

CRASH COURSE

IN TRUE CRIME

NoveList



Panelists



Kate
Fais

Young Adult Librarian
NYPL –
Bloomingdale Branch



Susen
Shi

Young Adult Librarian
NYPL –
Stavros Niarchos
Foundation Library



Yaika
Sabat

*Senior Readers’
Advisory Librarian*
NoveList



Halle
Eisenman

*Content Development
Manager*
NoveList

The top ten books
published this month that
librarians across the country love.



libraryreads.org

What is True Crime?

- Non-Fiction Narrative
 - Real-life events centered around a crime
- Intricately researched
- Can focus on one crime, multiple crimes, or an anthology centered around a theme.
- Engaging, Evocative, and Engrossing



What True Crime is NOT?



- Mysteries, Thrillers, Suspense
- Crime Fiction
- Fictionalized

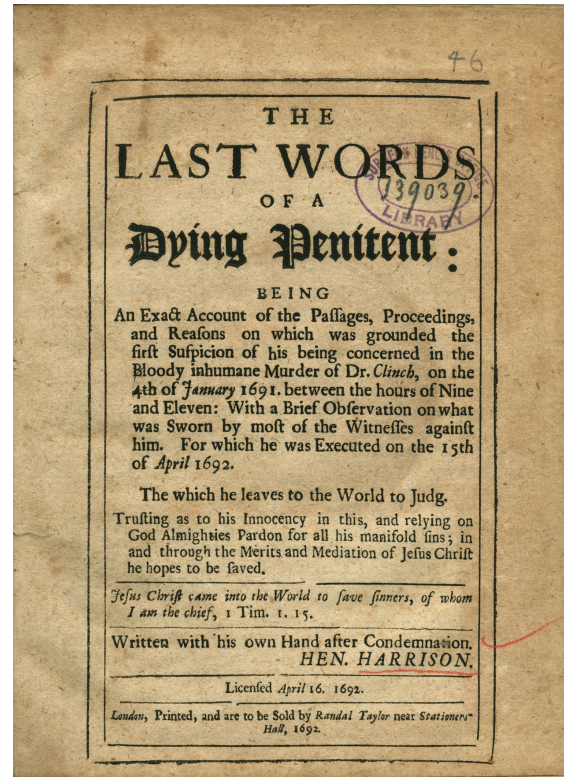
History of the Genre



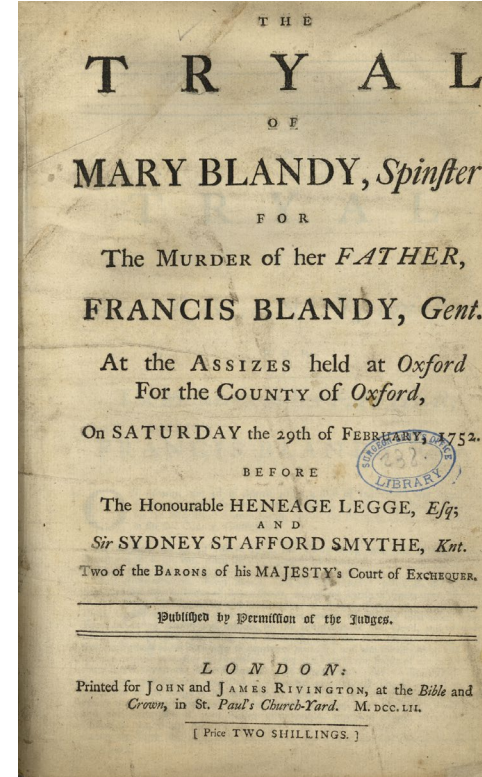
The Beginnings of True Crime



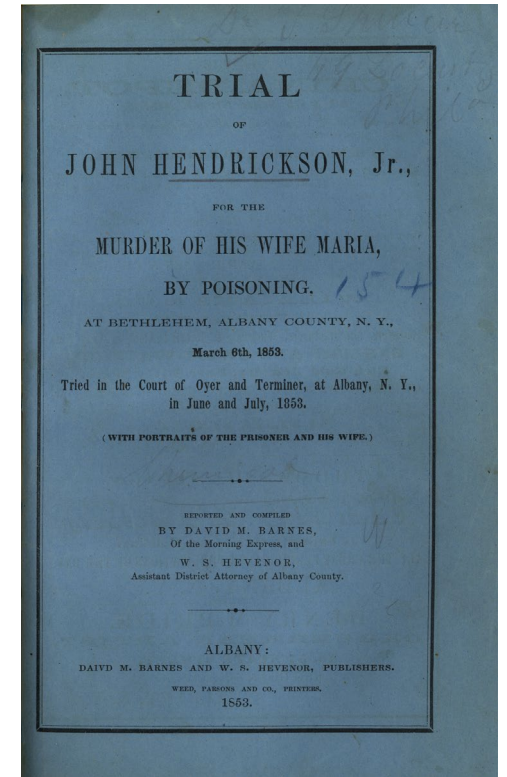
c. 1617



1692



1752

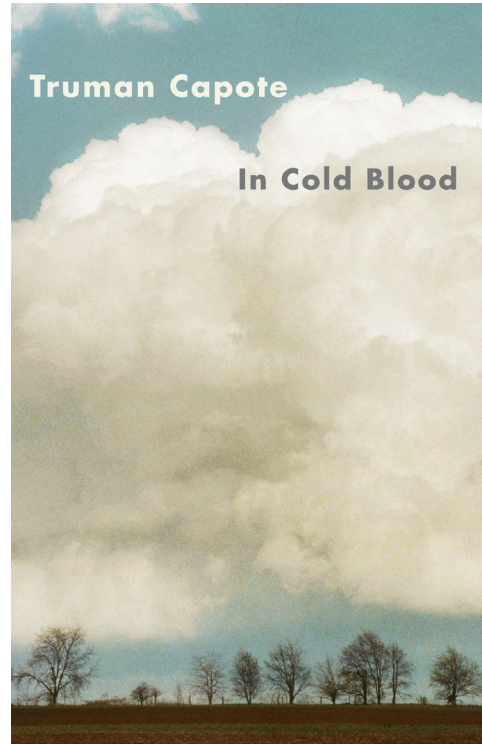


1853

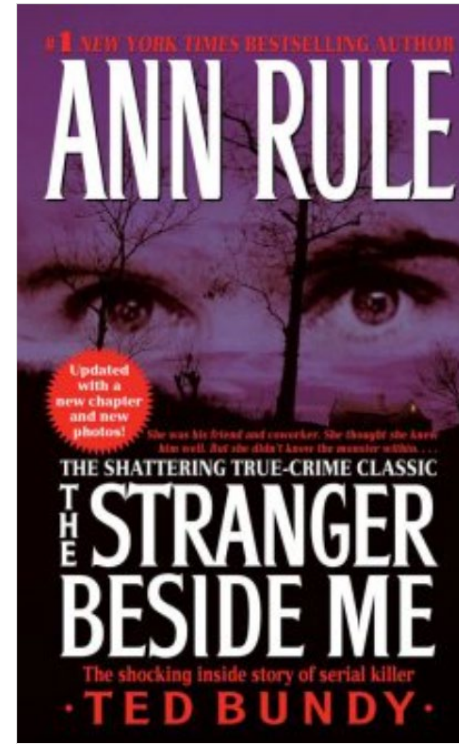
Twentieth Century



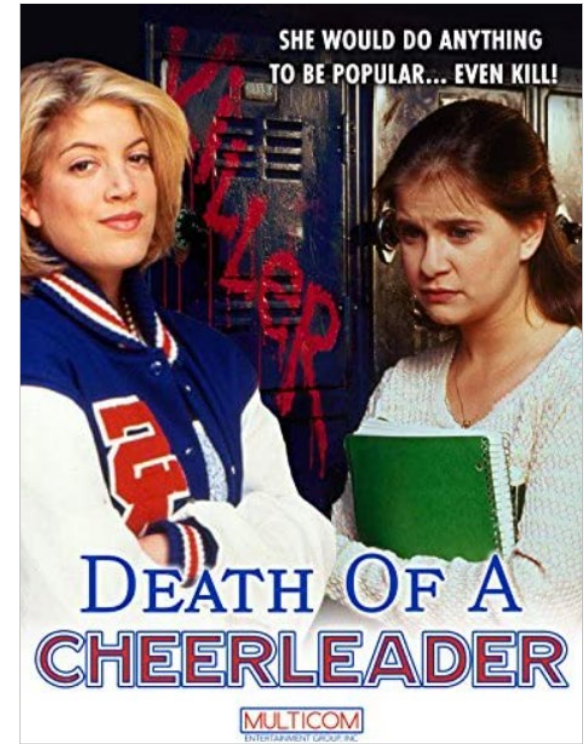
1924 - 1995



1966



First published 1980



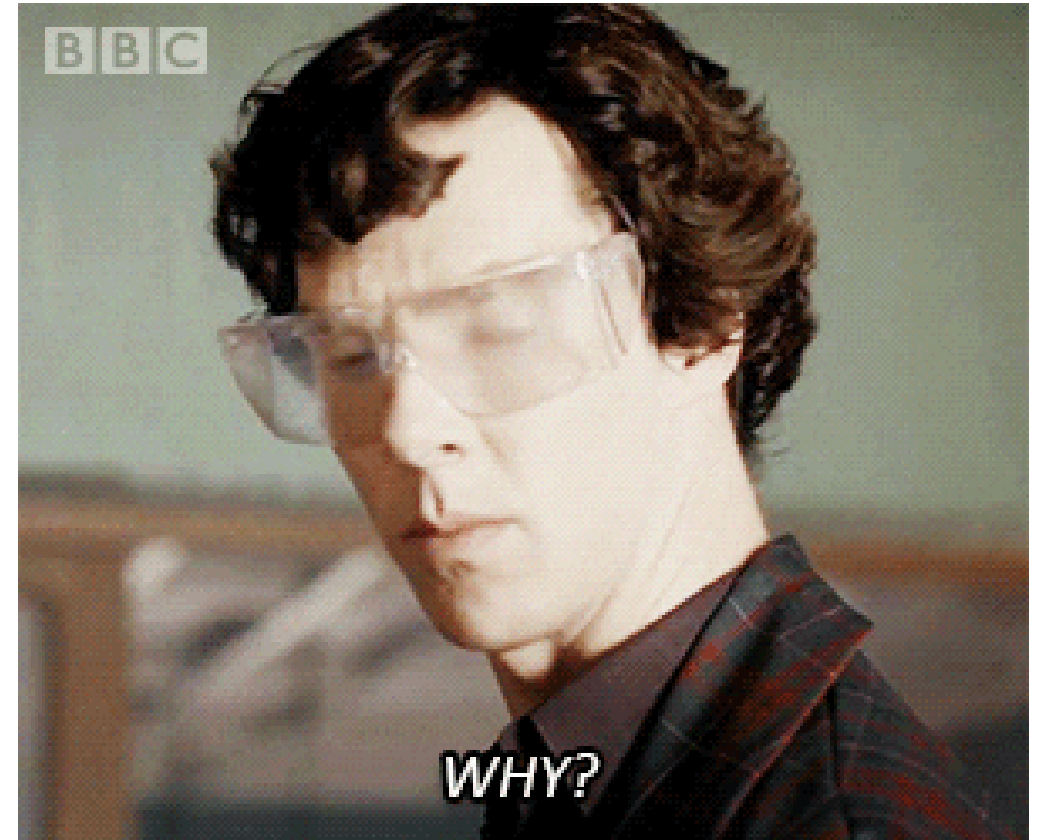
1994
Not a book! *Lifetime*

Why read True Crime?

