

[6/6/2014 The Daily Beast Book Bag](#)

[Locks, Safes, and Security: An International Police Reference](#)

by **Marc Weber Tobias**

This is the bible. Wrapped in a plain black cover, these 1,411 pages describe how to defeat every layer of security known to man, past and present: locks, safes, vaults, strong rooms, cameras, fences, motion detectors, and alarm systems. It comes in several different versions. One is available only to locksmiths, and the most heavily restricted is accessible only to the U.S. government's own break-in teams (though I suppose it's possible a stubborn enough author might find a way to get a look at it while researching his heist thriller).