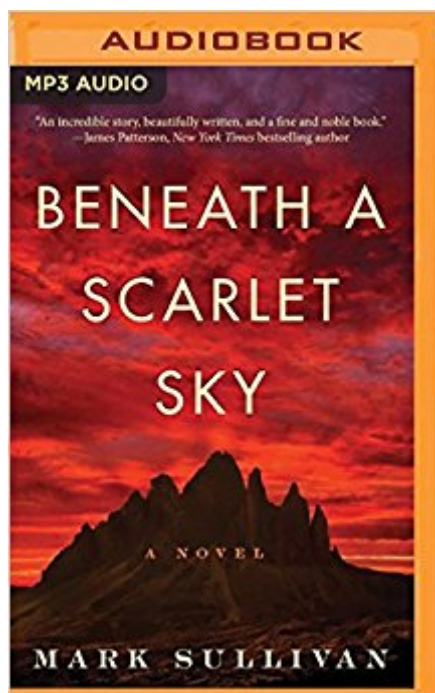


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# Beneath A Scarlet Sky



## Synopsis

Soon to be a major motion picture from Pascal Pictures, starring Tom Holland. Based on the true story of a forgotten hero, the #1 Charts bestseller *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* is the triumphant, epic tale of one young man's incredible courage and resilience during one of history's darkest hours. Pino Lella wants nothing to do with the war or the Nazis. He's a normal Italian teenager obsessed with music, food, and girls but his days of innocence are numbered. When his family home in Milan is destroyed by Allied bombs, Pino joins an underground railroad helping Jews escape over the Alps, and falls for Anna, a beautiful widow six years his senior. In an attempt to protect him, Pino's parents force him to enlist as a German soldier—a move they think will keep him out of combat. But after Pino is injured, he is recruited at the tender age of eighteen to become the personal driver for Adolf Hitler's left hand in Italy, General Hans Leyers, one of the Third Reich's most mysterious and powerful commanders. Now, with the opportunity to spy for the Allies inside the German High Command, Pino endures the horrors of the war and the Nazi occupation by fighting in secret, his courage bolstered by his love for Anna and for the life he dreams they will one day share. Fans of *All the Light We Cannot See*, *The Nightingale*, and *Unbroken* will enjoy this riveting saga of history, suspense, and love.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A Goodreads Best Book of the Month "Exciting taut thriller | Beneath a Scarlet Sky tells the true story of one young Italian's efforts to thwart the Nazis. Shelf

Awareness

“Meticulous research highlights this World War II novel of a youth growing into manhood

a captivating read

• RT Book Reviews

“An incredible story, beautifully written, and a fine and noble book.

• James Patterson, New York Times bestselling author

“Sprawling, stirring, like the richest of stories, and played out on a canvas of heroism and tragedy, *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* is like one of those iconic World War II black and white photos: a face of hope and tears, the story of a small life that ended up mattering in a big way.

• Andrew Gross, New York Times bestselling author of *The One Man*

“Action, adventure, love, war, and an epic hero

all set against the backdrop of one of history’s darkest moments

• Mark Sullivan’s *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* has everything one can ask for in an exceptional World War II novel.

• Tess Gerritsen, New York Times bestselling author of *Playing with Fire*

“This is full-force Mark Sullivan

muscular, soulful prose evincing an artist’s touch and a journalist’s eye. *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* conjures an era with a magician’s ease, weaving the rich tapestry of a wartime epic. World War II Italy has never been more alive to me.

• Gregg Hurwitz, New York Times bestselling author of *The Nowhere Man*

“*Beneath a Scarlet Sky* has everything

heroism, courage, terror, true love, revenge, compassion in the face of the worst human evils. Sullivan shows us war as it really is, with all its complexities, conflicting loyalties, and unresolved questions, but most of all, he brings us the extraordinary figure of Pino Lella, whose determination to live *con smania*

with passion

saved him.

• Joseph Finder, New York Times bestselling author of *Suspicion* and *The Switch* --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Mark Sullivan is the acclaimed author of eighteen novels, including the #1 *New York Times* bestselling *Private* series, which he writes with James Patterson. Mark has received numerous awards for his writing, including the WHSmith Fresh Talent Award, and his works have been named a *New York Times* Notable Book and a *Los Angeles Times* Best Book of the Year. He grew up in Medfield, Massachusetts, and graduated from Hamilton College with a BA in English before working as a volunteer in the Peace Corps in Niger, West Africa. Upon his return to the United States, he earned a graduate degree from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and began a career in investigative journalism. An avid skier and adventurer, he lives with his wife in Bozeman, Montana, where he remains grateful for the miracle of every moment.