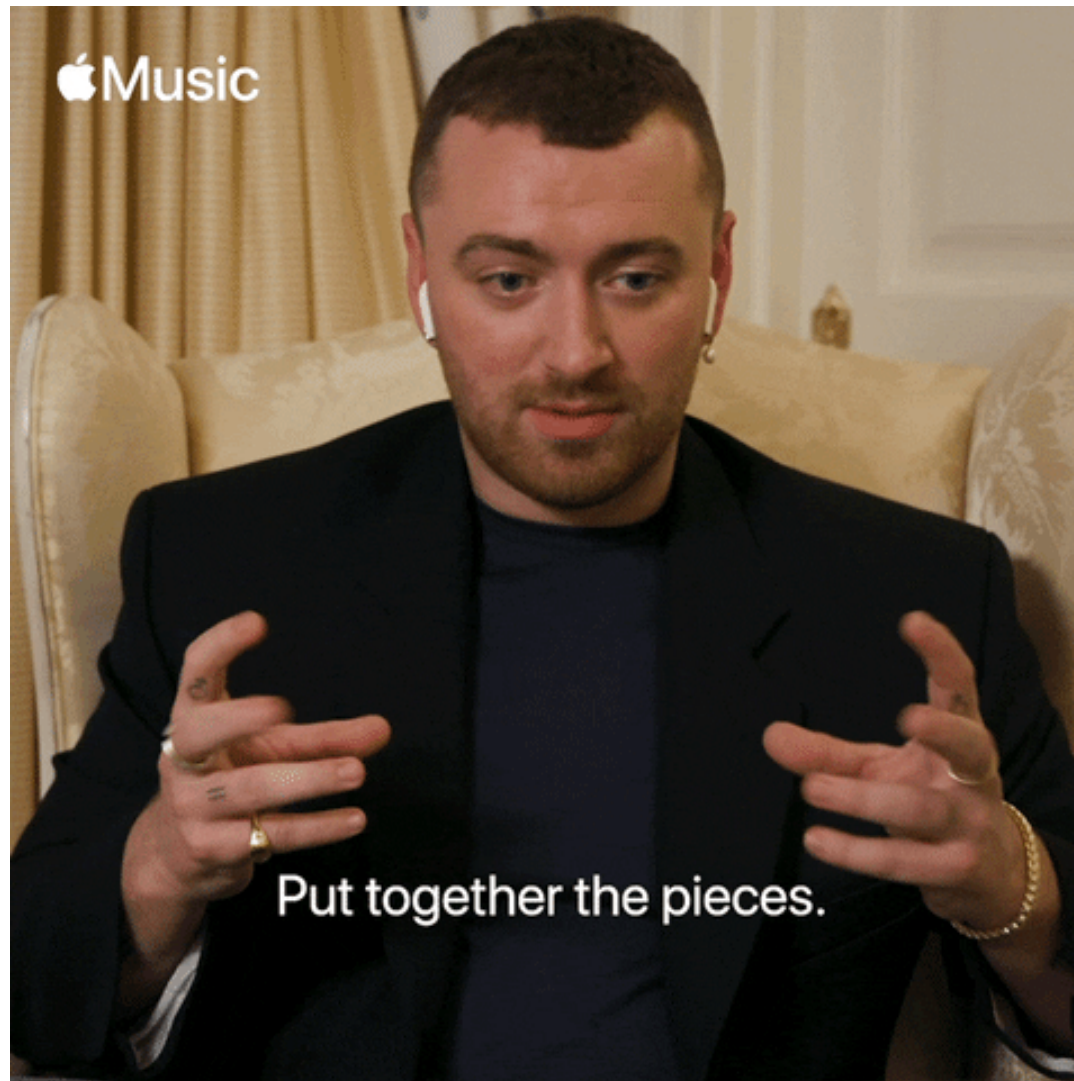
Solve a puzzle

Get an inside look

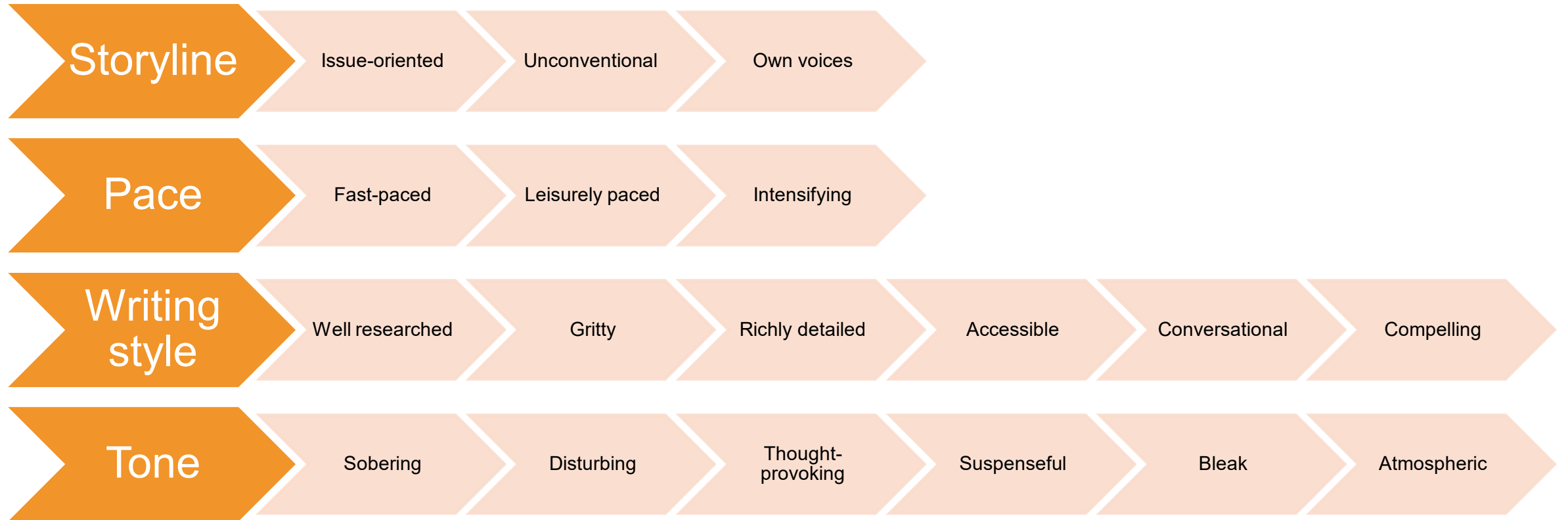
Learn what to avoid



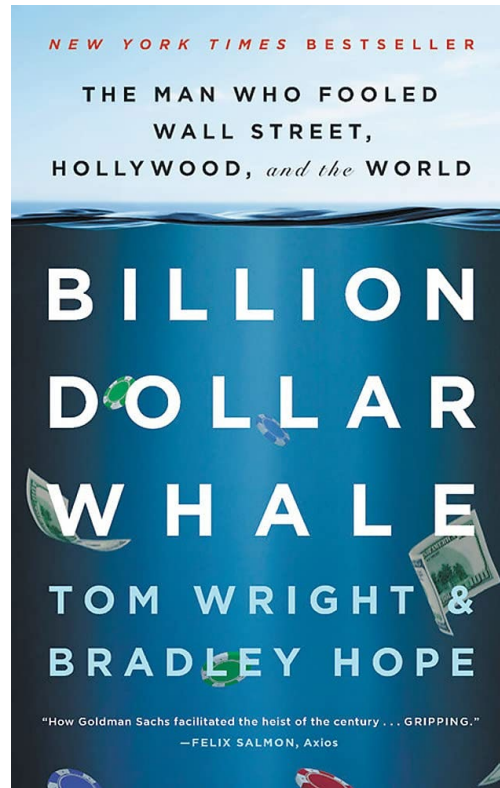
NoveList Appeals



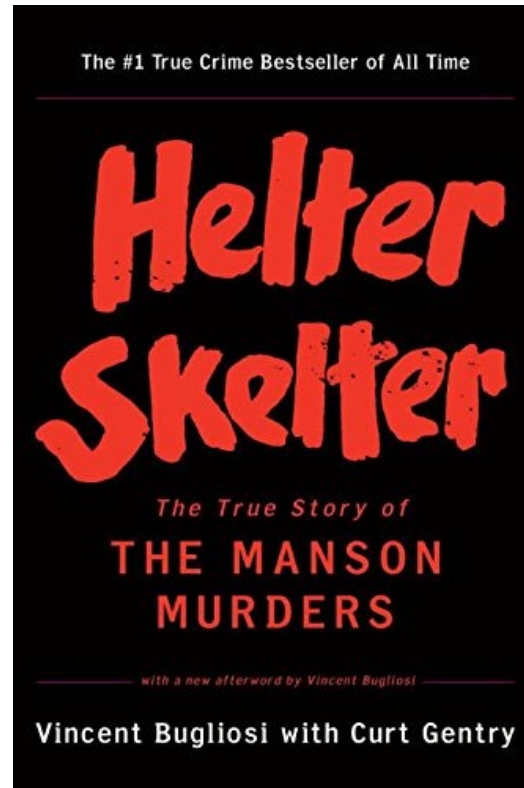
True Crime Appeals



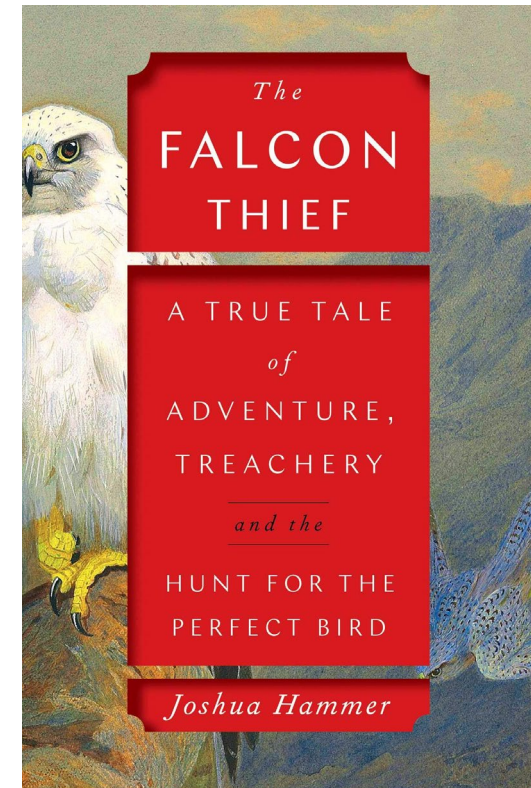
Writing Style



Well-researched

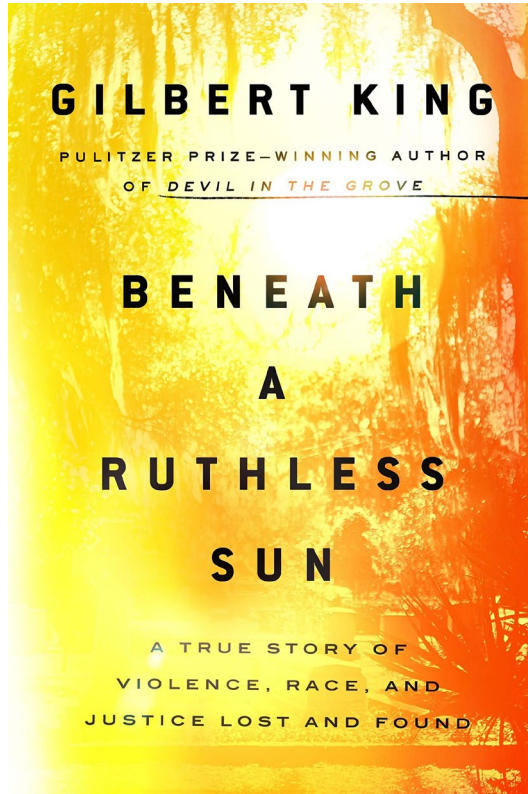


Gritty

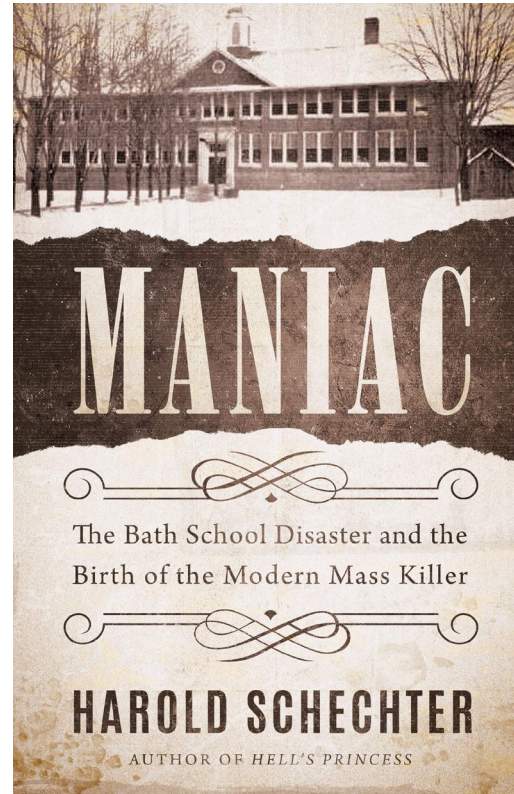


Richly detailed

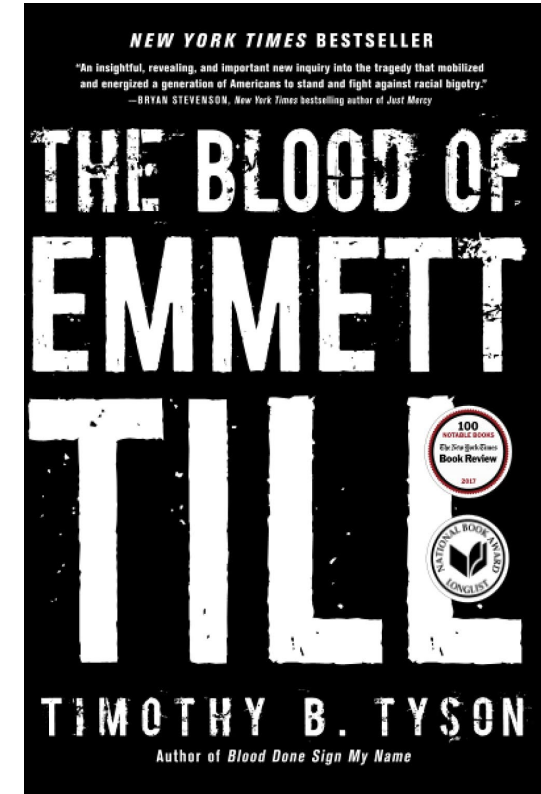
Tone



Sobering



Disturbing



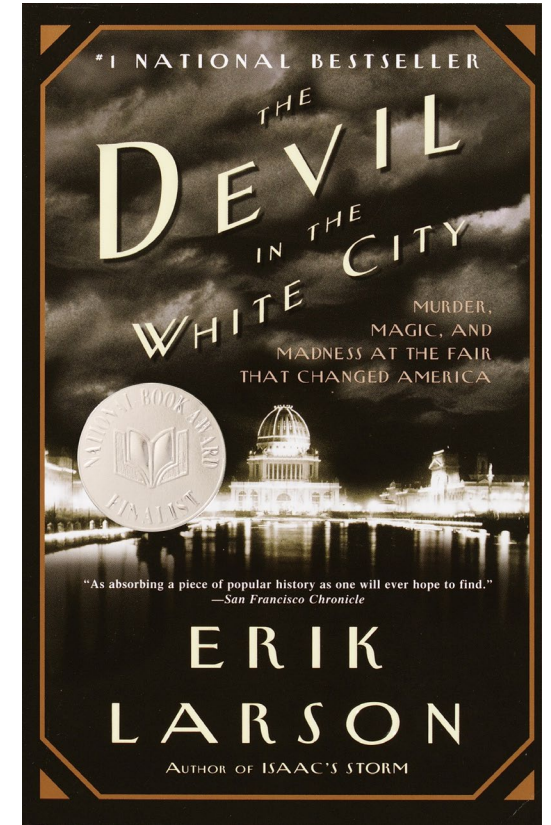
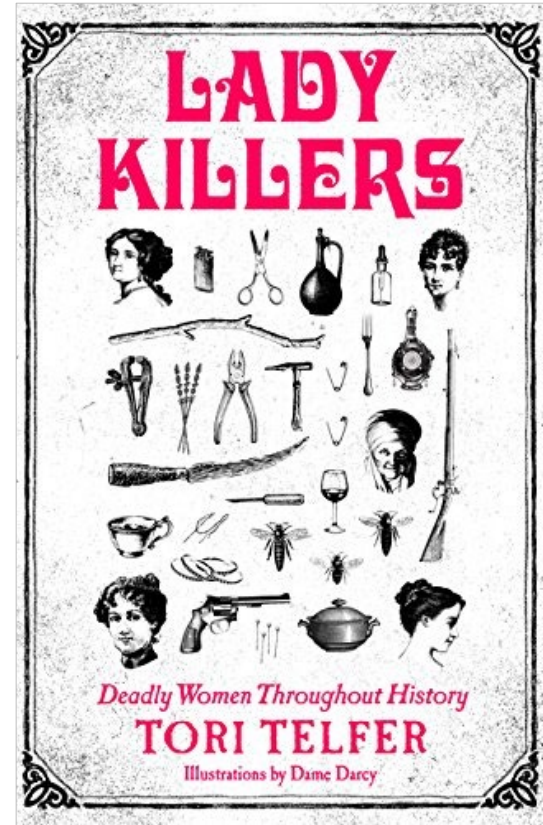
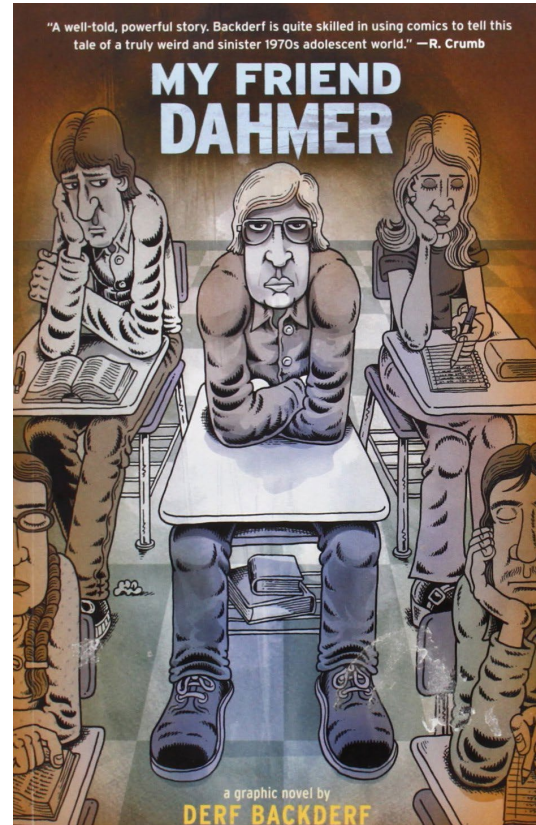
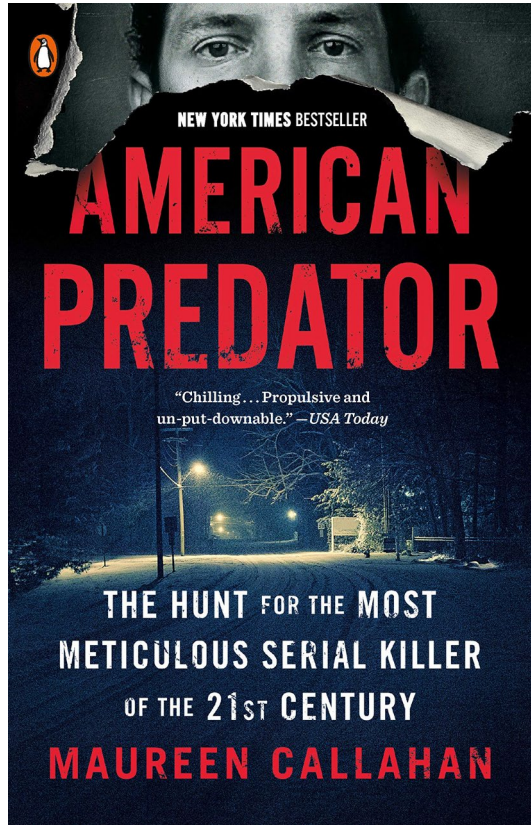
Thought-provoking

