



The Great Escape

Anton Gill

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On the night of 24 March 1944, 76 Allied RAF officers escaped from Stalag-Luft III, Nazi Germany's most secure POW camp.

It was the biggest British-led break-out of the Second World War.

But the men paid a high price for their bravery: of the 73 POWs re-captured, 30 were brutally executed on Hitler's direct orders.

The tireless RAF investigation into the atrocity affords us an extraordinary insight into the last hours of many of the victims and the actions of the killers.

Drawing together the meticulous research carried out for the war-crimes trial, interviews with the families and friends of the murdered men and with surviving veterans of the camp, Anton Gill provides us with a definitive account of this unique event and its shocking aftermath.

The sheer determination and wit involved in the lead up to the design of the greatest tunnel ever built is captured thoroughly. The tenacity of the prisoners has become the stuff of legend, as they saw through their plan to dig the longest and most sophisticated tunnel ever conceived.

'Resounds with authenticity ... a wonderful tale' - Charles Spencer, Mail on Sunday

Anton Gill, only child of an English mother and a German father, worked for the English Stage Company, the Arts Council and the BBC before becoming a full-time writer in 1984. He has published over twenty books, mainly in the field of contemporary history, including *The Journey Back from Hell: Conversations with Concentration Camp Survivors* (winner of the H. H. Wingate Award), *A Dance between Flames: Berlin between the Wars*; and *An Honourable Defeat: A History of the German Resistance to Hitler*.

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