

CentreHouse Press

Across the Rebel Network

Advance Information



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Author Peter Cowlam

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Who Will Buy This Book? Those with an interest in modern fiction and culture

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Anno centres a federated Europe in an uncertain, and not-too-distant digital future, when politics, the media and mass communications have fused into one amorphous whole. He works for the Bureau of Data Protection (BDP), a federal government department responsible for monitoring the full range of material, in all media, posted into cyberspace. The BDP is forced to do this when rebel states are seceding, small satellites once of the federation but now at a remove from it, economically and socially. A handful of organised outsiders threatens to undermine the central state through a concerted propaganda war, using the federation's own digital infrastructure. It is this climate of mutual suspicion that to Anno makes inevitable decades of digital guerrilla warfare. While his department takes steps to prevent this, he doesn't reckon on the intervention of his old college sparring partner, Craig Diamond, who is now a powerful media mogul. The two engage in combat conducted through cyberspace, in a rare concoction of literary sci-fi.

'Across the Rebel Network is a worthy successor to Peter Cowlam's Who's Afraid of the Booker Prize? The two novels together compose a single narrative: a dazzlingly inventive, bitingly satirical, and savagely funny critique of postmodern culture and society. They are an Apes of God for our time.' Jon Elsby

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