

Acknowledgments

My heartfelt thanks go out to my supervisors, Richard Jones and James Stewart, and my PhD examiners, Gabriella Coleman and Alastair Henry. They enormously shaped the ideas in this book. Thanks additionally to the reviewers, editors, cover artist, and everyone at MIT Press for their work and support on this book.

Thanks to all the people whom I interviewed for this project and to the Tor community as a whole. I am deeply grateful to Nick Mathewson and Roger Dingledine for their extensive comments on the manuscript, and to Paul Syverson, Shava Nerad, Steven Murdoch, Isis Lovecruft, and Isabela Fernandes for conversations about Tor and the book over the last year. I am also enormously grateful to Sarah Jamie Lewis, whose thoughts on *privacy as a structure* were vital in unlocking the rest of the ideas in this book. While I wish to preserve their anonymity, special thanks go to some of my interviewees in particular (you know who you are) for some dynamite quotes—living up to the long hacker tradition of speaking in parables.

I am hugely indebted to the Cambridge Computer Lab—particularly to Alice Hutchings, Ross Anderson, Richard Clayton, and Alastair Beresford, who were amazing mentors, and to all my postdoc pals (especially Lydia Wilson, who helped me improve my writing, and Daniel R. Thomas, who did the same for my programming). The Lab has played a huge role in Tor's history (something I only really understood after I left) and it was an enormous privilege to be part of it. Thanks also to my wonderful colleagues at STIS in Edinburgh for your support throughout the process of writing

the manuscript. Solidarity to Shane Horgan, Louise Brangan, and Ben Matthews—who gave me tons of support throughout the PhD and since.

Finally, thanks to Jamie—for everything. But especially for reading the book dozens of times and contributing several of the key ideas.

This is a section of [doi:10.7551/mitpress/14907.001.0001](https://doi.org/10.7551/mitpress/14907.001.0001)

Tor

From the Dark Web to the Future of Privacy

By: Ben Collier

Citation:

Tor: From the Dark Web to the Future of Privacy

By: Ben Collier

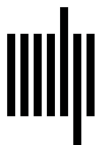
DOI: 10.7551/mitpress/14907.001.0001

ISBN (electronic): 9780262378925

Publisher: The MIT Press

Published: 2024

The open access edition of this book was made possible by generous funding and support from MIT Press Direct to Open



The MIT Press

© 2024 Massachusetts Institute of Technology

This work is subject to a Creative Commons CC-BY-NC-ND license.

This license applies only to the work in full and not to any components included with permission. Subject to such license, all rights are reserved. No part of this book may be used to train artificial intelligence systems without permission in writing from the MIT Press.



The MIT Press would like to thank the anonymous peer reviewers who provided comments on drafts of this book. The generous work of academic experts is essential for establishing the authority and quality of our publications. We acknowledge with gratitude the contributions of these otherwise uncredited readers.

This book was set in Adobe Garamond and Berthold Akzidenz Grotesk by Westchester Publishing Services.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data is available.

ISBN: 978-0-262-54818-2