

## Severed The True Story Of Black Dahlia Murder John Gilmore

Limerick is known as the Treaty City, commemorating the site where peace was made during one of Ireland's bloody wars. However, since the 1980s the city's reputation has been tainted by gang feuds, earning it the infamous nickname 'Stab City'. In *Blood on the Streets*, Anthony Galvin explores the many notorious murders that have been perpetrated in the city over the years, including the case of Deborah Hannon, who, along with her father's lover, Suzanne Reddan, hacked her best friend to death with a Stanley knife. Galvin recounts the murder of Detective Garda Jerry McCabe, shot by the IRA during a botched armed robbery, and the story of the last man hanged in Ireland following his conviction of the rape and murder of a nurse on a quiet suburban road. *Blood on the Streets* also spotlights the city's hit men, including the only hit man in the country to have been convicted of murder twice, and delves into some of the most notorious of the recent gangland killings.

*Ten-Year-Old Krystal Surles Watched In Horror As Her Best Friend Was Murdered At The Hands Of An Intruder*. Then with cold-blooded precision he brought a twelve-inch boning knife to Krystal's throat. With a single, violent slash, he severed her windpipe and left her for dead. Miraculously, she survived and would lead authorities to the arrest of 35-year-old Tommy Lynn Sells, a former truck driver, carnival worker, and cross-country drifter... *He Aspired To Become "The Worst Serial Killer Of All Time."* With no apparent motive and no common pattern to his inconceivable bloodshed, the elusive Sells had carved his way across the country for two decades slaughtering women, men, transients, entire families, teenagers, and even infants with ghoulish abandon. *Through The Window* is more than an investigation into a crime spree that stunned a nation. It's an utterly terrifying plunge into the unfathomable dark mind of a serial killer, and the heart-wrenching story of the brave child who finally brought him to justice.

Andrew Yancy—late of the Miami Police and soon-to-be-late of the Monroe County sheriff's office—has a human arm in his freezer. There's a logical (Hiaasenian) explanation for that, but not for how and why it parted from its shadowy owner. Yancy thinks the boating-accident/shark-luncheon explanation is full of holes, and if he can prove murder, the sheriff might rescue him from his grisly Health Inspector gig (it's not called the roach patrol for nothing). But first—this being Hiaasen country—Yancy must negotiate an obstacle course of wildly unpredictable events with a crew of even more wildly unpredictable characters, including his just-ex lover, a hot-blooded fugitive from Kansas; the twitchy widow of the frozen arm; two avariciously optimistic real-estate speculators; the Bahamian voodoo witch known as the Dragon Queen, whose suitors are blinded unto death by her peculiar charms; Yancy's new true love, a kinky coroner; and the eponymous bad monkey, who with hilarious aplomb earns his place among Carl Hiaasen's greatest characters. Here is Hiaasen doing

what he does better than anyone else: spinning a tale at once fiercely pointed and wickedly funny in which the greedy, the corrupt, and the degraders of what's left of pristine Florida—now, of the Bahamas as well—get their comeuppance in mordantly ingenious, diabolically entertaining fashion.

'Dad walked determinedly down the path, joined by two neighbours with five children between them. As we reached the corner of Kent Avenue, I looked back for one last wave. But Mum had buried her head in her pinny and it was a year before I saw her again.' In June 1940, 10-year-old Pam Hobbs and her sister Iris took the long journey from their council home in Leigh-on-Sea to faraway rural Derbyshire. Living away from Mum and Dad for two long years, Pam was moved between four foster homes. In some she and Iris found a second family, with babies to look after, car rides and picnics, and even a pet pig. But other billets took a more sinister turn, as the adults found it easy to exploit the children in their care. Returning to Essex, things would never be the same again, and the war was far from over. Making do with rations, dodging bombs and helping with the war effort, Pam and her family struggled to get by. In *Don't Forget to Write*, with warmth and vivid detail, Pam describes a time that was full of overwhelming hardship and devastation; yet also of kindness and humour, resilience and courage.

