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Crooked Talk: Five Hundred Years of the Language of Crime

Jonathon Green

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The language of crime has a long and venerable history - in fact, the first collection of words specifically used by criminals, *Hye-Way to the Spittel House*, dates from as early as 1531. Jonathon Green is our national expert on slang, and in *Crooked Talk* he looks at five hundred years of crooks and conmen - from the ***hedge-creepers*** and ***counterfeit cranks*** of the sixteenth century to the ***blaggers*** and ***burners*** of the twenty-first - as well as the swag, the hideouts, the getaway vehicles and the 'tools of the trade'. Not to mention a substantial detour into the world of prisons that faced those unlucky enough to be caught by the ***boys in blue***.

If you have ever wondered when the police were first referred to as ***pigs***, why prison guards became known as ***redraws***, or what precisely the subtle art of ***dipology*** involves, then this book has all the answers.

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