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Opening extract from

The KnowHow Book of Spycraft

Written by

Falcon Travis and Judy Hindley

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The KnowHow Book of Spycraft

Falcon Travis and Judy Hindley

Illustrated by Colin King

Designed by John Jamieson

ABOUT THIS BOOK

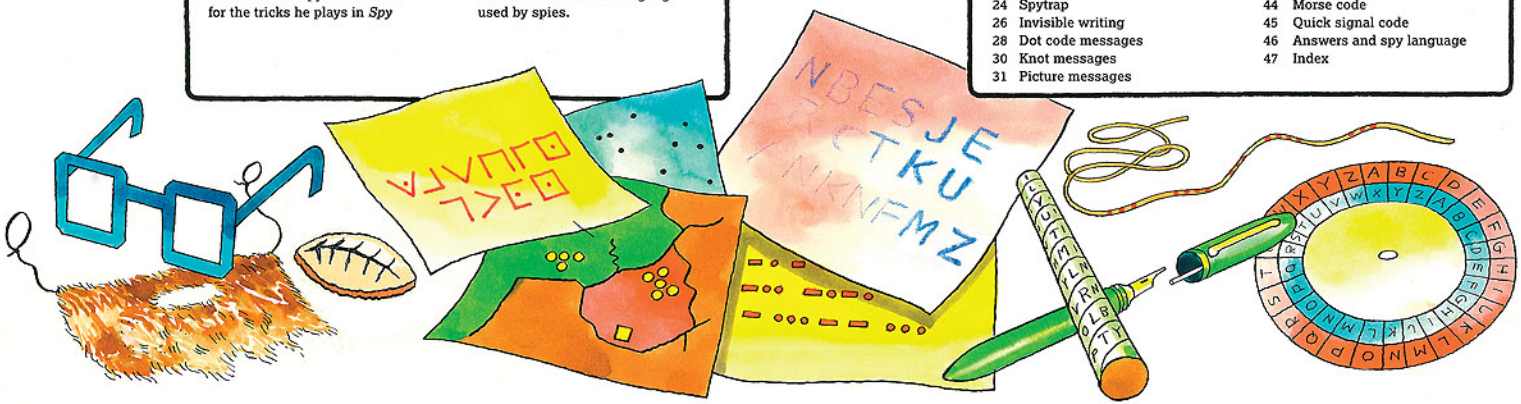
This book is all about keeping secrets. It shows you how to set up secret meeting places and a secret post office and how to disguise your messages and maps. It shows you lots of secret codes and signals.

On the first page you will meet the Black Hat Spy. Watch out for the tricks he plays in *Spy Trick* – these are things real spies have done.

There are messages in code all through the book. See if you can work them out – you can check your answers on page 46. On the same page there is a list of spy words if you want to know more about the language used by spies.

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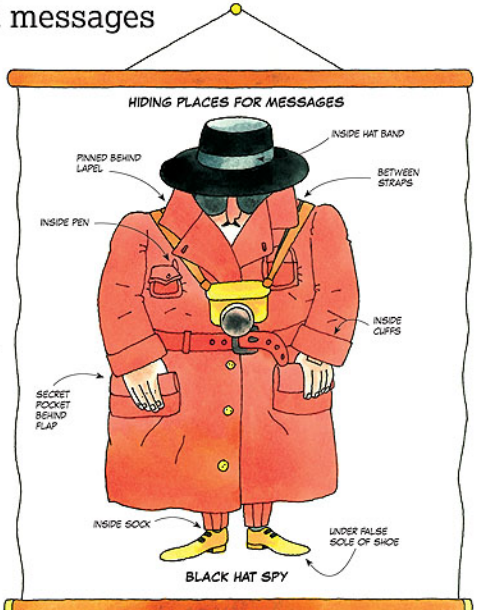
Carrying secret messages

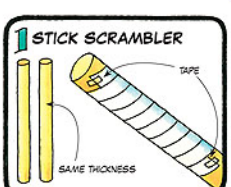
One of the first spy tricks you should learn is how to deliver a secret message. Don't attract your enemy's attention by carrying a bag or holding suspicious-looking papers. With the Stick Scrambler shown below you can encode a message on a paper strip that is easy to hide. See the poster for the methods used by the Black Hat Spy for hiding messages.

Try removing the message with a quick and casual-looking movement – as though you are just hooking your thumb in your pocket or taking a pebble from your shoe. If you hide the message in a pen or hat, you can pretend to leave it somewhere by accident. Then your spy-friend can pick it up later.

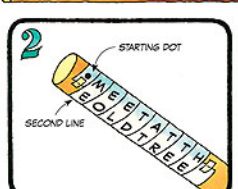
On the following pages you will find more details on where to hide your messages and how to pass them secretly to other spies.

Spy language:
A spy-friend is called a 'contact'. A spy who carries messages is a courier. A spy who holds messages to be picked up is a 'letter-box'.

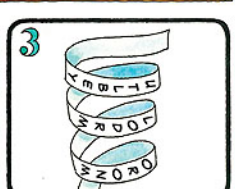




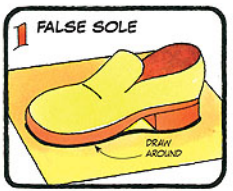
Both you and your contact must have sticks of just the same thickness – try pencils. Wind a strip of paper tightly around your stick. Fasten it with sticky tape.



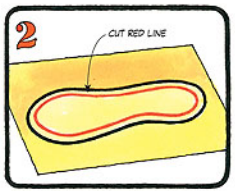
Write a message on the strip, like this. Make a dot beside the first letter to show your contact where the message starts. Turn the stick to add more lines.