Subgenres



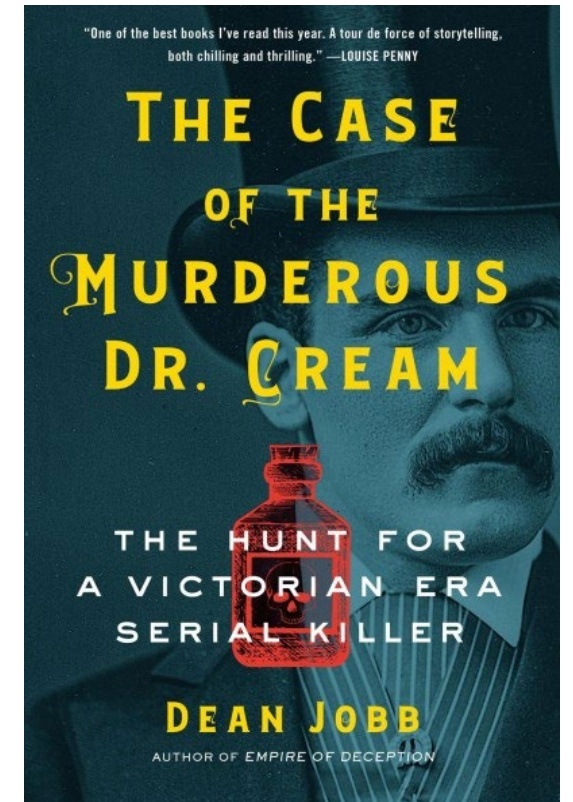
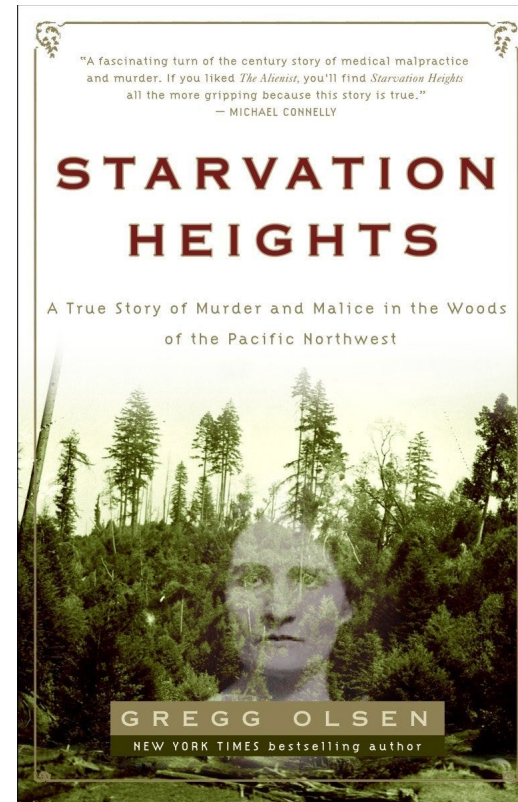
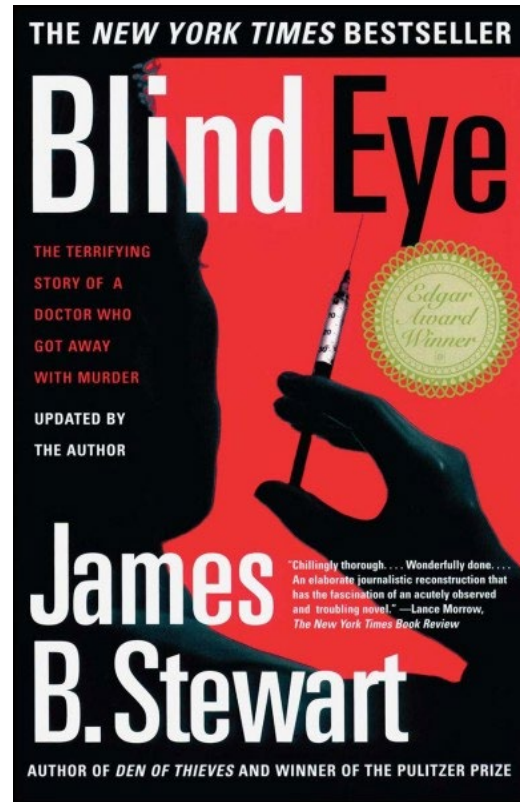
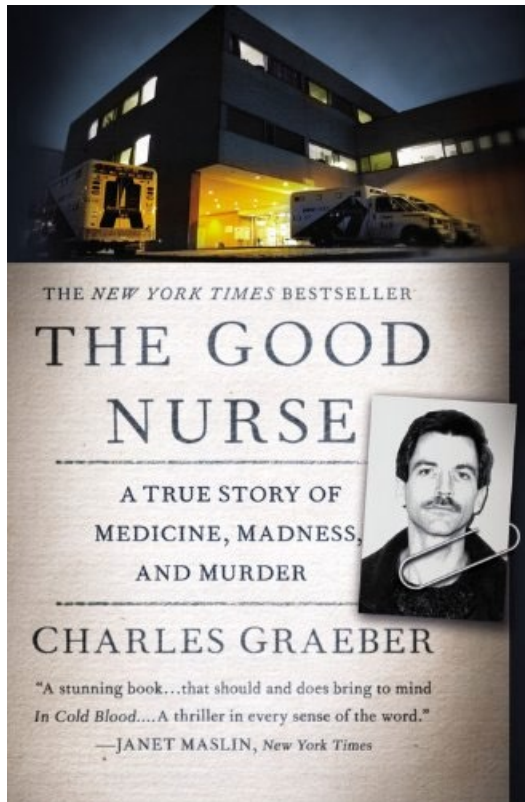
Serial killers

The lives and crimes of killers.



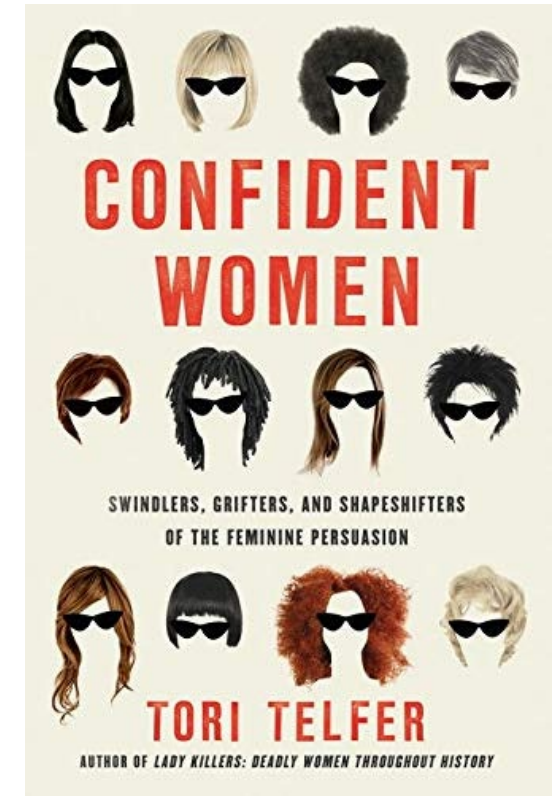
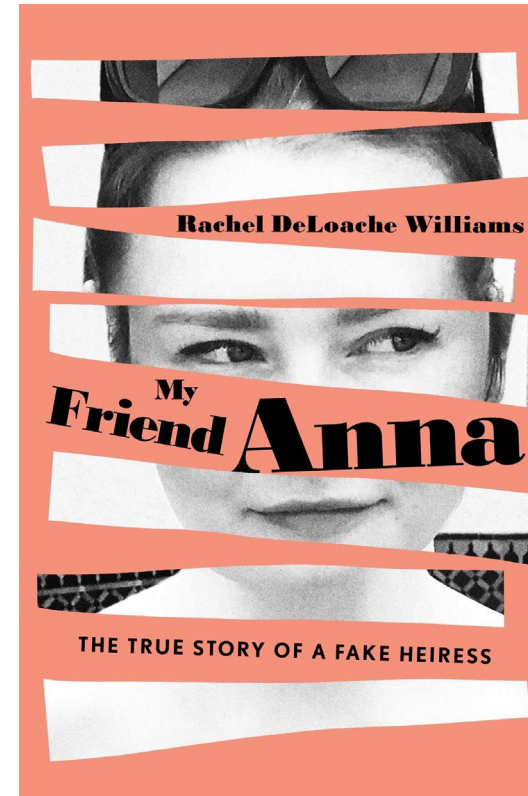
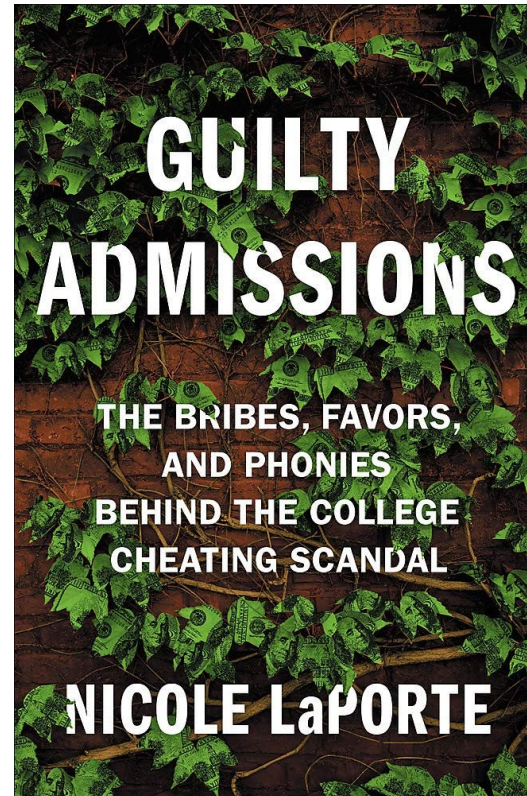
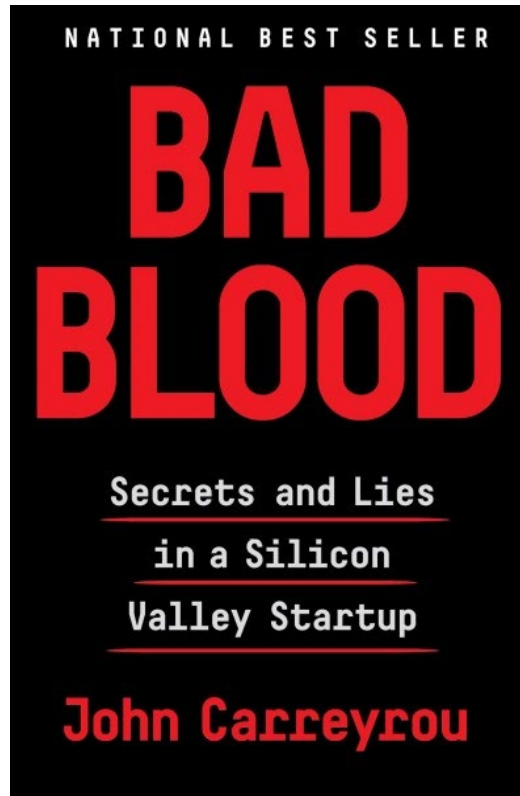
Medical murder

Medical professionals who violate the Hippocratic Oath.



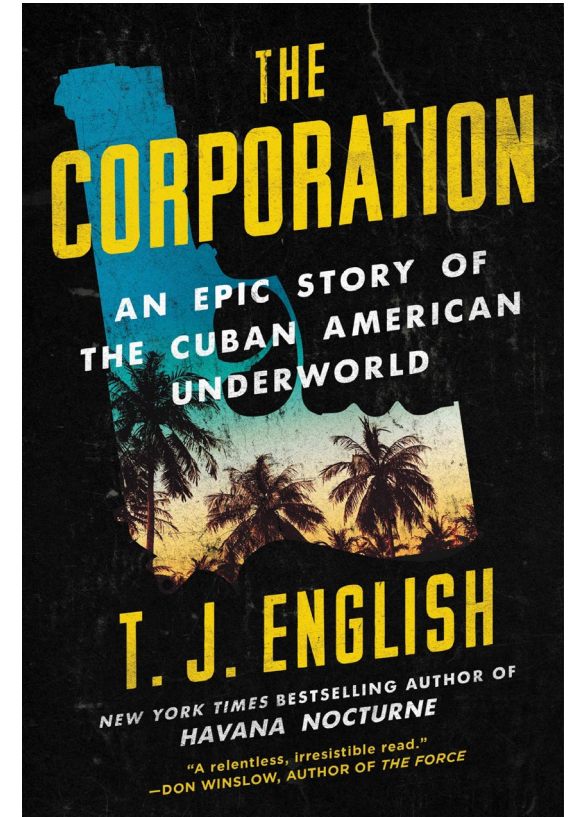
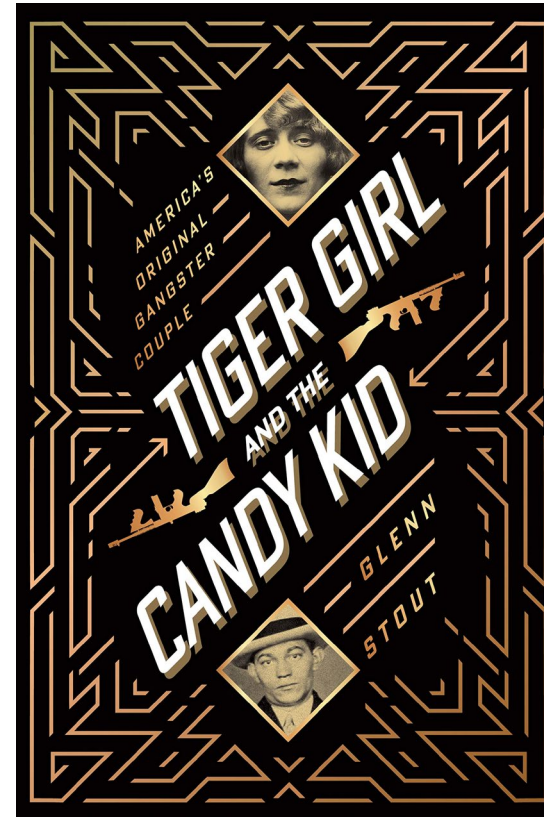
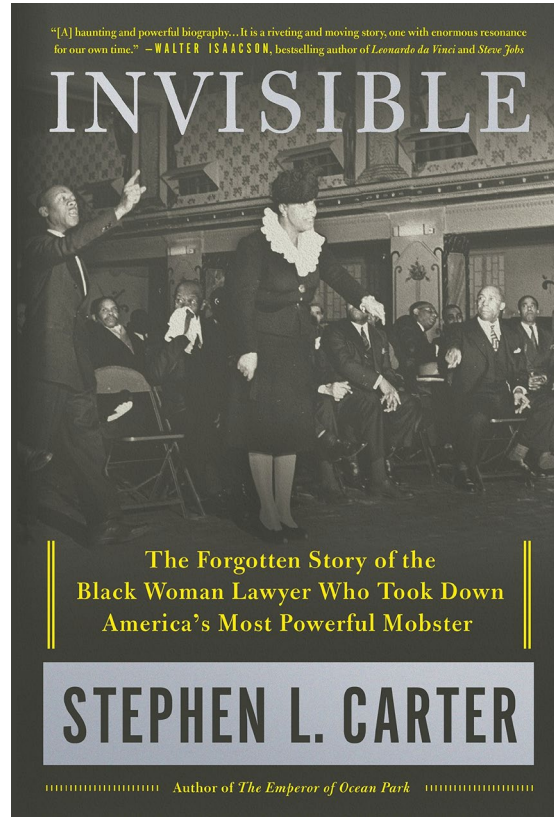
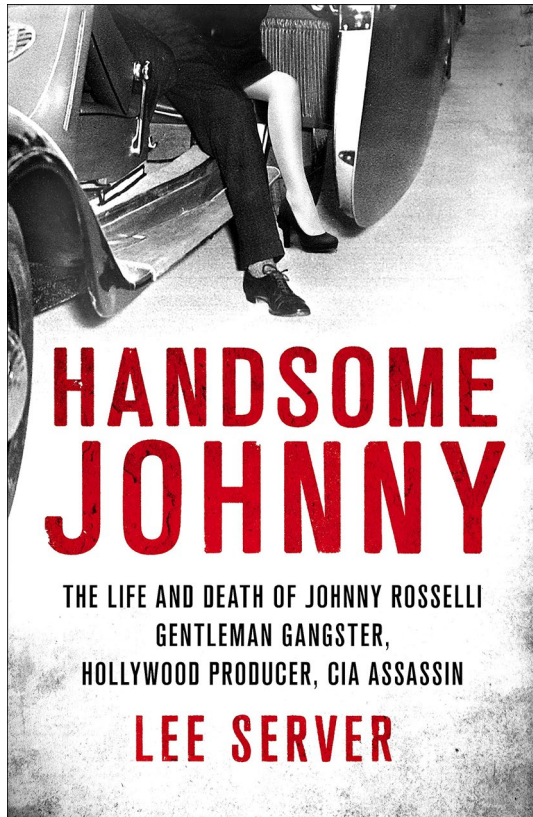
White collar crime & fraud

Financially motivated, nonviolent crime.



