across a range of administrative, civil and criminal proceedings in many common law jurisdictions including the UK, Canada, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Australia. This book analyses the professional services special advocates offer across a range of different types of closed proceedings. Drawing on extensive interviews with special advocates and with lawyers and judges who have worked with them, the book examines the manner in which special advocates are appointed and supported, how their position differs from that of ordinary counsel within the adversarial system, and the challenges they face in the work that they do. Comparisons are made between different special advocate systems and with other models of security-cleared counsel, including that used in the United States, to consider what changes might be made to strengthen their adversarial role in closed proceedings. In making an assessment of the future of special advocacy, the book argues that there is a need to reconceptualise the unique role that special advocates play in the administration of justice.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo: Biopolitics of the

More-Than-Human Joseph Pugliese, 2020-10-23 In Biopolitics of the More-Than-Human Joseph Pugliese examines the concept of the biopolitical through a nonanthropocentric lens, arguing that more-than-human entities—from soil and orchards to animals and water—are actors and agents in their own right with legitimate claims to justice. Examining occupied Palestine, Guantánamo, and sites of US drone strikes in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Somalia, and Yemen, Pugliese challenges notions of human exceptionalism by arguing that more-than-human victims of war and colonialism are entangled with and subject to the same violent biopolitical regimes as humans. He also draws on Indigenous epistemologies that invest more-than-human entities with judicial standing to argue for an ethico-legal framework that will enable the realization of ecological justice. Bringing the more-than-human world into the purview of justice, Pugliese makes visible the ecological effects of

human war that would otherwise remain outside the domains of biopolitics and law.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo: Guantánamo bezeugen Sebastian Köthe, 2023-07-06 Mindestens 780 Menschen wurden seit dem 11. Januar 2002 in das extraterritoriale Gefangenenlager Guantánamo Bay entführt. Sebastian Köthe erzählt die Geschichte von Widerstand und Folter im Lager anhand der Zeugnisse der Gefangenen. Er analysiert Knotenpunkte wie Isolation und Beziehungsstiftung, Hungerstreik und Zwangsernährung, Gefangenschaft und Suizid. Dies führt zur Diagnose einer Folterkultur, an der Politik und Künste teilhaben. Folter wird einerseits ausgestellt, um ganze Bevölkerungsgruppen zu bedrohen und die Exekutive zu ermächtigen, und andererseits verheimlicht und verharmlost, um Täter*innen zu schützen. Am Beispiel von Spiel- und Dokumentarfilmen sucht dieser Band nach den Konturen einer Antifolterkultur, die auf die Zeugnisse der Überlebenden antworten könnte.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in quantanamo: When Only God Can See Walaa Quisay, Asim Qureshi, 2024-04-20 'This beautifully written and harrowing book bears witness to the devastating experience of imprisonment; it shows the centrality of faith; and tenderly details the prayers, communities and acts of resistance that sustained these prisoners when faced with forced disappearance, punishment, and torture' Laleh Khalili, author of Time in the Shadows 'A passionate revelation of the secret endurance of people suffering extraordinary trauma ... A must read to understand the limitless potential of the human spirit' Aida Seif El-Dawla, psychiatrist and co-founder of El Nadeem Centre for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence and Torture When Only God Can See uncovers the unique experiences of Muslim political prisoners held in Egypt and under US custody at Guantanamo Bay and other detention black sites. This groundbreaking book explores the intricate interplay between their religious beliefs, practices of ritual purity, prayer, and modes of resistance in the face of adversity. Highlighting the experiences of these prisoners, faith is revealed to be not only a personal spiritual connection to God, but also a means of contestation against prison and state authorities, reflecting larger societal struggles. Written by Walaa Quisay, who has worked closely with prisoners in Egypt, and Asim Qureshi, with years of experience supporting detainees at Guantanamo Bay, the authors' deep connections with prisoner communities and their emphasis on the power of resistance shine through. Asim Qureshi is Research Director at CAGE. He specialises in investigating the impact of counterterrorism practices worldwide. He is the author of A Virtue of Disobedience. Walaa Quisay is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in the School of Divinity at the University of Edinburgh. She is the author of Neo-Traditionalism in Islam in the West: Orthodoxy, Spirituality and Politics.

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something resembling a human so that we may see them not only in the context of the War on Terror, but also in the larger schema of state power over the racialized body. An understanding of both historical and legal context will further demonstrate our acceptance of our government's actions, and how we are remembered for not only the harm inflicted upon hundreds of innocent lives, but also why we felt legally entitled to inflict that harm in the name of national security.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo: Don't Forget Us Here Mansoor Adayfi, 2021-08-17 This moving, eve-opening memoir of an innocent man detained at Guantánamo Bay for fifteen years tells a story of humanity in the unlikeliest of places and an unprecedented look at life at Guantánamo. At the age of 18, Mansoor Adayfi left his home in Yemen for a cultural mission to Afghanistan. He never returned. Kidnapped by warlords and then sold to the US after 9/11, he was disappeared to Guantánamo Bay, where he spent the next 15 years as Detainee #441. Don't Forget Us Here tells two coming-of-age stories in parallel: a makeshift island outpost becoming the world's most notorious prison and an innocent young man emerging from its darkness. Arriving as a stubborn teenager, Mansoor survived the camp's infamous interrogation program and became a feared and hardened resistance fighter leading prison riots and hunger strikes. With time though, he grew into the man prisoners nicknamed Smiley Troublemaker: a student, writer, and historian. With unexpected warmth and empathy, he unwinds a narrative of fighting for hope and survival in unimaginable circumstances, illuminating the limitlessness of the human spirit. And through his own story, Mansoor also tells Guantánamo's story, offering an unprecedented window into one of the most secretive places on earth and the people—detainees and guards alike—who lived there with him. Twenty years later, Guantánamo remains open, and at a moment of due reckoning, Mansoor Adayfi helps us understand what actually happened there—both the horror and the beauty—a vital chronicle of an experience we cannot afford to forget.

witnesses of the unseen seven years in guantanamo: The Mauritanian Mohamedou Ould Slahi, 2021-02-18 Previously published as Guantánamo Diary, this momentous account and international bestseller is soon to be a major motion picture The first and only diary written by a Guantánamo detainee during his imprisonment, now with previously censored material restored. Mohamedou Ould Slahi was imprisoned in Guantánamo Bay in 2002. There he suffered the worst of what the prison had to offer, including months of sensory deprivation, torture and sexual assault. In October 2016 he was released without charge. This is his extraordinary story, as inspiring as it is enraging.

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