A Kindle First selection that is masterfully written with complex characters and heart-pounding scenes. It takes place in Italy - 'the forgotten front' - during WW II and the reader is drawn into a web of intrigue. Pino Lello, 17 years of age, is wise beyond his years and intelligent, as well. It is a gripping story of resilience, the indomitable spirit of a young man that knew no boundaries and courage that sustained him during dark hours. When reading the first portion, I was wondering if (and how) this intense pace would continue. The climbing scenes through the mountains gave me a real shot of adrenaline. I felt as though I was one of the climbers and not a reader. This is also when the echoes of 'Nessun Dorma' were played with such passion. For me, this is one of the underlying themes in the story - 'none shall sleep'. And, Pino Lello has taken that to heart for the remainder of this story. The action intensified throughout the remainder of the book, and one is allowed a rare glimpse into the mind of Il Duce - Benito Mussolini - plus the inner workings of the German High Command. Becoming a driver for Major General Hans Leyer allows Pino access to a man that is two steps from the Fuhrer. Pino Lello witnesses atrocities he wishes he could forget but keeps soldiering on...wisely...Just a gripping and harrowing Kindle First selection which I feel is the best one I have read. Full of action and suspense which will keep you on the edge of your seat for the duration. Most highly recommended. Please note that this is my Kindle First selection for April 2017.

I cannot add more to the excellent reviews previously posted other than to say I read this book in one sitting not being able to put it down until 4:00 AM! It gripped me emotionally and I'm still thinking about it the next day. Rarely does even a good book have the depth and character development than this one did. I will be looking for more from this amazing author!

I've read nearly every word Mark Sullivan has ever published - so I can say with authority that this work, *Beneath a Scarlet Sky*, stands as the ultimate fusion of his Pulitzer-nominated journalistic skills and his mastery of the thriller genre, which he's honed at the keyboard he sometimes shares with James Patterson. He takes us deep inside the love story of his discovery, the unknown hero, Pino Lella, and he crafts an epic tale set against the backdrop of Nazi-occupied Milan and the Italian Alps during World War II that is as intimate and tragic as it is thought-provoking and triumphant. Every page, every step crackles. Each twist, rooted in years of first-class reporting, shocks you anew. Through Sullivan's gripping cast of characters, the unreality and brutality of war meets its match in the guts and wits and soul of Pino Lella, his family, his friends and cohorts. This heretofore untold story has been etched in my heart and mind with a telling that is equally cinematic and literary. With this, perhaps his masterwork, Sullivan has reached a pinnacle in storytelling - and

readers everywhere, like me, will be better for living it through his words. Of course, it is Pino Lella we must also praise and thank - for what he did with his young life, his uncommon bravery, his story and letting Sullivan share it with us. I wish I could read it again for the first time.

I don't quite know what to say about this novel except every young person should read this. When I was young I learned about the Nazis in school. This was in maybe 1959. It taught me how the mind can be molded at a young age to be used for good or evil. This was the story of a young man who was not poor but had a decent education. He had to make a serious decision to enter the Nazi regime or follow his ideals. This book brought me to tears at times but could help young people to put themselves in this young man's position and learn and feel what he went through. We take so many things for granted today and we don't think this can happen again, but, when things are long forgotten, it may happen again.

Pino, an Italian teen, son of musicians and fashion district design and merchants becomes deeply involved with early 1940s World War 2. His true story is beautiful, harsh, realistic, adventurous, heartbreaking and drew me in as few do. Mark Sullivan took no shortcuts as he researched, traveled, interviewed and came to know the man and those who shared his time in history.

Wonderful story! The setting in the Alps of Italy was fantastic. The characters were well developed and I felt their joy and their pain. Best of all was that it was based on a true story. The horrors of WWII with the humanity of struggling people coupled with the resistance to the enemy gave this story a depth that was touching and impressive. I highly recommend reading it.

Life is change, constant change, and unless we are lucky enough to find comedy in it, change is nearly always a drama, if not a tragedy. But after everything, and even when the skies turn scarlet and threatening, I still believe that if we are lucky enough to be alive, we must give thanks for the miracle of every moment of every day, no matter how flawed." He is such an innocent good human being you can't but love Pino

A well written historical novel. More truth than fiction, I think. Pino Lella was an extraordinary young man. This book is not just about Pino, it's about people who did what they had to do to survive the war no matter what side they were on. The book is full of the beauty and destruction of Italy during the war. Thank you Mr. Sullivan for sharing Pino's remarkable journey.

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