Why were Prometheus and Loki envisioned as chained to rocks? What was the Golden Calf? Why are mirrors believed to carry bad luck? How could anyone think that mortals like Perseus, Beowulf, and St. George actually fought dragons, since dragons don't exist? Strange though they sound, however, these "myths" did not begin as fiction. This absorbing book shows that myths originally transmitted real information about real events and observations, preserving the information sometimes for millennia within nonliterate societies. Geologists' interpretations of how a volcanic cataclysm long ago created Oregon's Crater Lake, for example, is echoed point for point in the local myth of its origin. The Klamath tribe saw it happen and passed down the story--for nearly 8,000 years. We, however, have been literate so long that we've forgotten how myths encode reality. Recent studies of how our brains work, applied to a wide range of data from the Pacific Northwest to ancient Egypt to modern stories reported in newspapers, have helped the Barbers deduce the characteristic principles by which such tales both develop and degrade through time. Myth is in fact a quite reasonable way to convey important messages orally over many generations--although reasoning back to the original events is possible only under rather specific conditions. Our oldest written records date to 5,200 years ago, but we have been speaking and mythmaking for perhaps 100,000. This groundbreaking book points the way to restoring some of that lost history and teaching us about human storytelling.

A novel about the frightfulness and ruthlessness of being in love, from the author of the Booker Prize-winning novel *The Sea*, *The Sea* Martin Lynch-Gibson believes he can possess both a beautiful wife and a delightful lover. But when his

wife, Antonia, suddenly leaves him for her psychoanalyst, Martin is plunged into an intensive emotional reeducation. He attempts to behave beautifully and sensibly. Then he meets a woman whose demonic splendor at first repels him and later arouses a consuming and monstrous passion. As his Medusa informs him, "this is nothing to do with happiness." A Severed Head was adapted for a successful stage production in 1963 and was later made into a film starring Claire Bloom, Lee Remick, Richard Attenborough, and Ian Holm.

Delves deeply into one of Hollywood's most celebrated murder cases. With all the elements of a gritty movie: a sexual psychopath; a dedicated police detective pursuing the killer for decades. Severed has been optioned for film by David Lynch. Pages of photos. P.W. review.

\*Includes pictures \*Profiles Short's life and death, and the theories and suspects \*Includes footnotes, online resources and a bibliography for further reading \*Includes a table of contents "The body was just a few feet from the sidewalk and posed in the grass in such a way that the woman [who discovered it] reportedly thought it was a mannequin at first. Despite the extensive mutilation and cuts on the body, there wasn't a drop of blood at the scene, indicating Short had been killed elsewhere. An extensive manhunt followed, but the killer has never been identified." - The FBI The latter half of the 1940s found the major cities of post-war America in a precarious position. On the one hand, population centers were reabsorbing many thousands of returning veterans into the work force, and into a social system they had not experienced for some years. Previous relationships had changed during their absence, and many were starved for female company. While making the necessary readjustments to the war's end, major cities such as New York, Chicago, Cleveland, and Los Angeles, were plagued by regionalized mob rule behind the scenes of the entertainment industry, from clubs and casinos to print and film media. Included in the list of supporting institutions and side markets were studios, liquor manufacturing, and all peripheral markets connected with gambling, and prostitution. In the years following World War II, Los Angeles and other large American cities were hit with a series of brutal murders that, in many ways, fit into distinct patterns across the country. The Los Angeles Police Department was overwhelmed, caught up dealing with mob activities, inner corruption, a regional press that brazenly invaded legal confidentiality within the walls of the police department itself, and a lack of advanced technology. As a result, several of the most highly publicized murders committed against young female newcomers went unsolved in perpetuity, and they have remained topics of conversation among crime enthusiasts well into the following century. That said, one of these crimes stands above the others as an iconic example of unthinkably grotesque savagery, a psychopathic act equal to any horror movie Hollywood has produced-the January, 1947 murder of Elizabeth Short, famously dubbed 'The Black Dahlia' by an engrossed press and public. The investigative case of Elizabeth Short was - and still is - filled with speculative suspicion so saturated with