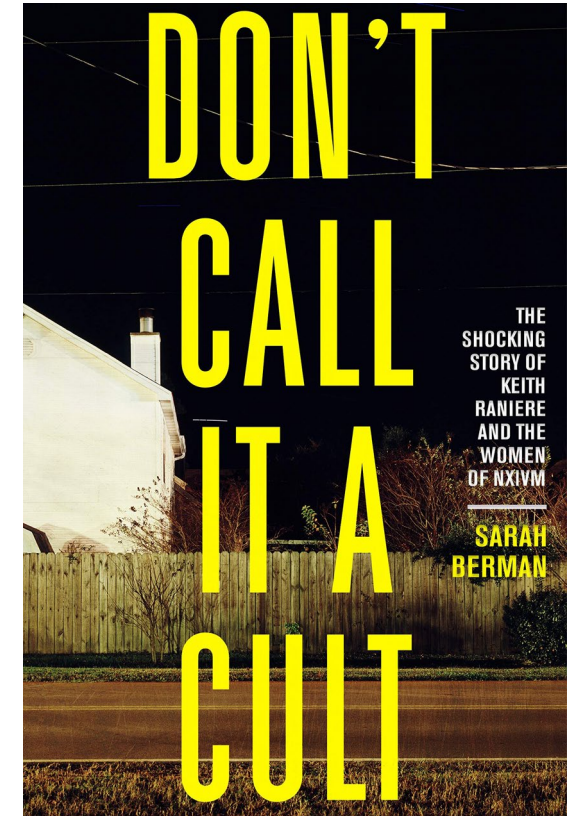
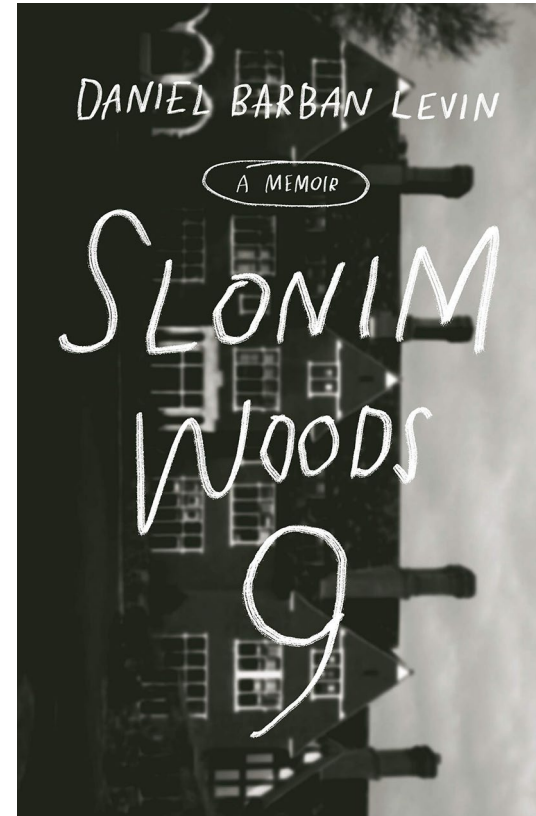
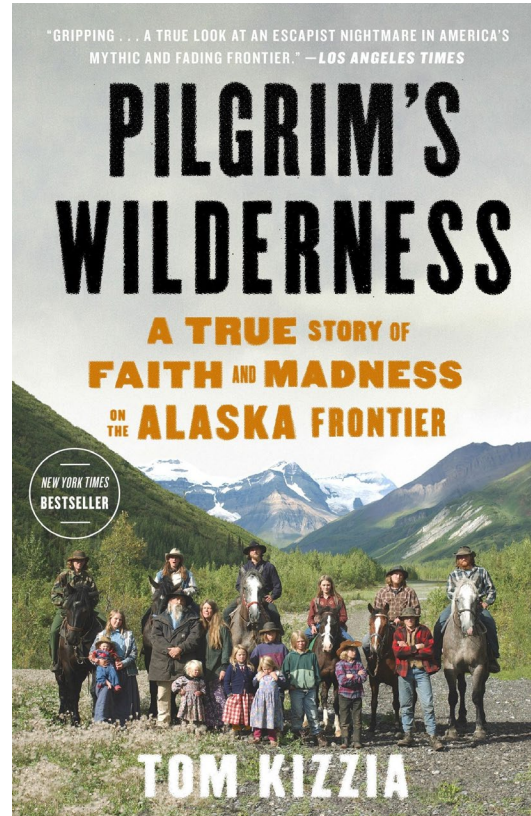
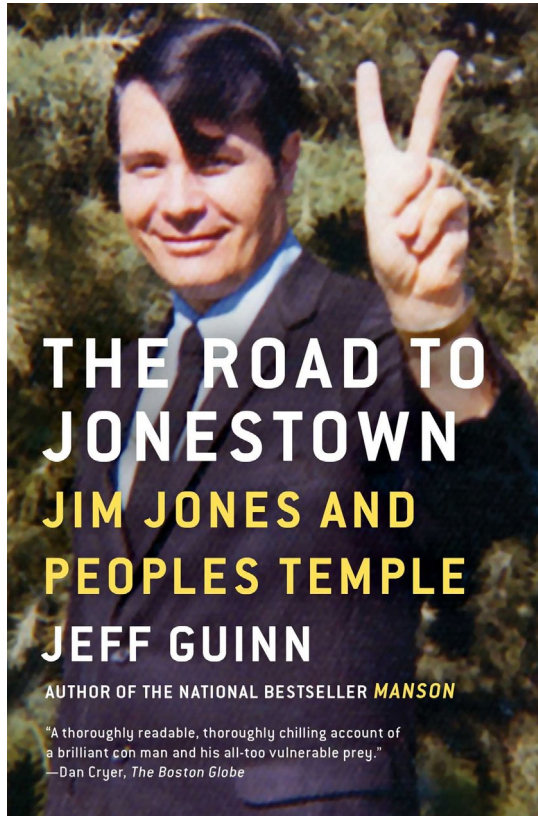
Organized Crime

Gangsters, mobsters, and more.



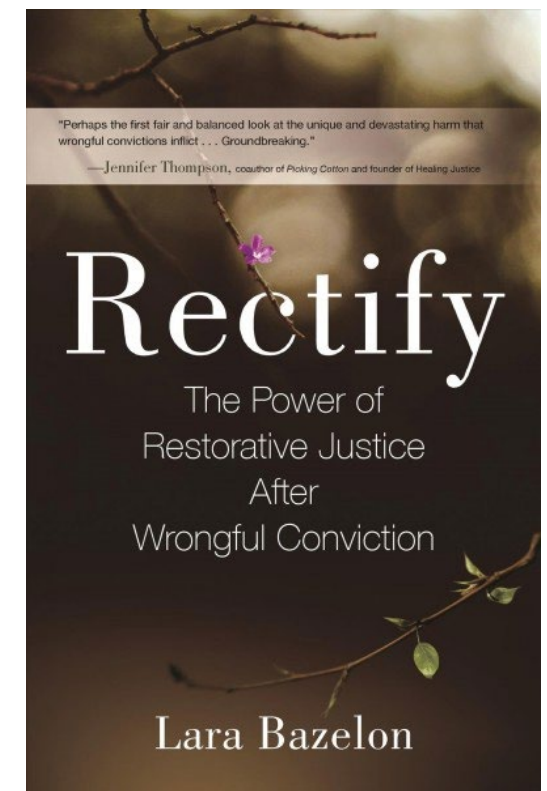
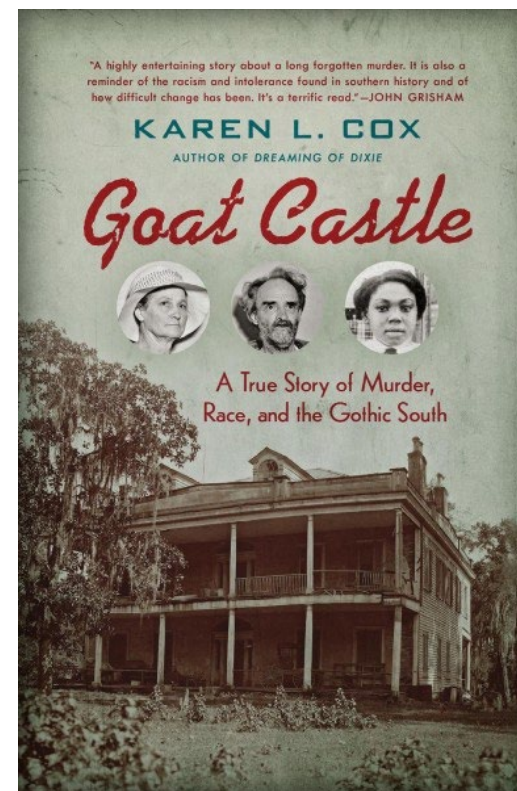
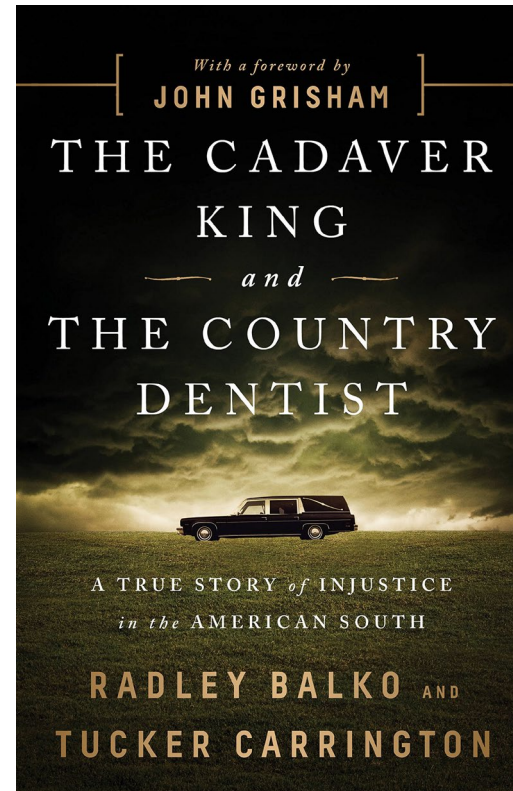
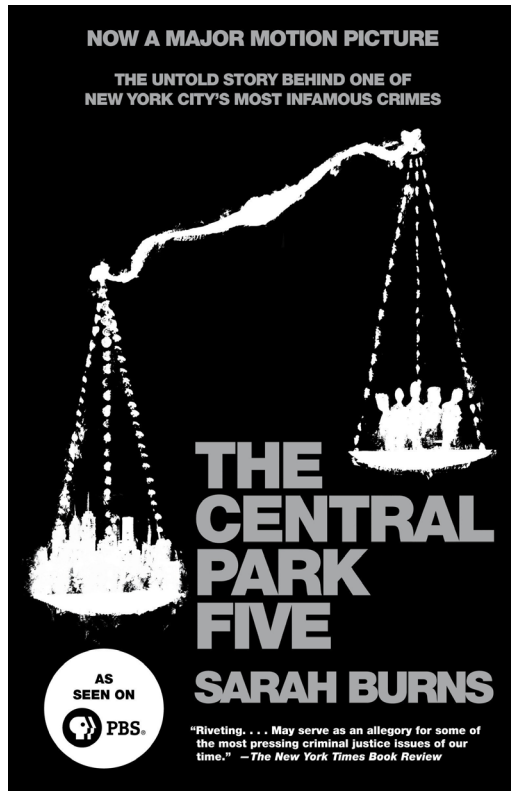
Cults

Charisma gone wrong.



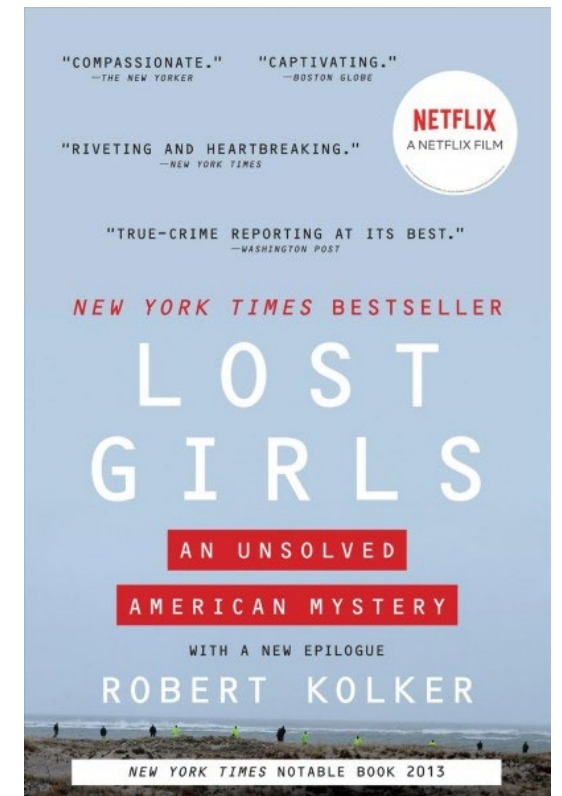
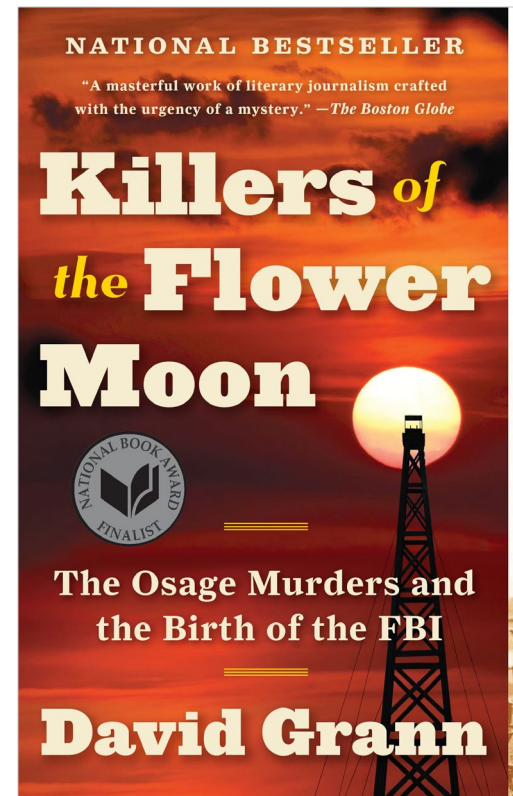
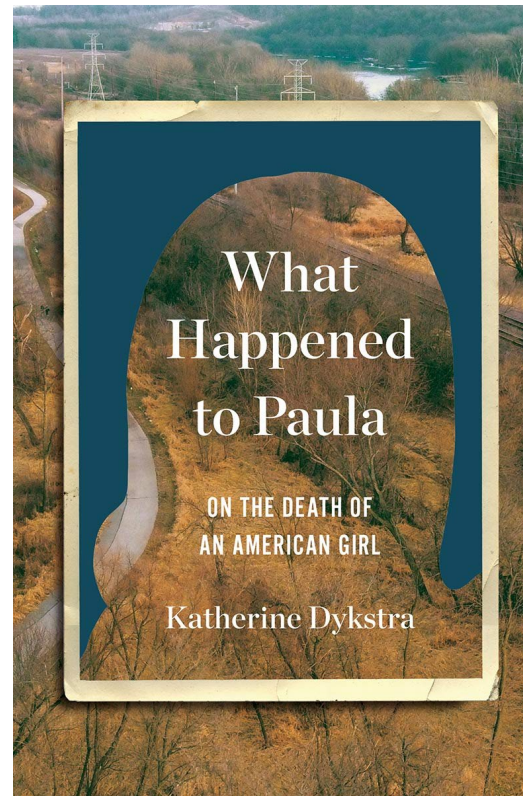
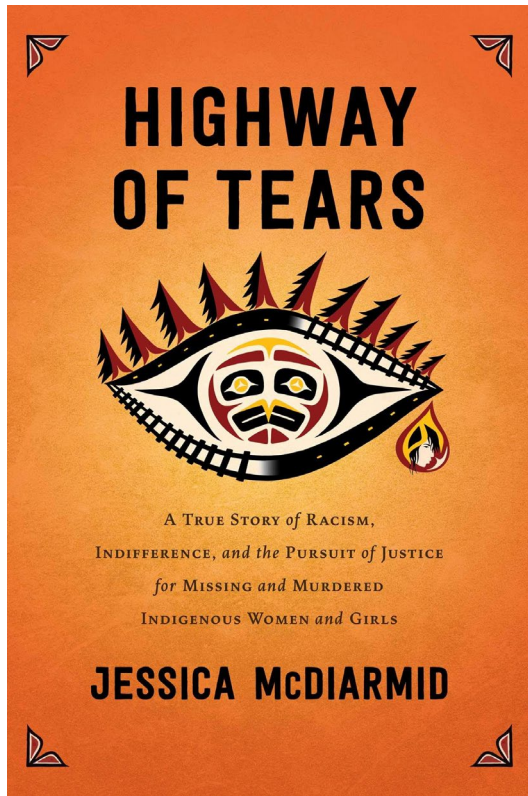
Wrongfully Accused

Convicted for crimes they didn't commit.



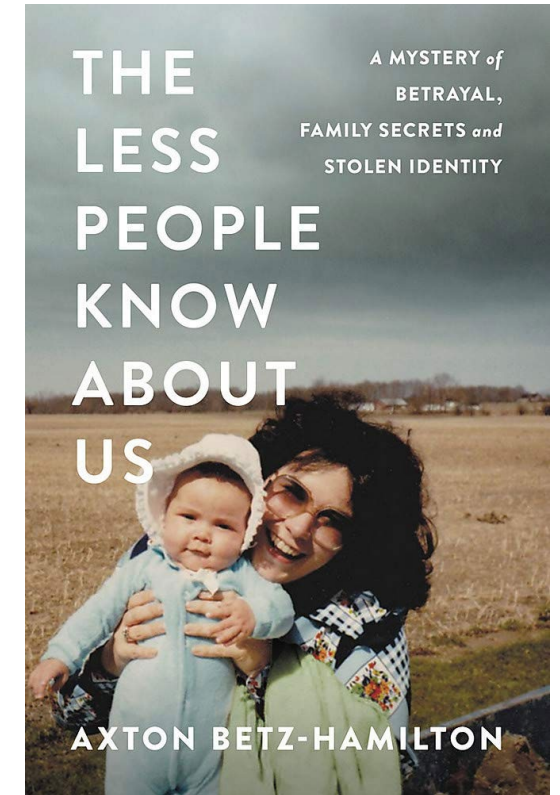
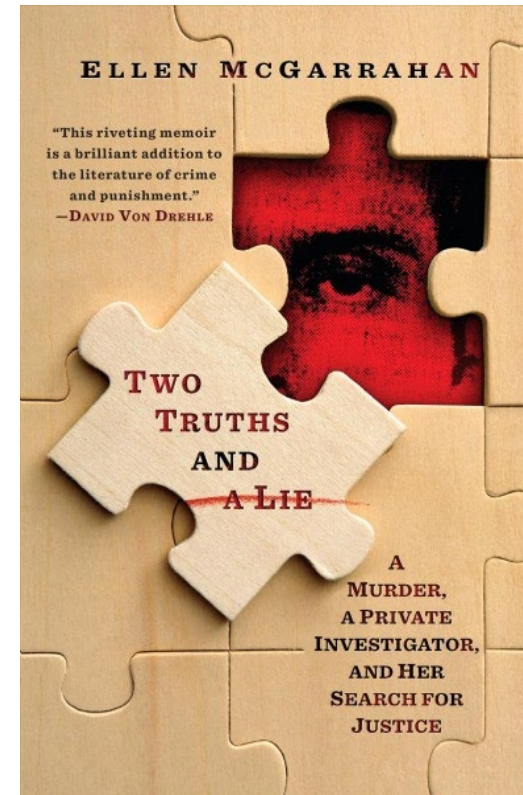
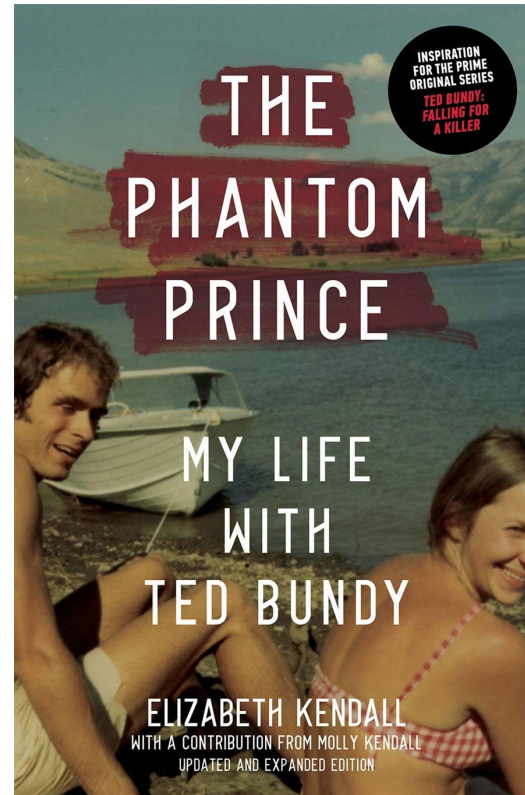
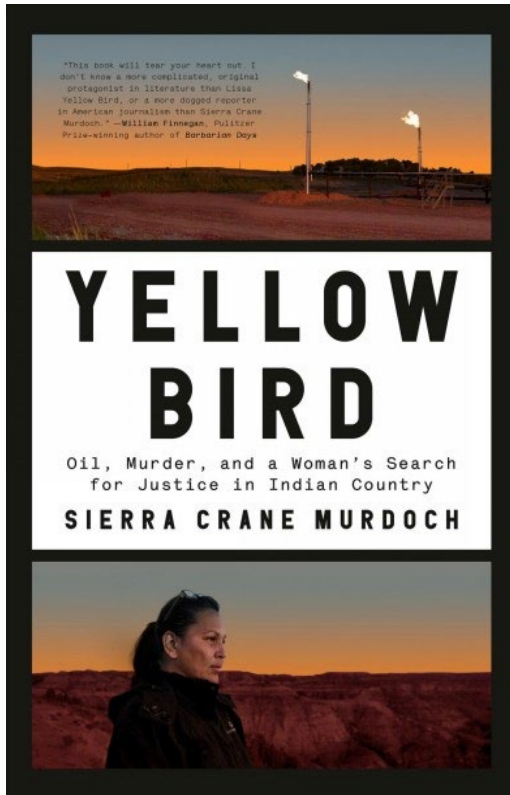
Cold Cases

The perpetrator is still at large.



