

Russian Criminal Tattoo Encyclopaedia Volume II

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Danzig Baldaev's father was an academic, an ethnologist who found himself imprisoned under Soviet rule as an enemy of the people. In fact much of Baldaev's family moved through the Soviet prison system, while he became a guard. At his father's suggestion, Danzig used his access to document and study the tattoos that were pervasive among the truly criminal portion of the prison population, the vory v zakonye, or legitimate thieves, a semi-professional class who kept their own brutal laws. During his 30 years supervising inmates in St. Petersburg's notorious Kresty Prison, Baldaev recorded more than 3,000 of their tattoos and parsed their meanings, in the drawings and text that made the first volume of the Russian Criminal Tattoo Encyclopedia a bestseller. This essential second volume, which collects all-new, previously unseen photographs and drawings, goes to the extremes of his incredible collection. Sergei Vasiliev's photographs authenticate the images, Baldaev's drawings make sense of them and through them both we glimpse an extraordinary world where the criminal's position, history and even sexual preference are displayed indelibly on his body.

This completely mind-blowing book told us what the tattoos meant, and how they could become central to the movie. -- David Cronenberg, Director, Eastern Promises (2007)

Other Books

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Getting a Tattoo, Got ink? Having a tattoo is now thoroughly mainstream - but getting it done is still scary for most regular folks. Does it hurt? Is it safe? How much does it cost? Written for the novice and aficionado alike, this book walks the reader through every step of the process: making the big decision, handling the physical event, and finally, taking proper care of your own personal work of art. ? Expert advice from a high-profile professional ? Includes 30 original designs, exclusive to this book ? Includes 8-page full-color insert ? Millions of people of all ages get inked each year ? Tattoo shops have sprung up everywhere to meet this growing demand, and cable shows such as "Miami Ink" and "Inked" draw huge audiences

? ? ? ? ? . Sailor Jerry Tattoo Flash (Volume 2). Don Ed Hardy, Hardy Marks Publications, 2004. The New York City Tattoo: The Oral History of an Urban Art. Michael McCabe, Hardy Marks Publications, 1997. ... Russian Criminal Tattoo Encyclopedia."