circumstantial evidence that to accuse a perpetrator outright is all but impossible without immediate qualification and backtracking from the claim. The horrific physical realities of the crime reach out in many directions, toward medical practitioners, the arts, the mob, writers, and in every case, the macabre. Conclusions are scarce and fragile, even as the possibilities seem endless. Decades after the fact, the world still cannot say for certain what sort of young woman Elizabeth Short really was, nor can anyone trace her activities or whereabouts in the timeline of her final days with absolute certainty. However, the indelible photographs of Short's savaged body following its discovery on a clear January morning, and the scientific reports that attempt to describe her final hours, remain at the forefront of graphic human atrocities within America's criminal files. The Black Dahlia Case: The History of the Unsolved Murder of Elizabeth Short looks at LA's most famous murder, and the theories and speculation behind who did it. Along with pictures of important people, places, and events, you will learn about the attempt to identify the Black Dahlia like never before, in no time at all.

**\*WINNER OF THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL BOOKER PRIZE\* \*A BARACK OBAMA SUMMER READING LIST SELECTION\*** Winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for fiction "Astonishingly good." —Lily Meyer, NPR "So incantatory and visceral I don't think I'll ever forget it." —Ali Smith, The Guardian | Best Books of 2020 One of The Wall Street Journal's 11 best books of the fall | One of The A.V. Club's fifteen best books of 2020 | A Sunday Times best book of the year Selected by students across France to win the Prix Goncourt des Lycéens, David Diop's English-language, historical fiction debut *At Night All Blood is Black* is a "powerful, hypnotic, and dark novel" (Livres Hebdo) of terror and transformation in the trenches of the First World War. Alfa Ndiaye is a Senegalese man who, never before having left his village, finds himself fighting as a so-called "Chocolat" soldier with the French army during World War I. When his friend Mademba Diop, in the same regiment, is seriously injured in battle, Diop begs Alfa to kill him and spare him the pain of a long and agonizing death in No Man's Land. Unable to commit this mercy killing, madness creeps into Alfa's mind as he comes to see this refusal as a cruel moment of cowardice. Anxious to avenge the death of his friend and find forgiveness for himself, he begins a macabre ritual: every night he sneaks across enemy lines to find and murder a blue-eyed German soldier, and every night he returns to base, unharmed, with the German's severed hand. At first his comrades look at Alfa's deeds with admiration, but soon rumors begin to circulate that this super soldier isn't a hero, but a sorcerer, a soul-eater. Plans are hatched to get Alfa away from the front, and to separate him from his growing collection of hands, but how does one reason with a demon, and how far will Alfa go to make amends to his dead friend? Peppered with bullets and black magic, this remarkable novel fills in a forgotten chapter in the history of World War I. Blending oral storytelling traditions with the gritty, day-to-day, journalistic horror of life in the trenches, David Diop's *At Night All Blood is Black* is a dazzling tale of a man's descent into madness.

American serial killer Edmund Kemper III stalked co-eds in California at the height of the era of peace and free love, dismembering his victims and tossing their body parts in remote areas around Santa Cruz. As pieces of young women began washing up on shore and turning up alongside rural highways, female residents - especially college students - were decidedly on edge. A lust killer who savored the act of decapitating his victims - and often used their severed heads for sexual pleasure - Kemper's story is particularly twisted among historical serial killers. Still, the true crime tale of Edmund Kemper is particularly fascinating, because the man many people called "a gentle giant" was a near genius whose cunning manipulation of others made him particularly depraved and dangerous. This true crime story, a detailed biography of one of the most psychopathic serial killers of our time, shares some insight into the troubled childhood and awkward nature that led the American serial killer to take 10 lives, including those of six pretty co-eds, his paternal grandparents, his calculatingly cruel mother and his mother's best friend. Among historical serial killers, Kemper is especially depraved, since he included necrophilia and cannibalism in his gruesome mix of sordid criminal activity. Ultimately, Kemper's murderous inclinations and urges to kill were satisfied after he bludgeoned to death his mother, a woman he'd hated since he was eight years old, and he turned himself in. But if he hadn't finally acted on his long-held fantasy to end his mother's life, he might still be trolling California highways, getting away with murder.