Biographies & Memoirs

Narratives of folks who have had close encounters/relationships with the perpetrator.



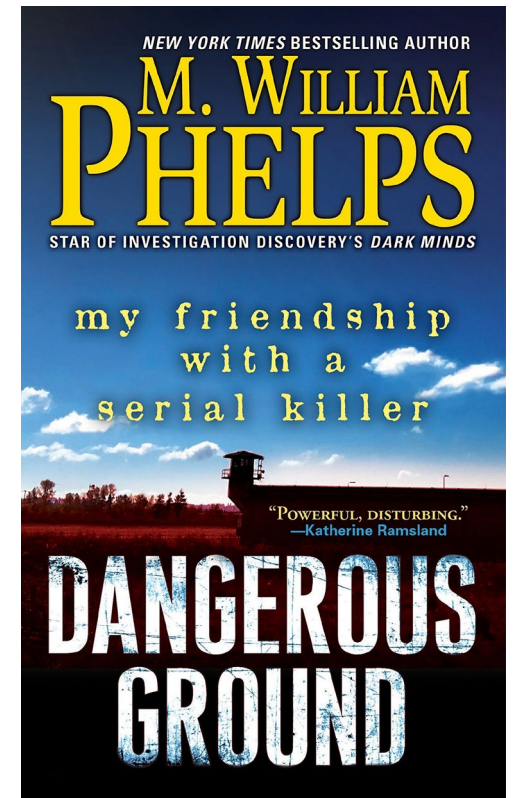
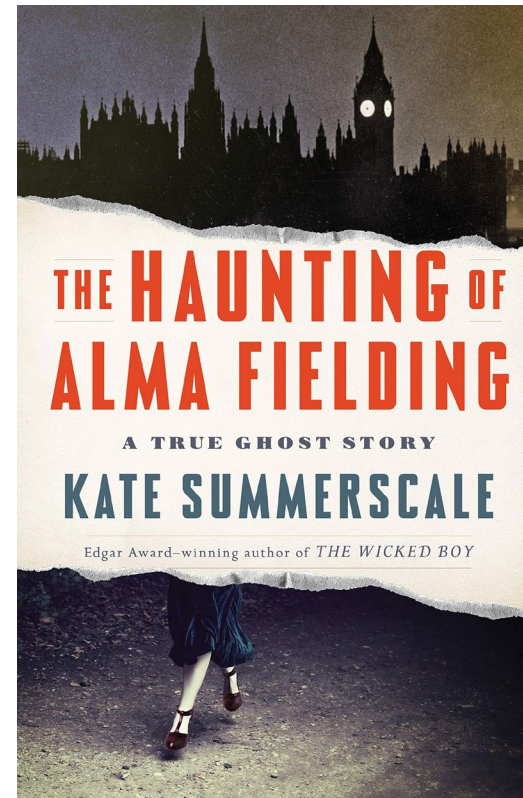
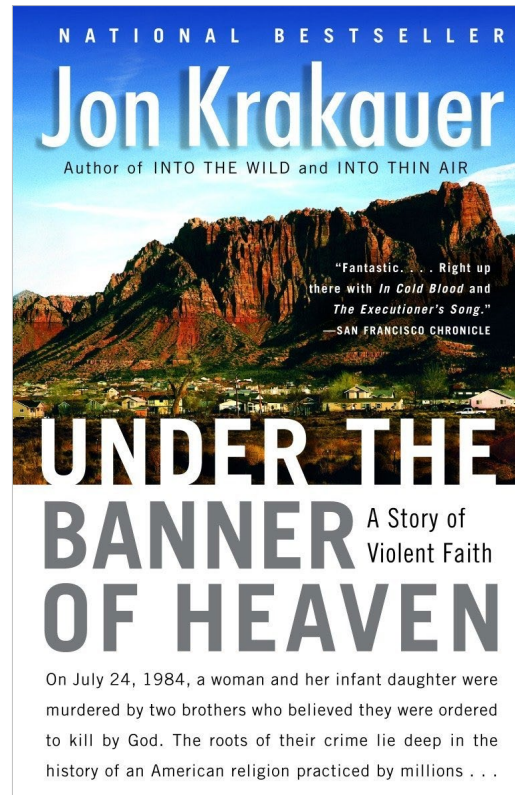
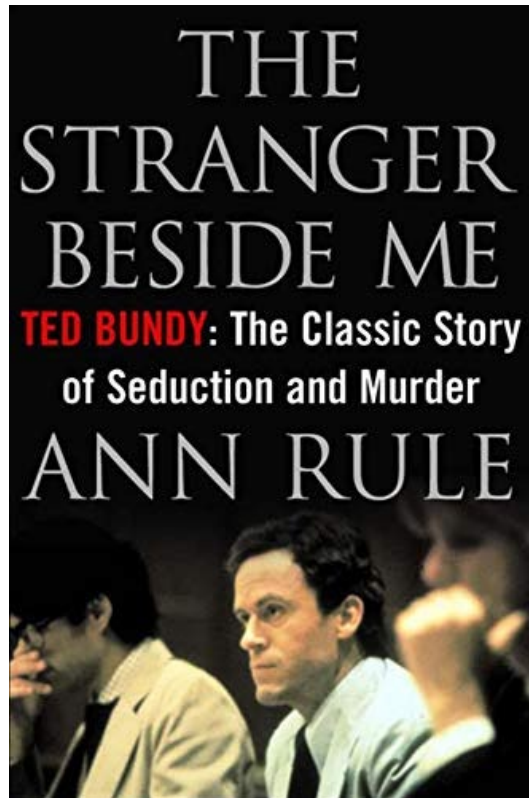
Popular Books & Authors to Know

Click to add text

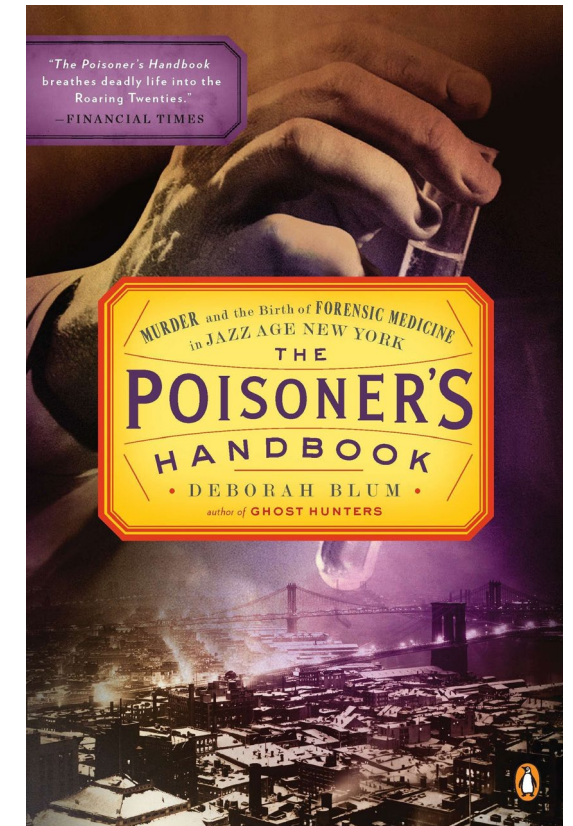
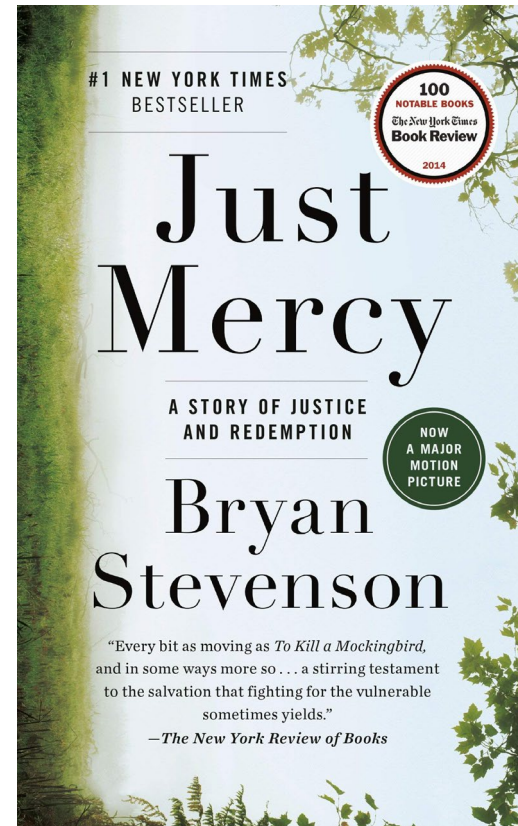
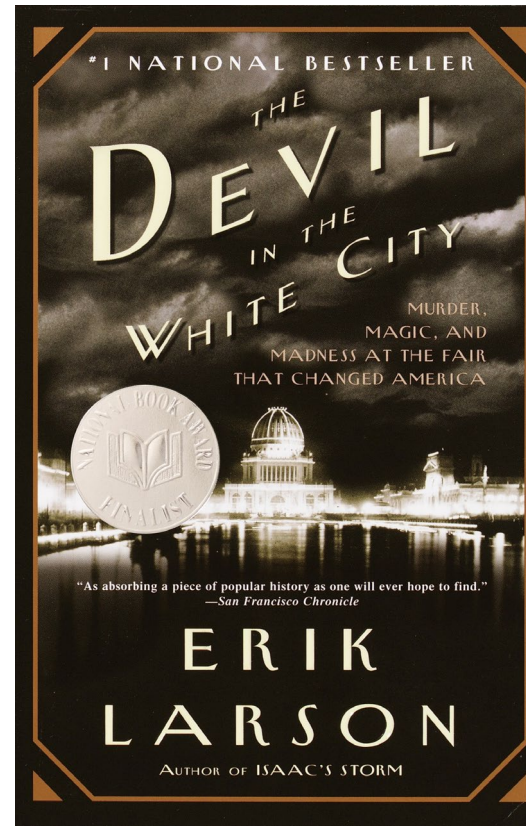
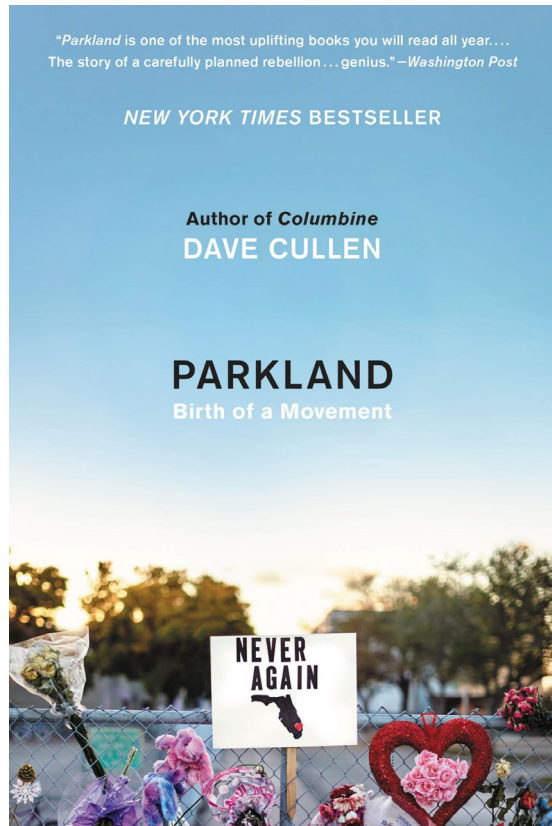


Popular books & authors to know

Don't miss out on these books.