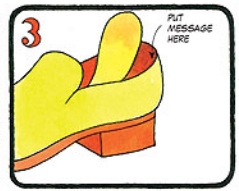
Unwind the paper and the letters will be scrambled up. The message will be hidden until your contact winds the strip around a stick of exactly the same thickness.



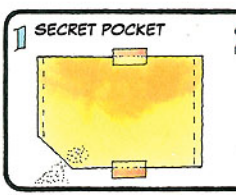
Place your shoe on a piece of thin cardboard, such as a cereal box. Use a pencil to draw around it.



Then, draw a line just inside the outline, like this. Cut this line to make a false sole that will fit inside your shoe.



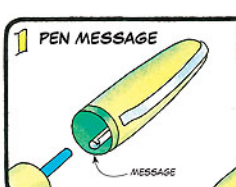
Slip the message between the real sole and the false sole. Use this method if you think you might be stopped and searched.



Cut off the corner of a tea bag and empty out all of the tea. Make two small tabs of sticky tape, like this.

Stick the tea bag in a hidden place, such as the inside of a cap or sleeve. Fold the message very small and tuck it inside.





Write the message on a small strip of paper. Roll the strip very tightly and keep it hidden in the top of a pen lid.

Alternatively, unscrew a cartridge pen and wind the message strip around the ink cartridge. Then screw the pen together again.



Quick disguises

These quick disguises can help you fool your enemy. If your enemy is following at a distance, he or she will keep track of you by watching for something special about the way that you look. Start out with a disguise that will catch his or her eye. Wear a bright scarf or a sling or use a special walk (see below). Then go into a building or duck into a doorway and come out without it. Your enemy will be left wondering where you've gone.

Spy language:
Following is known as 'shadowing' or 'tailing'. The person who does it is a 'tail' or a 'shadow'.

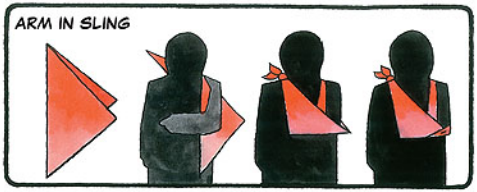
CHANGE YOUR WALK

A good spy trick is to pretend you have a stiff leg or a limp. But you might forget your stiff leg, or start limping on the wrong foot.

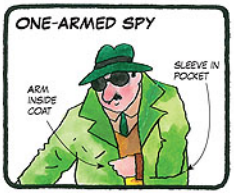
Here are some ways to make sure that you remember:

1 To make yourself limp, put a small stone in one shoe.

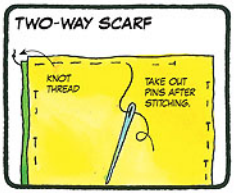
2 For a stiff leg, put a ruler at the back of one knee and tie it on with a scarf. Then you won't be able to bend it. Wear something long to hide the ruler.



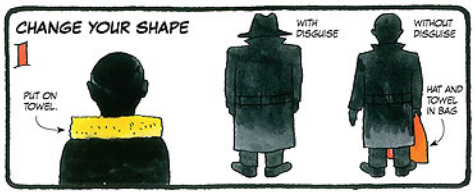
You will need a helper to put your arm in a sling. Use a big scarf or a piece of cloth folded like this. Hold your arm across it and put a corner around your neck. Lift the bottom corner and knot it to the piece around your neck. Then pin the side cover over your elbow, as shown.



Wear your coat like this to look as though you only have one arm. Put one arm into a sleeve. Tuck the other sleeve into a pocket. Button the coat with one arm inside.



To make a quick-change scarf you will need two scarves the same size and shape but different shades or patterns. Pin them together like this and stitch around all four sides.

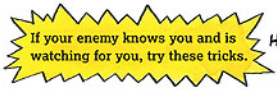


To raise your shoulders, lay a small towel behind your neck, like this. Then put a coat on over it. This will help you look like an older person with muscular shoulders. To change your back view even more, wear a hat or scarf as well. Take a folded plastic bag in your pocket. Later you can carry the hat and towel in the bag.



To make yourself look fatter, tie a small cushion around your middle. Button a coat on over it, or wear a very big sweater.

Change your looks



WHITE HAIR



Put talcum powder on your hair and eyebrows to whiten them. If you are fair they will go white and if you are dark they will go grey. Do just the front if you wear a hat.

HAIR COMBED WRONG WAY



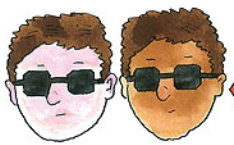
Comb your hair a different way. Slick it back or part it in a different place. If you have a fringe, comb it to the side.

CHANGED EYEBROWS

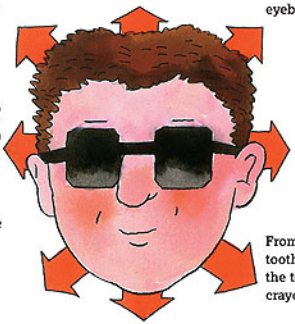


Cover your eyebrows by rubbing bits of damp, soft soap into them. It might help to use face powder over the soap. Then draw new eyebrows with a black crayon.

FACE COLOURS



To make your face paler, rub some talcum powder on it. Rub it in gently and don't use too much. Use cocoa powder to make your face look browner.



MISSING TOOTH



From a distance, a blacked-out tooth looks ike a gap. First wipe the tooth dry. Then rub black crayon over it.

5 O'CLOCK SHADOW



Mix daubs of blue and black paint with some face cream. Rub a little on your face like this, to look as though you need a shave.

LUMPY FACE



Put small wads of cotton wool between your teeth and cheeks. Stick in lots to make fat cheeks. To make lumpy jowls just put them next to your lower teeth.

WRINKLE LINES



Draw wrinkle lines with a soft pencil, like a pencil marked 3B or 4B. Smile very hard, then wrinkle your forehead to see where the lines should go.