The highly acclaimed novel based on America's most infamous unsolved murder case. Dive into 1940s Los Angeles as two cops spiral out of control in their hunt for The Black Dahlia's killer in this powerful thriller that is "brutal and at the same time believable" (New York Times). On January 15, 1947, the torture-ravished body of a beautiful young woman is found in a Los Angeles vacant lot. The victim makes headlines as the Black Dahlia -- and so begins the greatest manhunt in California history. Caught up in the investigation are Bucky Bleichert and Lee Blanchard: Warrants Squad cops, friends, and rivals in love with the same woman. But both are obsessed with the Dahlia -- driven by dark needs to know everything about her past, to capture her killer, to possess the woman even in death. Their quest will take them on a hellish journey through the underbelly of postwar Hollywood, to the core of the dead girl's twisted life, past the extremes of their own psyches -- into a region of total madness.

An intense, personal memoir spanning more than a decade (1952-1962) by the then-actor John Gilmore, detailing his acquaintance with the most important movie star in the world, Marilyn Monroe. Gilmore turned from acting to devote himself to writing and is well-known for his hardboiled non-fiction on true crime. Here, he gathers Marilyn's personal life through many associates and stars known to Marilyn and himself. Gilmore shuns the conspiracy theories and instead focuses on Marilyn as she really was, not as the media-created, cardboard sexpot. Includes many exclusive photographs.

If you have ever been cheated on, you know how much it hurts. Your soul feels as though it is literally ripped straight from your body, along with your heart. Your heart, dropped to the floor and stamped on with the biggest of shoes, squashing it flat and causing it to burst a good few feet in all directions. It feels as though you'll never be able to trust anyone again. It feels as though you'll never recover and - who knows - maybe you won't. That's why he does what he does. It's for people like you. Using fake profiles on the various dating sites, he hunts for the cheats. Those dirty dogs looking for an easy lay despite having a partner waiting for them at home. Then, when he finds them (and he always does) he makes a date to meet. He puts on his best outfit, sure to impress, and digs out his leather bag of various torture instruments. Their night of planned fun soon turns to one of horror and pain and blood - so much blood. It's the least they deserve.

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COLD-BLOODED is the classic account of the murder of three young girls by Charles Schmid, Jr., teen-age idol of the lower depths of Tucson, Arizona in the Hot-Rodder mid-60s--a lost city surrounded by a bone-dry ocean of rocky deserts. Lover to many scrawny, broken girls, Schmid a champion gymnast-turned-half-baked philosopher and ultimately a lonely boy disguising an emptiness so vast that he sought to fill it by seeing how far he could go. "Racing through life at a million miles an hour," he wrote, Schmid claimed he sought the thrill of "Death's closeness" and finally reaching for the thrill of "that ultimate experience." COLD-BLOODED gives the reader a step-by-step account of the series of events which led Schmid to "killing for the thrill of it," from finding out what he always suspected, but dreaded--that he was nothing but an orphan, unwanted by his real mother the day he was born--to his strange, chaotic relation with a girl he described as being a "wreck, looking for it to happen," which led to his final killings. A high-profile murder case at the time, Schmid's trial became a launching pad for superstar defense attorney F. Lee Bailey and a sick inspiration to still-incarcerated Charles Manson. Drawn from author John Gilmore's first-hand encounters, COLD-BLOODED contains a wealth of information on Schmid, including extensive interviews describing the way his view of the world, and interviews with his teenage hangers-on, who describe at length what a larger-than-life phenomenon "Smitty" became for them. This is an intimate portrait of the seething, desperate-for-action teenage scene of the mid-1960's, through a focus on Schmid who pushed everything further than his contemporaries, allowing us to see the pitiful and frightening aspects of these aberrant, chronic runaway children, heirs to an empty culture and a rootless society.