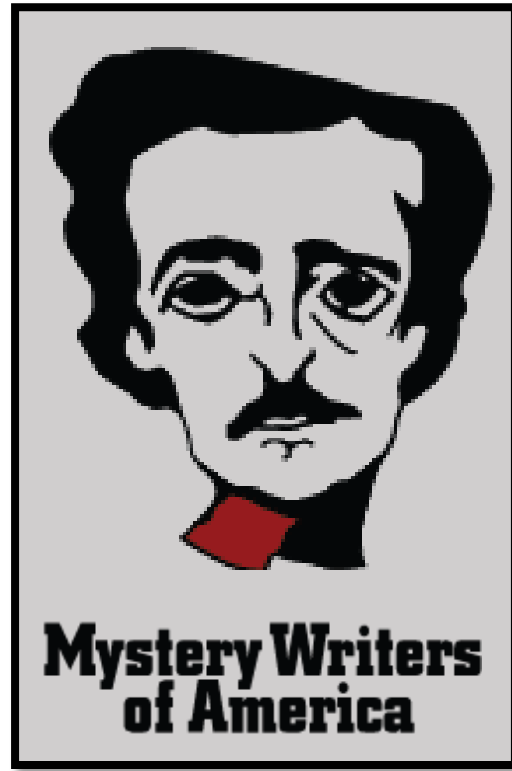
Other authors to know



Awards to Know



Awards

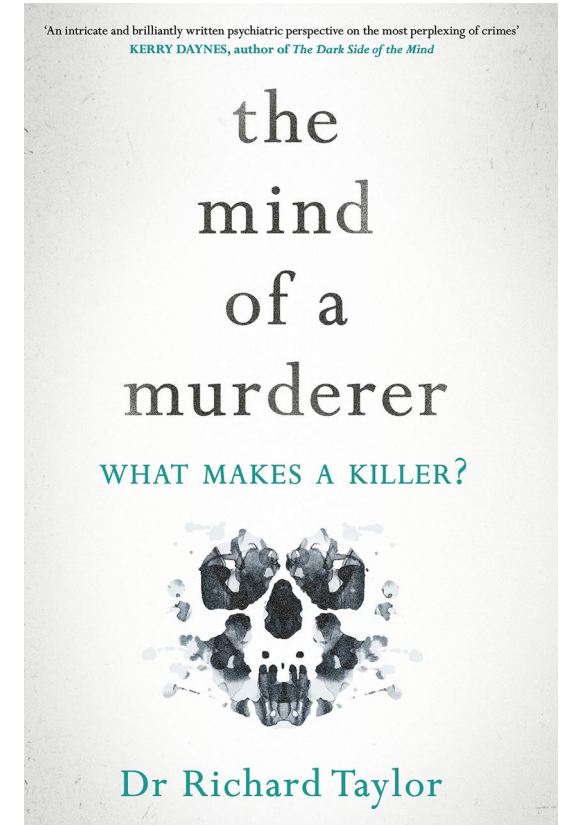
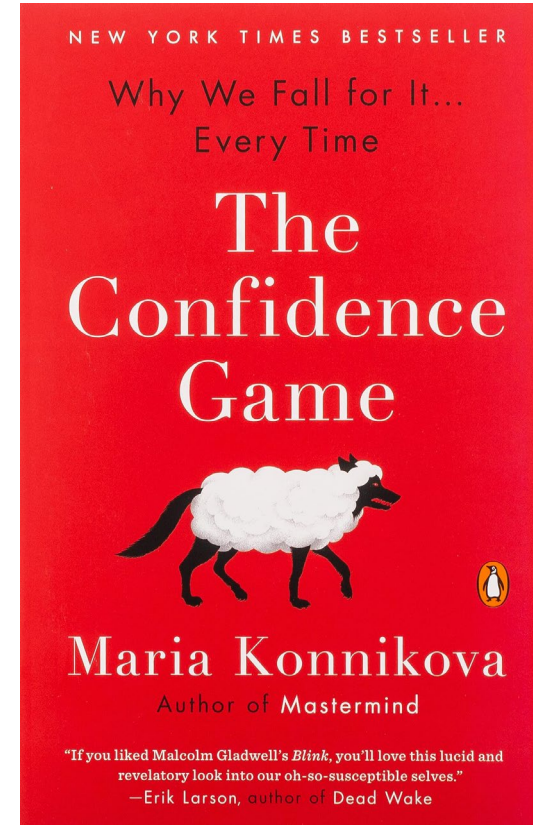
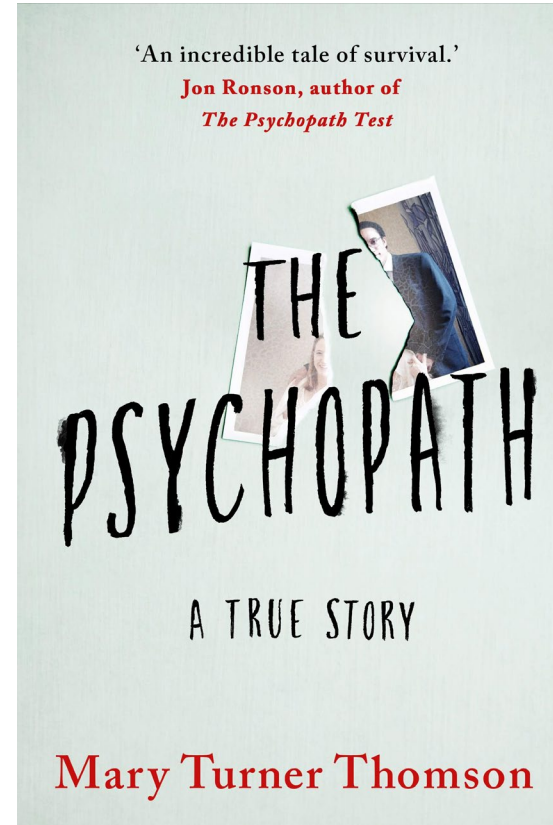
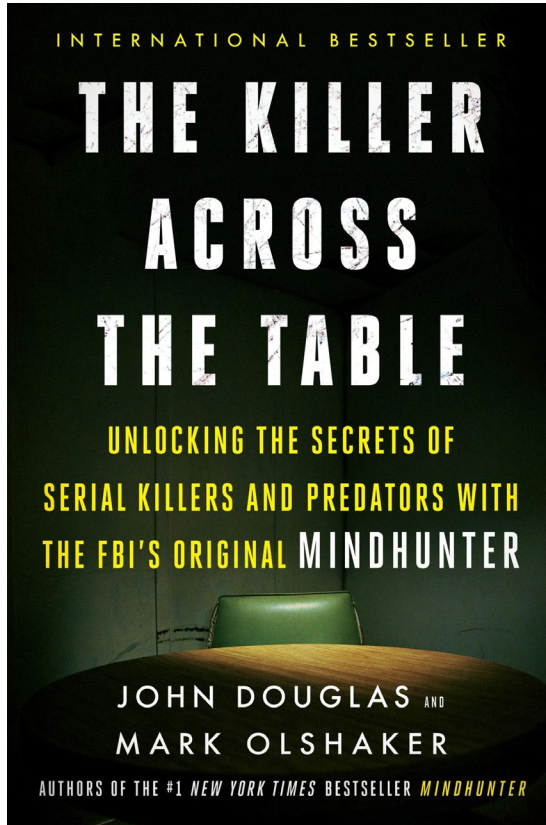


trends

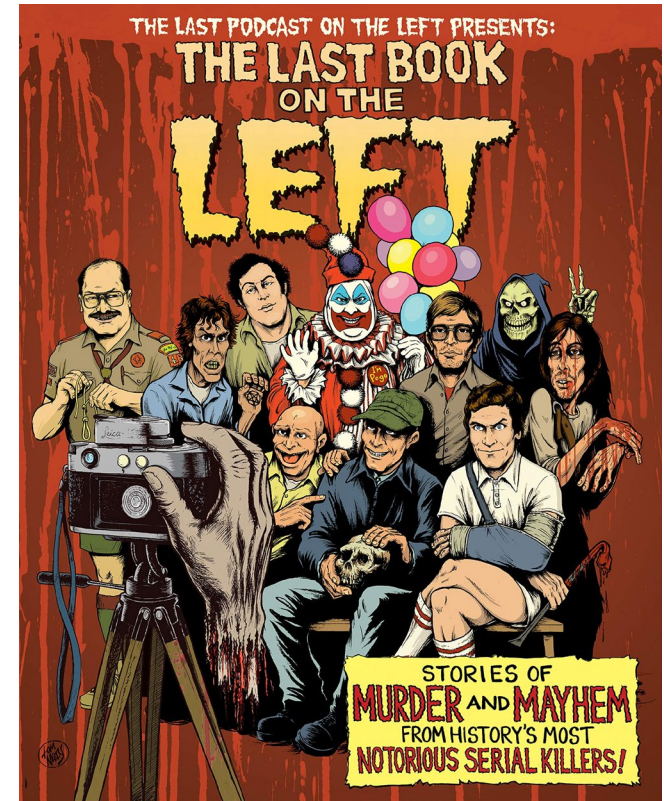
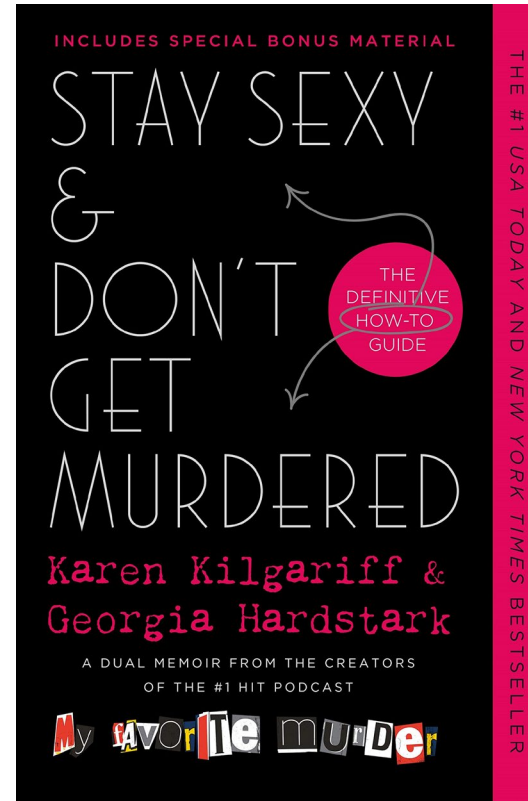
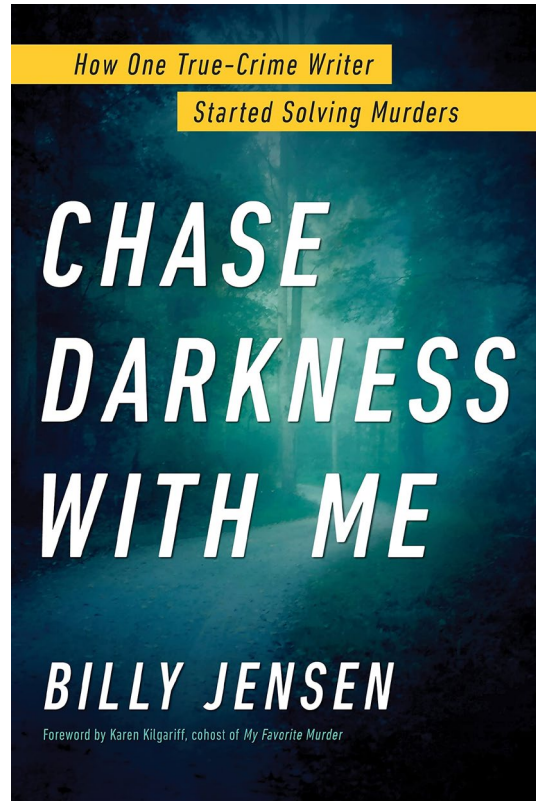
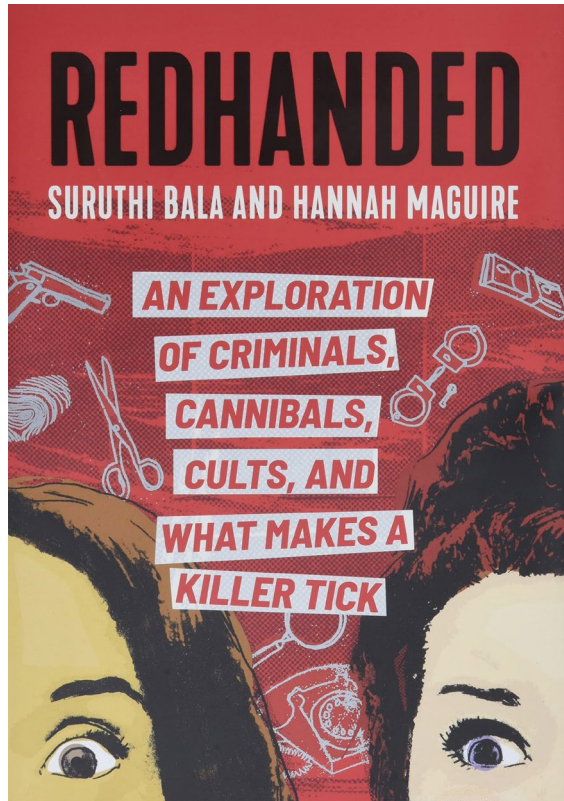


LOADING...

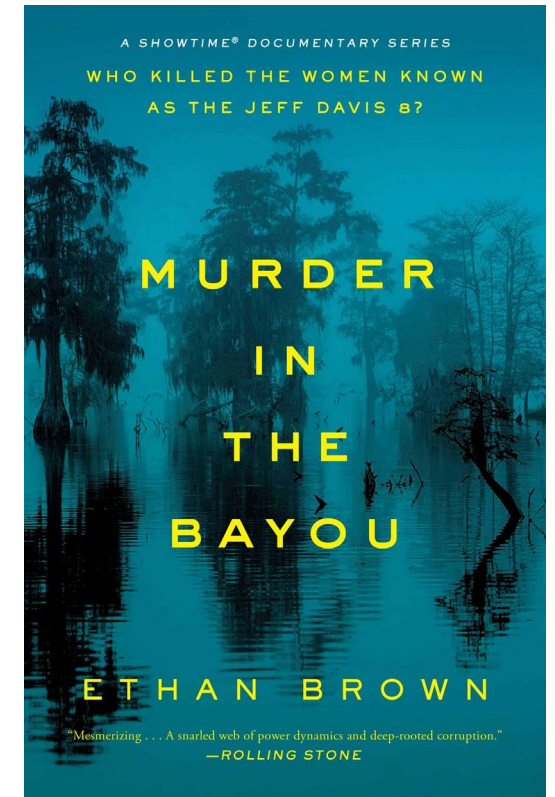
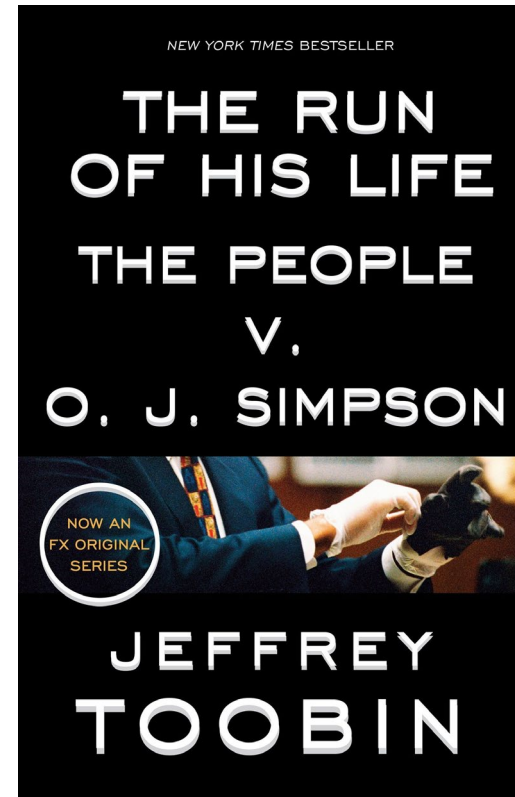
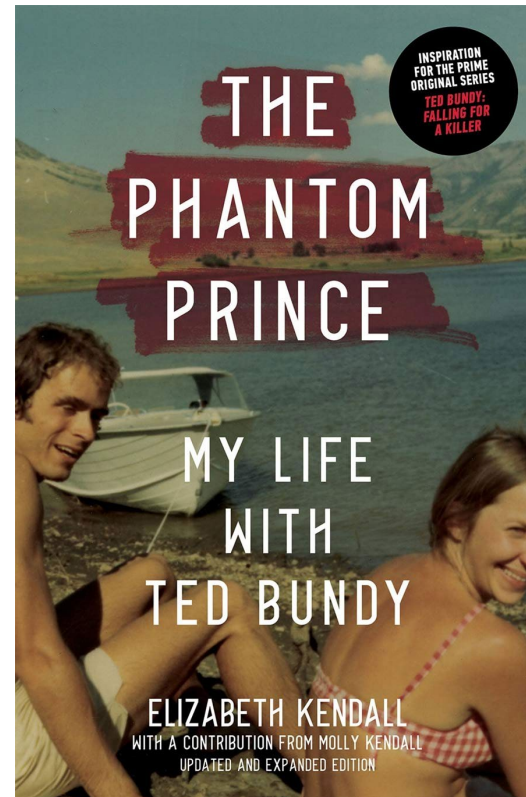
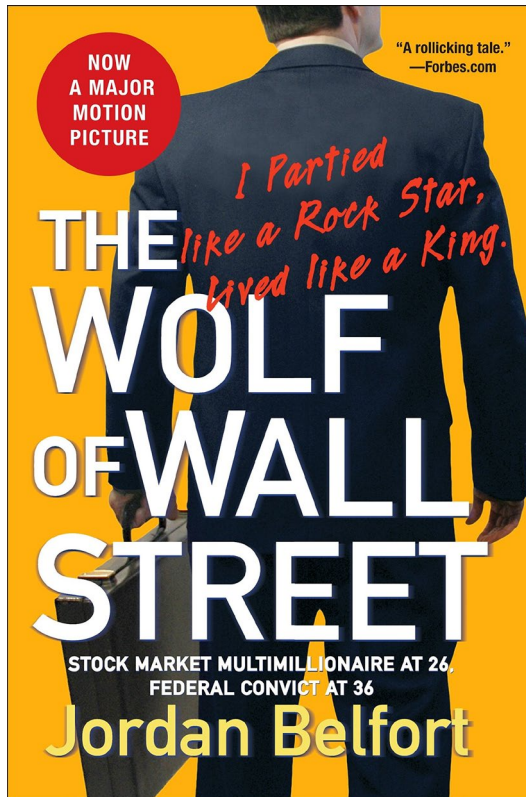
Criminal Psychology



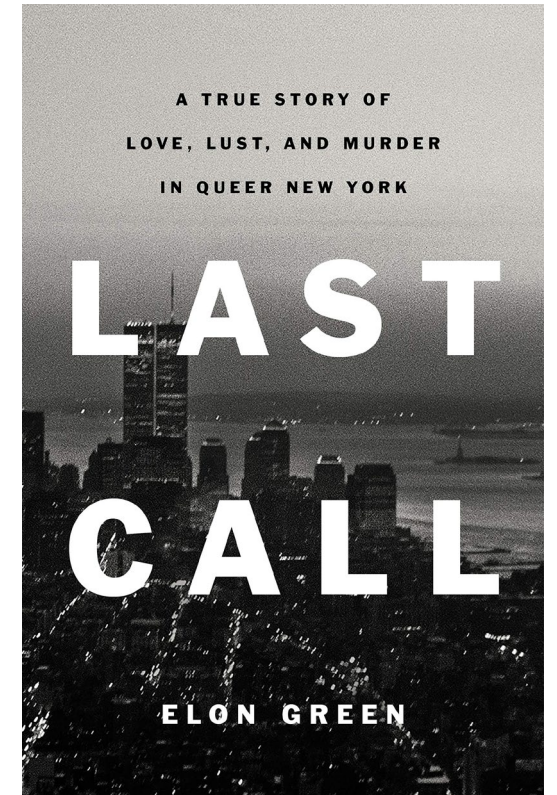
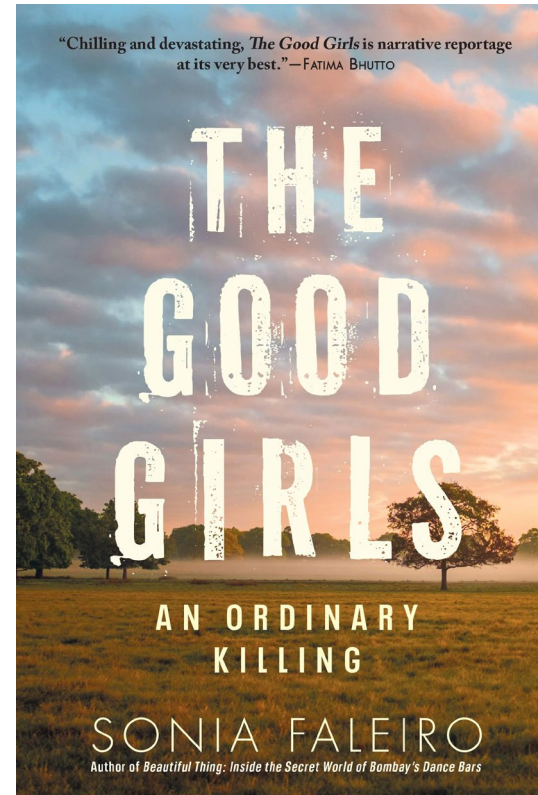
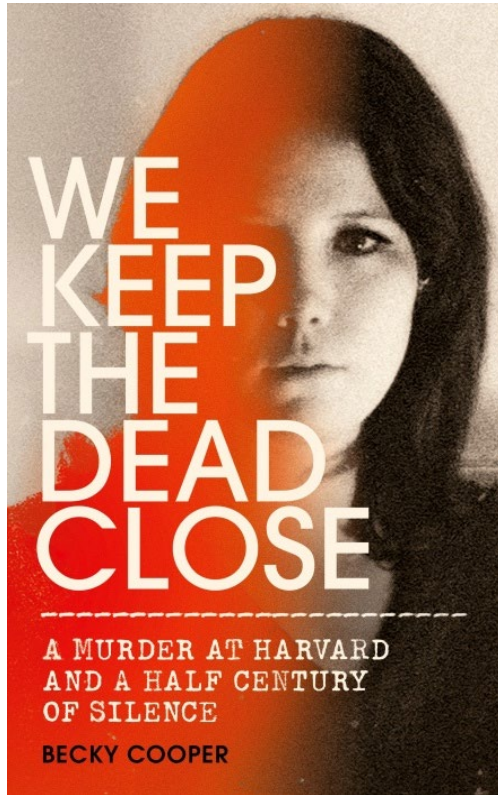
Podcasters Turned True Crime Writers



Silver Screen Adaptations



The Lives of the Victims



A woman with brown hair is sitting in a library, reading a large black book. She is looking up and to the right. The background is filled with bookshelves. A white thought bubble is positioned to the left of her head, containing the text "Helping readers".

