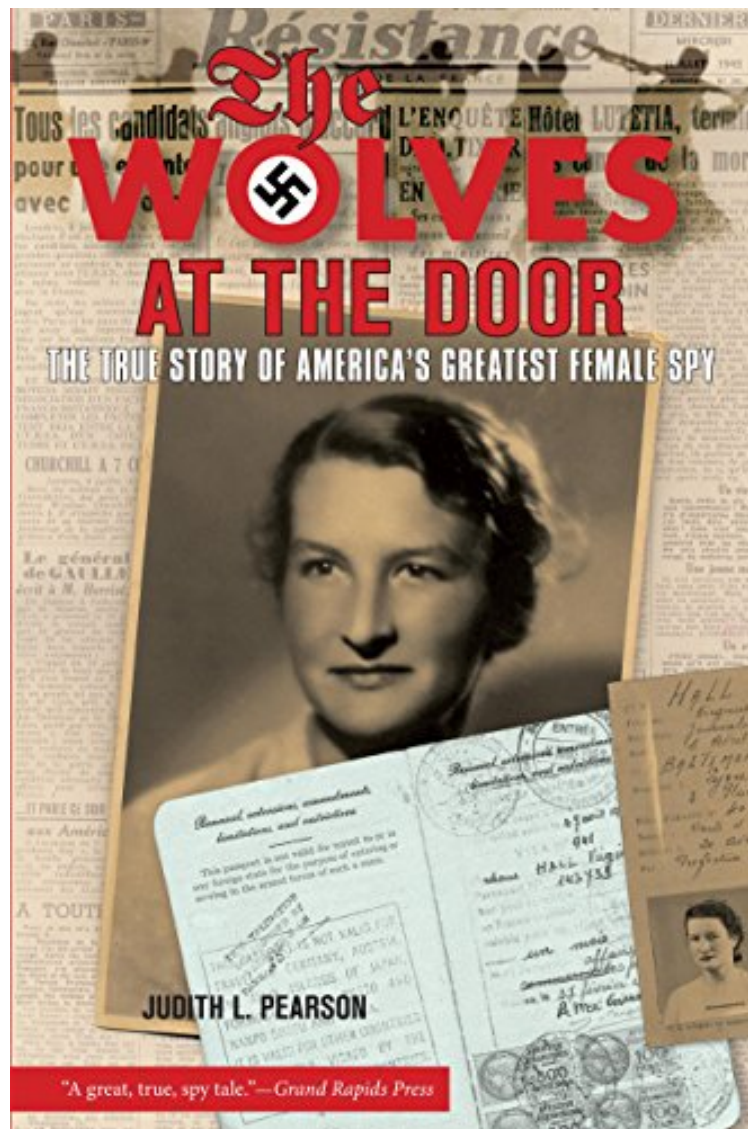


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Wolves at the Door: The True Story Of America's Greatest Female Spy

Judith Pearson

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Judith Pearson : Wolves at the Door: The True Story Of America's Greatest Female Spy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wolves at the Door: The True Story Of America's Greatest Female Spy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A really enjoyable read! By Lilith Roswyn Great story about a courageous, resourceful, determined woman who didn't let a disability, the fact that she was a woman in the 1930's and

40's, or the Nazis stop her from serving the Allies' cause. She earned the respect and gratitude of three nations and deserved every medal she got! The book was very thoroughly researched and well-written and goes into peripheral explanations when necessary without overwhelming the central story. A really enjoyable read! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An indomitable patriot! By Debra S. An excellent page-turner of a book! 'Reads more a spy novel instead of a biography. It's a fascinating, true account of a remarkable young American woman working in the clandestine service in occupied France during WWII. Nothing deters Virginia Hall in her fight against the Nazi invasion of Europe; not sexual prejudice, her physical handicap or even the Gestapo. It was interesting to read about the French Resistance and the tactics used by civilians behind the scenes that collaborated in the liberating of France. Ms. Hall is a humble patriot that all of us can admire. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great story about a courageous woman. By ArtGrandTour This is an exciting read about a brave woman who spied for years for the French during WWII. Despite being an amputee, she managed to evade enemy capture all the while making mischief for them. She helped the Allies win the war! I've read that a movie about her is in the works. Read this exciting book now and you'll enjoy the movie when it does release.

Virginia Hall left her Baltimore home in 1931 to enter the Foreign Service and went to work for the British Special Operations Executive (SOE) when Hitler was building toward the peak of his power in Europe. She was assigned to France, where she helped the Resistance movement, escaped prisoners of war, and American Allied paratroopers. By 1942 she was considered so dangerous to the Gestapo that she had to escape over the Pyrenees mountains on an artificial leg, no less. When she got to England, she was reassigned to France by the OSS, disguised as an old peasant woman. She helped capture 500 German soldiers and kill more than 150, while she sabotaged Nazi communications and transportation. Hitler's forces were hot on her trail, however, and her daring intelligence activities and indomitable spirit defied the expectations of even the Allies until the very end of the war. Her story was ignored for more than fifty years, and this book now brings Virginia Hall's story to patriots young and old.

From Publishers Weekly Although Pearson's chronology wobbles early on and her prose is less than elegant, her account of Virginia Hall's work as a secret agent in German-occupied France is nevertheless riveting, thanks to the inherent drama of the time. Gifted with languages, Hall sought a career in Foreign Service in 1930s Europe, but a physical handicap (she had one wooden leg), her gender and her outspoken political views stymied her diplomatic ambitions. She escaped to London shortly after Germany's 1940 invasion of France and came to the attention of a secret British intelligence group that trained her in non-traditional sabotage techniques, cryptology and radio communication. As a newly minted secret agent, she returned to France, where she passed on information about German positions, transported downed Allied pilots and escaped prisoners to safety, oversaw the retrieval of supply drops and organized resistance fighters. Hall's espionage career ended with the allied victory and the dawn of the cold war, for which the CIA wanted a different breed of agent. Though commendable for its portrayal of Hall's unflagging courage and energy in dangerous and desperate conditions, the story is told in bland prose that fails to live up to the exceptional times it chronicles. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Judith Pearson does a remarkable job of bringing one of America's greatest spies back to life. I highly recommend this story of derring-do and white knuckles suspense." -Patrick O'Donnell, Combat Historian and Author of Operatives, Spies, and Saboteurs