Randy Kraft was highly intelligent, politically active, loyal to his friends, committed to his work--and the killer of 67 people--more than any other serial killer known. This book offers a glimpse into the dark mind of a living monster. "To open this book is to open a peephole into hell".--Associated Press. Photographs.

"Normal" is something I could only dream of being called. "Mental" or "screwed up" is what I'm labeled. But actually feeling other people's

pain does that to a girl. I'm not an empath. I'm crazy! That is until I meet one guy who makes it all go away. Problem is, he's even crazier than me. At least I thought that in the beginning before the coincidences became undeniable. But, if what he was saying were true, he would not only become my savior, he would also open my eyes to a world filled with angels, demons, witches, and an ancient curse that I'm caught smack bang in the middle of. Either way, I already knew he'd be the death of me.

Black Dahlia murder case is one of the most unbelievable and famous murder stories in the city rife, and a lot of fame-seekers around the town were claiming her death and wanted to play part of the case. And over years, the number of people who were claiming her brutal death grew into hundreds, and almost all detectives who handled the murder case of Black Dahlia dropped the case shortly. Elizabeth Short, who is also nicknamed "Black Dahlia", was brutally murdered in January 15, 1947, with her body cut in two and severely mutilated. Dahlia's body was found in a vacant lot that is near the intersection of 39th St. and Norton Ave. South Los Angeles, and had no trace of blood in the place of the crime scene. Her death is one of the most publicized murder cases in 1947, but the police and the investigation team have never been able to solve the brutal crime. Up until now, the case of 'Black Dahlia' was still considered by many as a mystery, and the question still remains today as to "who really killed her" and "what is the true motive of her murderer." The Black Dahlia's murderer was never found, thus, leaving her death as one of the cold case files in L.A. In this e-book, we will again re-open the case of Black Dahlia and try to decipher the mystery of her brutal death, which remained unsolved up until now. Let's us discover the secrets and records of her death and trace the untold mystery of her murder case.

Our history is littered with heads. Over the centuries, they have decorated our churches, festooned our city walls and filled our museums; they have been props for artists and specimens for laboratory scientists, trophies for soldiers and items of barter. Today, as videos of decapitations circulate online and cryonicists promise that our heads may one day live on without our bodies, the severed head is as contentious and compelling as ever. From shrunken heads to trophies of war; from memento mori to Damien Hirst's *With Dead Head*; from grave-robbing phrenologists to enterprising scientists, Larson explores the bizarre, often gruesome and confounding history of the severed head. Its story is our story.

The shocking murder that exposed a devoted husband as a cold-hearted killer *To Love, Honor-And Murder...* Inside a beautiful house in Philadelphia's ritzy Main Line section lay the body of a young mother --dead of an apparent drowning in her bathtub. With no sign of a break-in, no history of marital problems, and the naïve belief that these things sometimes just happen, Stefanie Rabinowitz's family prepared to bury the 29-year-old wife and mother. But at the eleventh hour, because Stefanie was so young, and because there were no witnesses to her death, an autopsy was ordered. And what it revealed was unthinkable: Stefanie had been murdered-strangled in her home, then dragged into the tub to stage a fake drowning. Even more shocking was the suspected killer-Stefanie's 34-year-old husband, Craig: devoted family man, loyal husband, and "everybody's best friend." When the astounding truth began to emerge, so did the tawdry double life of Craig Rabinowitz, a man so obsessed with a two-thousand-dollar-a-week exotic dancer, that his habit caused him to look to the insurance money he would get from murdering his wife. Now, with exclusive interviews and startling inside details, bestselling author Ken Englade blows wide open the shocking true account of a storybook marriage that ended in bone-chilling murder.