Helping
readers

Ask Questions!

Are there certain crimes that you prefer not to read?

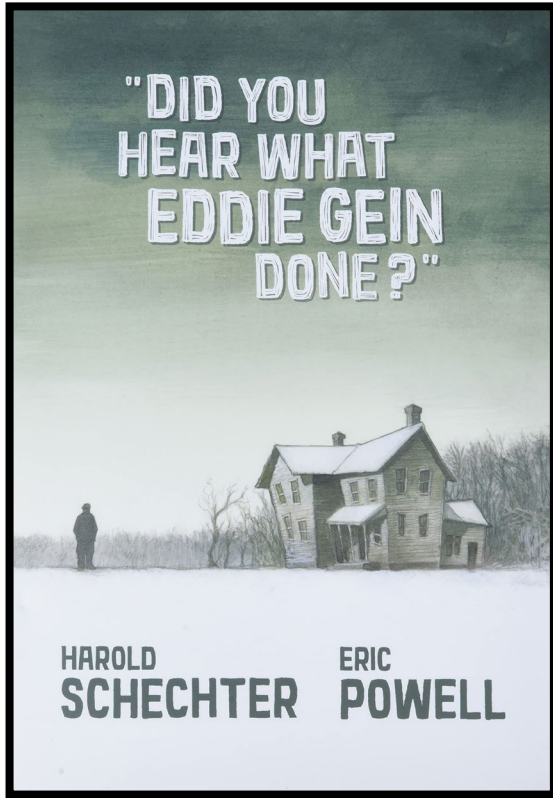
What sparked your interest in True Crime?

Is there a True Crime podcast or show that you have seen/listened to recently that you've enjoyed?

Ask about format!

True Crime is the inspiration of many titles in the mystery genre. Can I offer some suggestions?

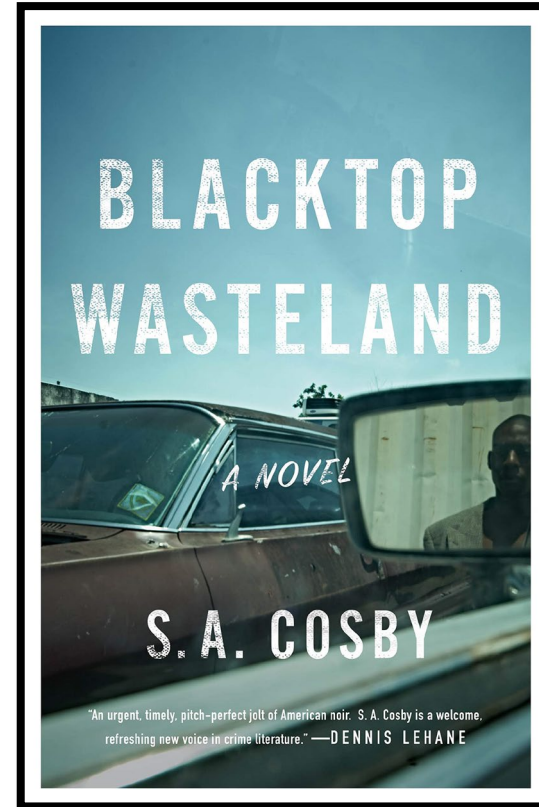
Connecting the Dots



Graphic Novels



Podcasts



Thriller



Lists

True Crime Starter Pack

Representative of genre

Well-reviewed

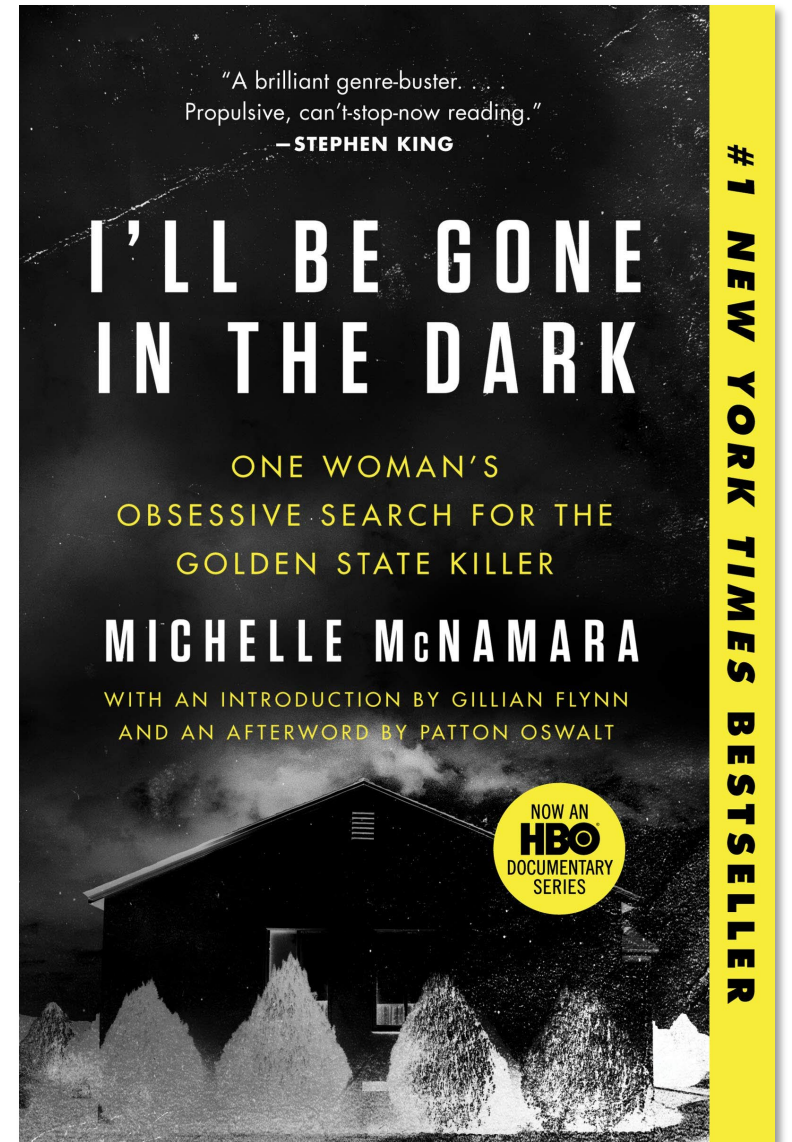
Wide appeal

Published within the last three years



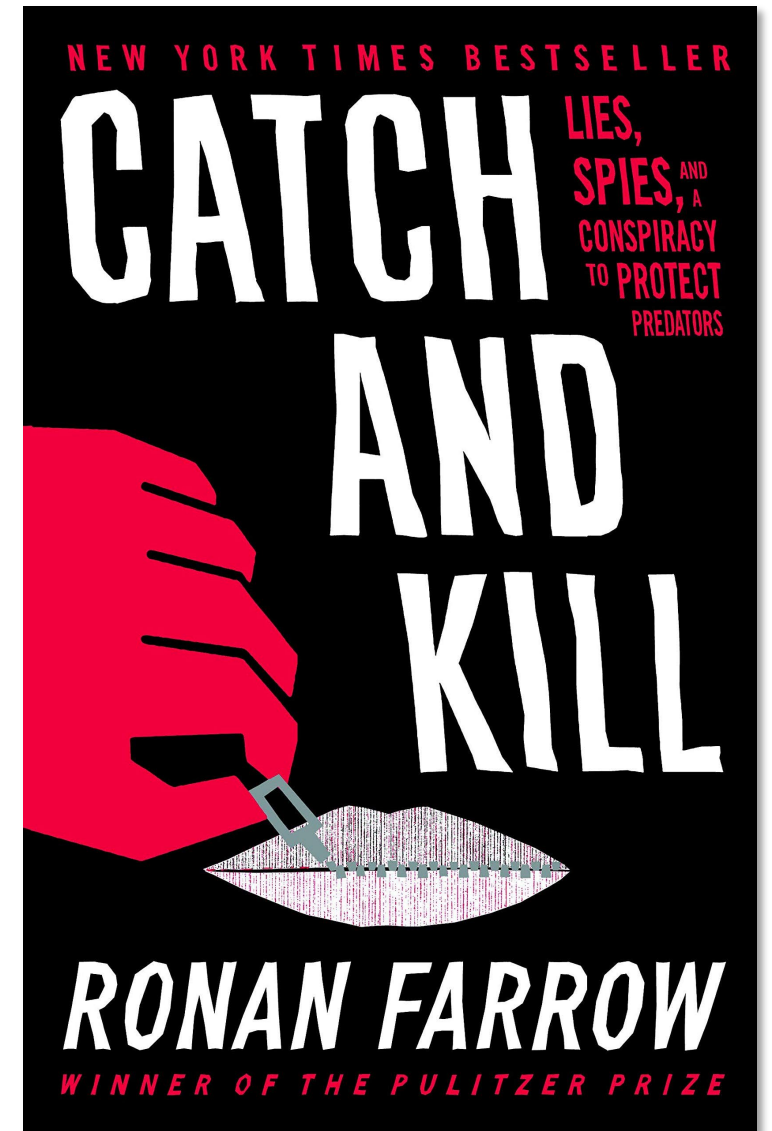
I'll Be Gone in the Dark by Michelle McNamara (2018)

- Haunting, well-researched, accessible
- Reads like fiction
- Central focus: McNamara's work to help solve the then unsolved case of the Golden State Killer



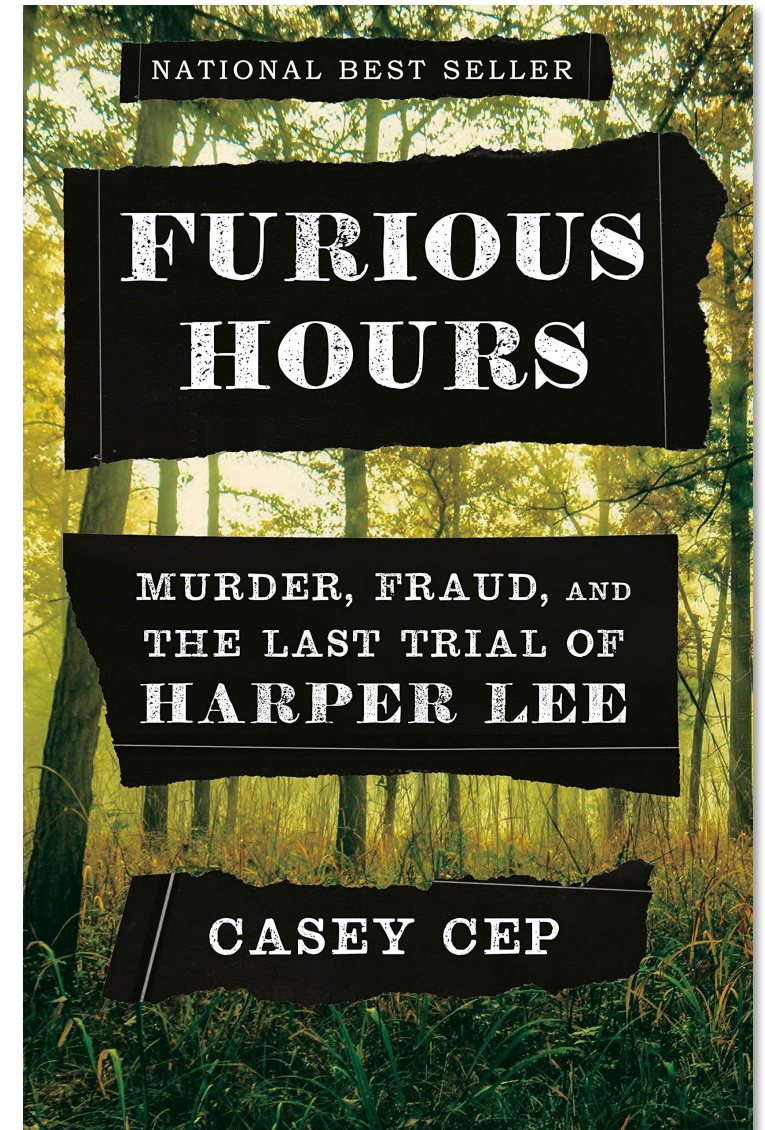
Catch and Kill by Ronan Farrow (2019)

- Sobering, issue-oriented
- #MeToo
- Coverups and powerful people
- Center stage: journalist Ronan Farrow; producer Harvey Weinstein; former Today show host Matt Lauer



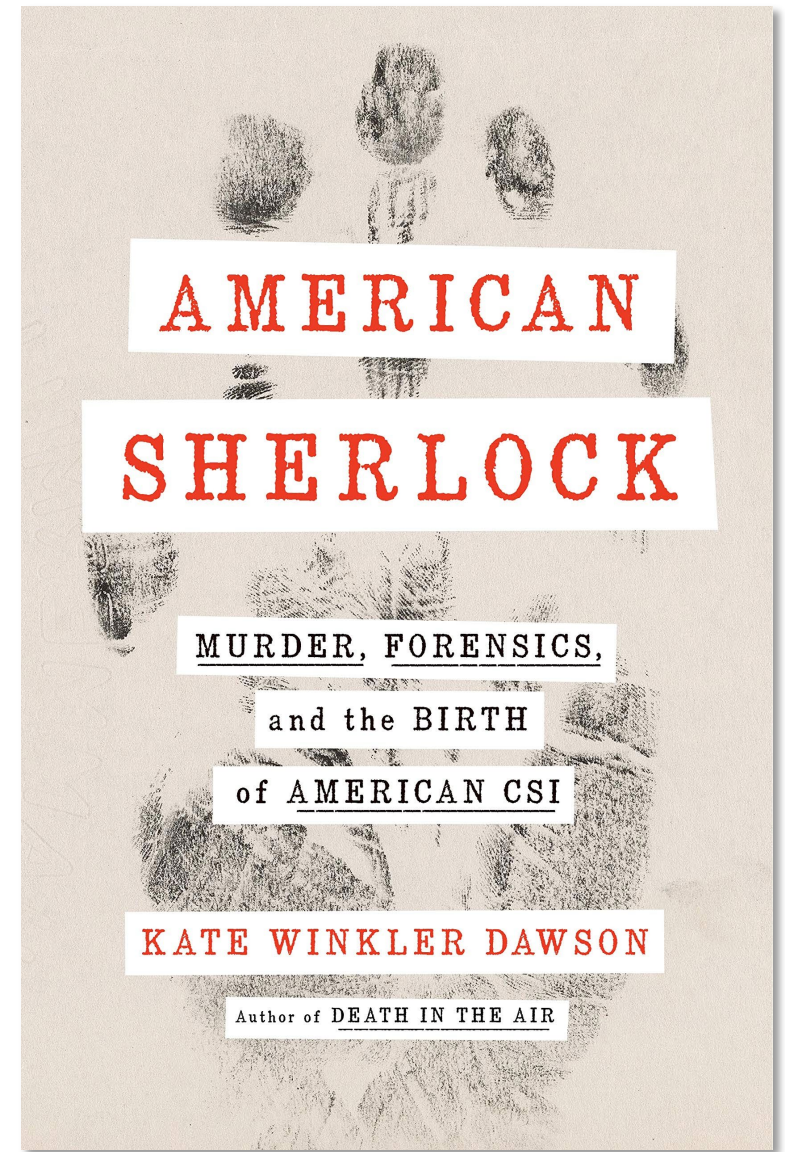
Furious Hours by Casey N. Cep (2019)

- Accessible, stylistically complex, well-researched
- Biography and true crime
- Southern setting
- Center stage: the trial of the man who murdered 1970s serial killer Willie Maxwell; famed author Harper Lee; racial politics



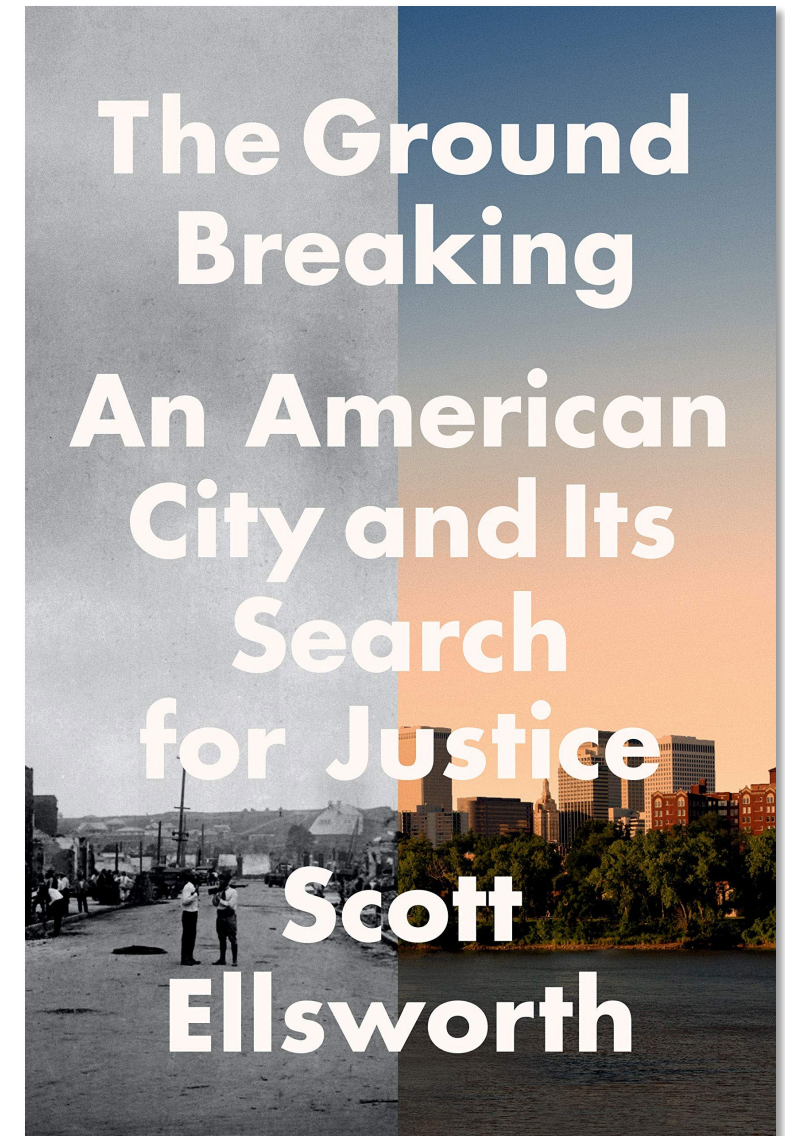
American Sherlock by Kate Winkler Dawson (2020)

- Suspenseful, richly detailed
- Biography and True Crime: describes the life of Edward Oscar Heinrich
- Perfect for: readers interested in the forensics/CSI parts of true crime



The Ground Breaking by Scott Ellsworth (2021)

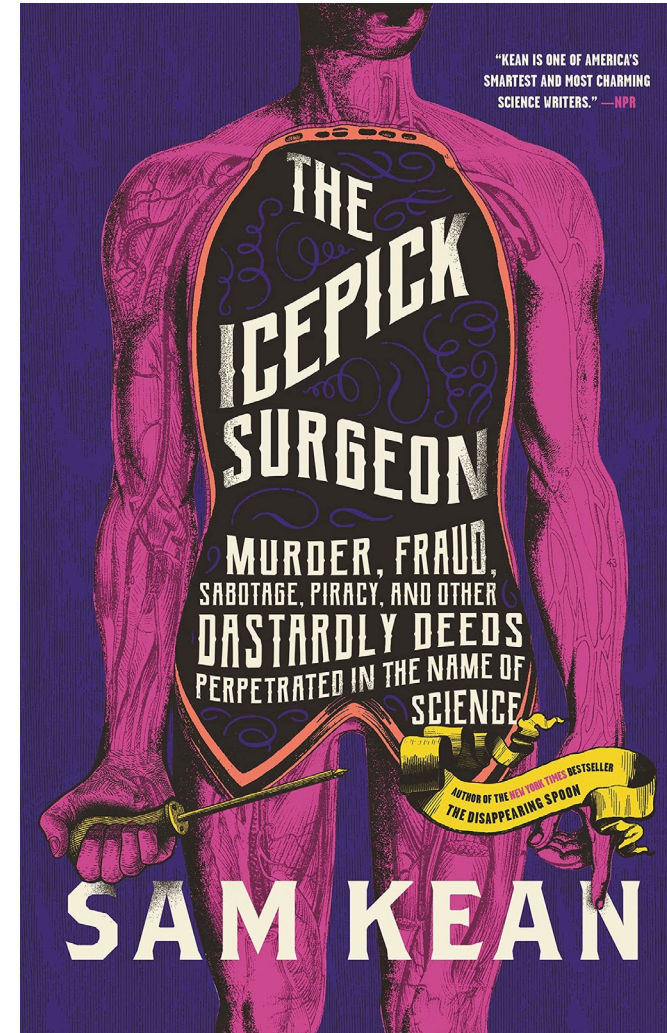
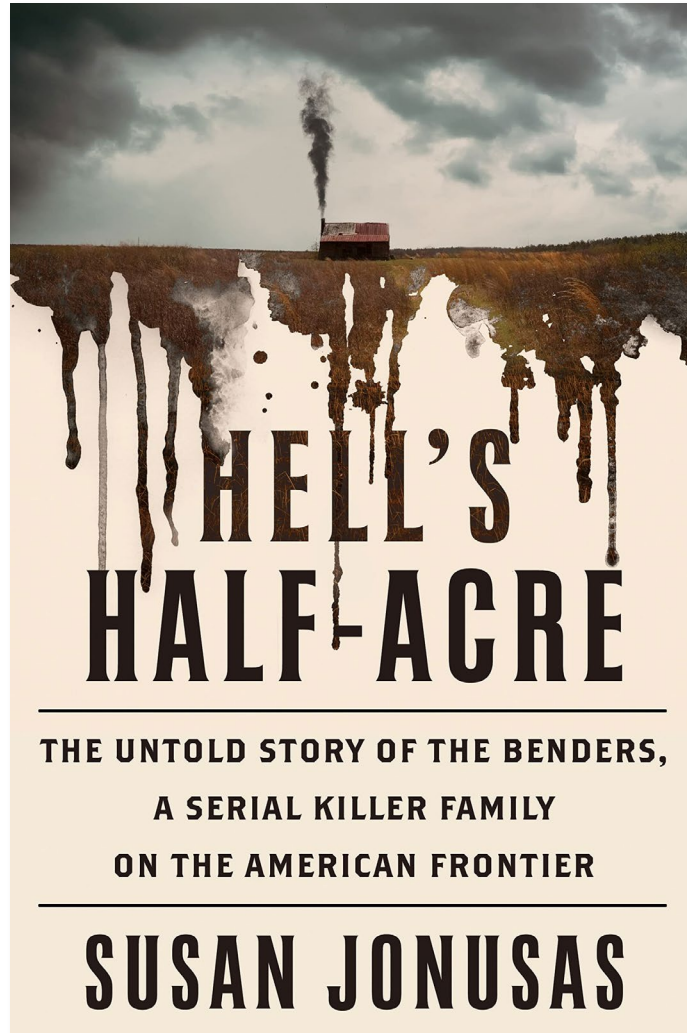
- Moving, richly detailed, thoughtful
- Combines true crime and an examination of society
- Center stage: historian Scott Ellsworth, who returns to his hometown to try and find answers about the massacre



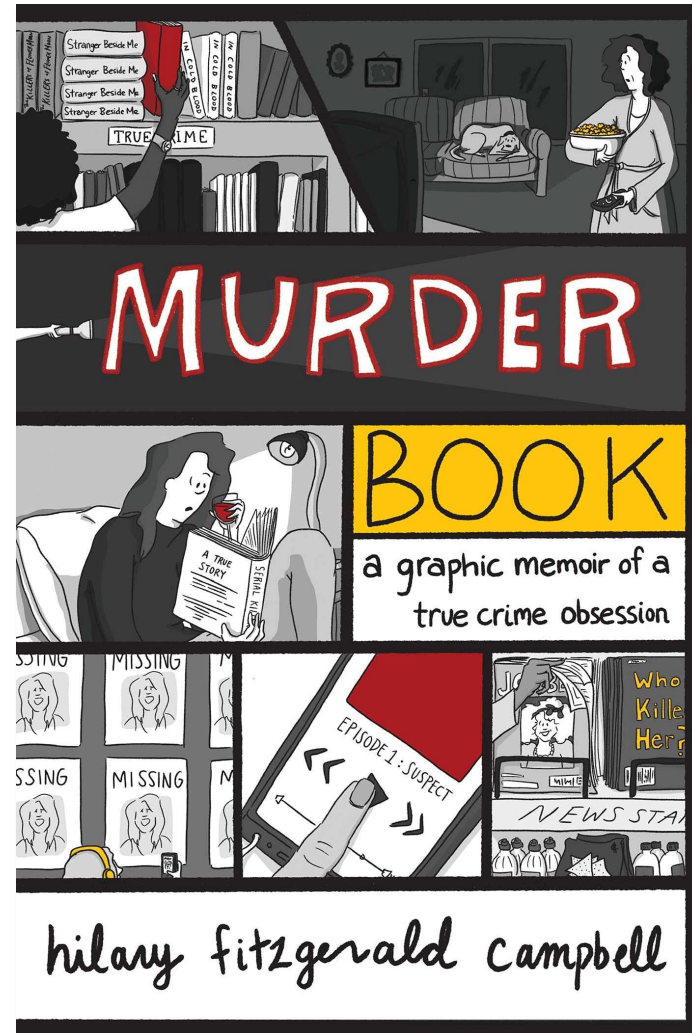
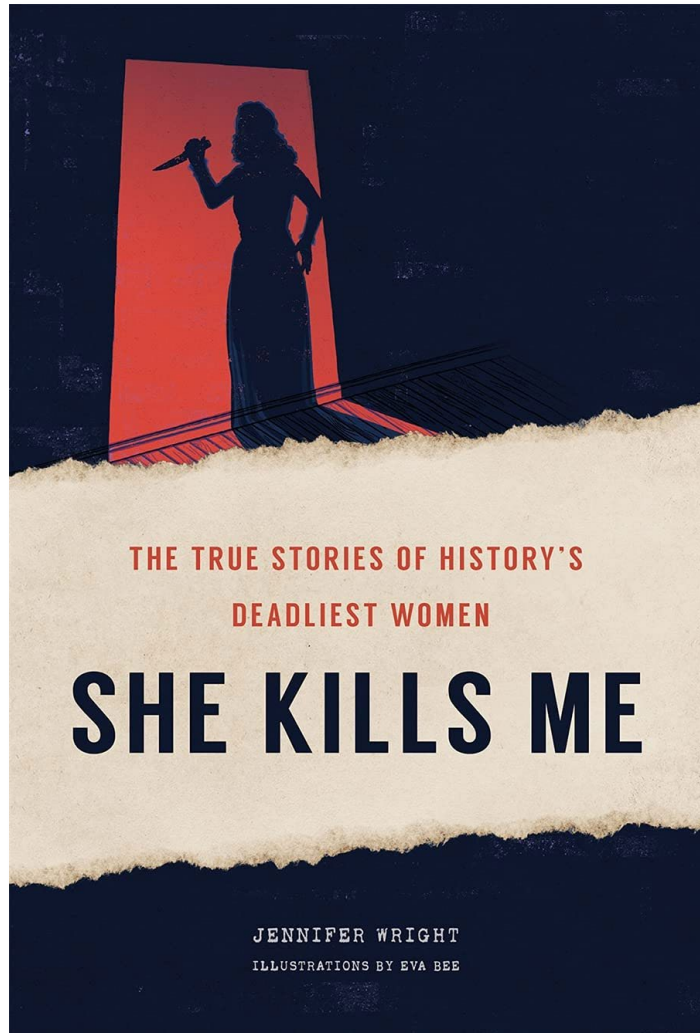


Books We Can't Wait to Read

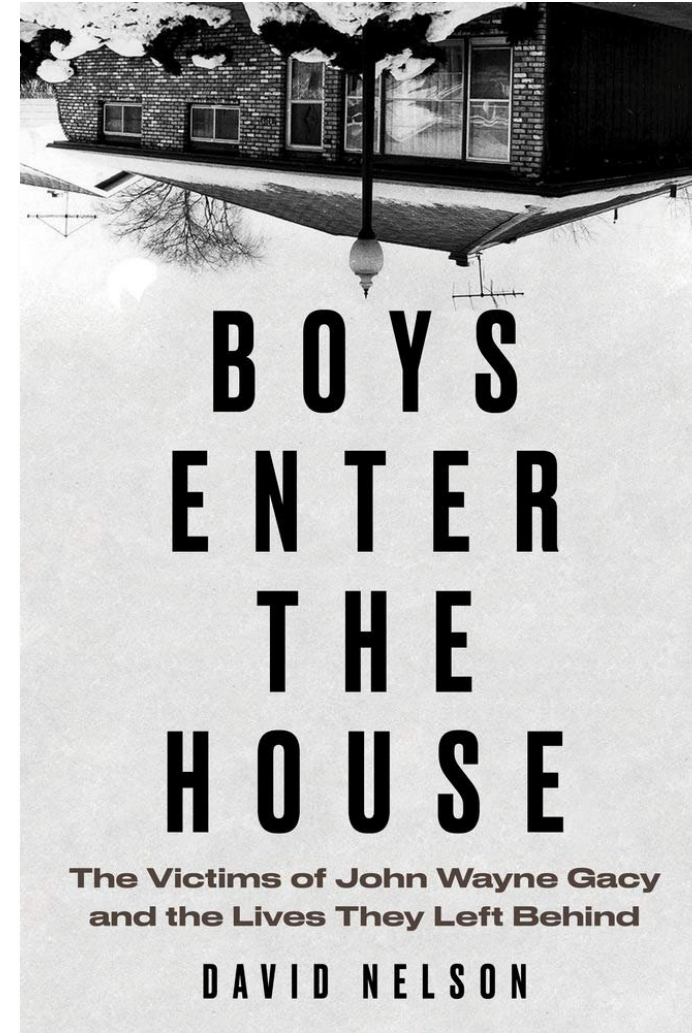
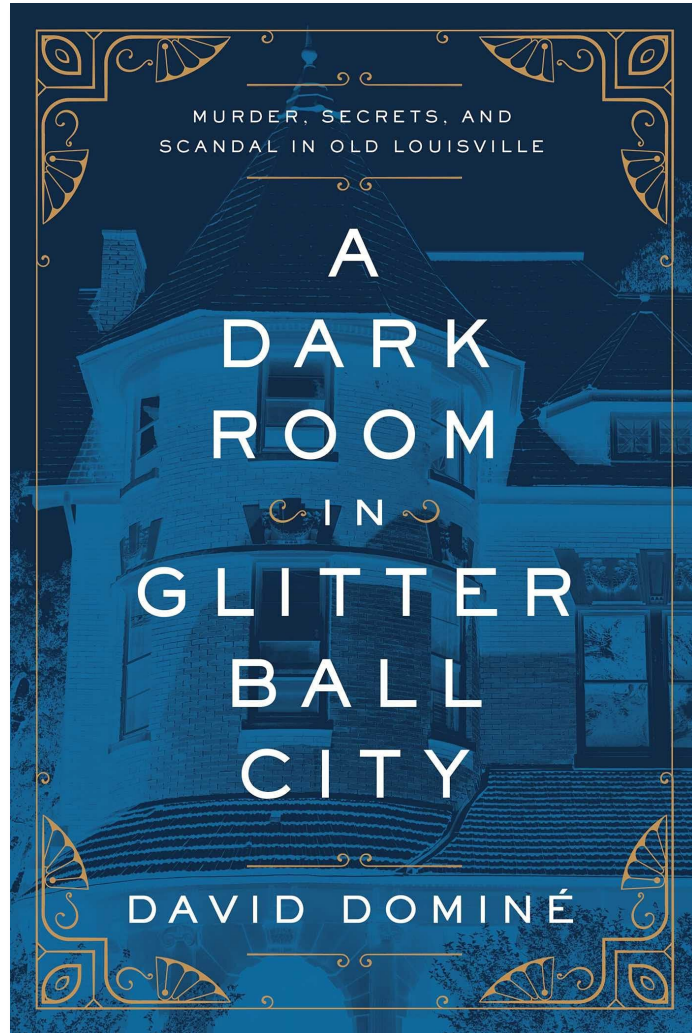
Kate



Susen



Yaika





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THANK YOU

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