"Swanson has done a crucial public service by exposing the barbarous side of the Rangers." —The New York Times Book Review A twenty-first century reckoning with the legendary Texas Rangers that does justice to their heroic moments while also documenting atrocities, brutality, oppression, and corruption The Texas Rangers came to life in 1823, when Texas was still part of Mexico. Nearly 200 years later, the

Rangers are still going--one of the most famous of all law enforcement agencies. In *Cult of Glory*, Doug J. Swanson has written a sweeping account of the Rangers that chronicles their epic, daring escapades while showing how the white and propertied power structures of Texas used them as enforcers, protectors and officially sanctioned killers. *Cult of Glory* begins with the Rangers' emergence as conquerors of the wild and violent Texas frontier. They fought the fierce Comanches, chased outlaws, and served in the U.S. Army during the Mexican War. As Texas developed, the Rangers were called upon to catch rustlers, tame oil boomtowns, and patrol the perilous Texas-Mexico border. In the 1930s they began their transformation into a professionally trained police force. Countless movies, television shows, and pulp novels have celebrated the Rangers as Wild West supermen. In many cases, they deserve their plaudits. But often the truth has been obliterated. Swanson demonstrates how the Rangers and their supporters have operated a propaganda machine that turned agency disasters and misdeeds into fables of triumph, transformed murderous rampages--including the killing of scores of Mexican civilians--into valorous feats, and elevated scoundrels to sainthood. *Cult of Glory* sets the record straight. Beginning with the Texas Indian wars, *Cult of Glory* embraces the great, majestic arc of Lone Star history. It tells of border battles, range disputes, gunslingers, massacres, slavery, political intrigue, race riots, labor strife, and the dangerous lure of celebrity. And it reveals how legends of the American West--the real and the false--are truly made.

**BLACK DAHLIA: The Story of America's Most Gruesome Murder** The sun rose over Los Angeles that Wednesday morning in 1947, and a light breeze from the southeast ruffled the hair of Betty Bersinger and her three-year-old as they took a walk down South Norton Avenue in the Leimert Park neighborhood in southern Los Angeles. It was just two weeks into a new year, January 15, 1947. WWII had been over for almost two years, and dawn was breaking on the cold war. Harry Truman was president. He'd taken charge of the country after Franklin Delano Roosevelt died in 1945, and the country was beginning the push back against the communist ideals of the USSR. *It's a Wonderful Life* had just debuted at Christmas 1946, and nobody knew it would grow to be a classic. *The Old Lamplighter* by Sammy Kaye and his Orchestra was at the top of the Billboard charts, but swing music was on its way out, soon to be replaced by doo-wop, pop, and rock and roll. Los Angeles was in a real estate boom. G.I.s home from the war were using the new G.I. Bill to buy vacant lots waiting to be transformed into subdivisions with houses to raise the children who would become the Baby Boomers. Betty Bersinger noticed a white discarded store mannequin laying in a scraggly, undeveloped lot near the side walk, its top half separated from the bottom half. A closer look revealed two things. The discarded mannequin was actually the naked body of a woman who'd been cut cleanly in half, and the discovery would become one of the grisliest, most notorious murders ever committed in the United States. It's been some 70 years, and still--no one knows who did it. What if your lover vowed to destroy you if you left him? What if he became your tormentor? Stole your freedom? Made you feel crazy? And threatened your life? This is not a story. This is Kate Brennan's life. Kate was an independent, successful single woman when she met Paul, a wealthy, charismatic businessman. His polished charm and relentless wooing won him Kate's heart. But only when they moved in together did Kate discover the serial infidelity, unbalanced character and sordid secrets of her Mr Right. When she tries to leave him, he won't let her . . . and ten years on, he is still stalking her. *Stalked* is a harrowing tale of one woman's attempt to escape the dark side of love.

Electronic Distribution Date: October 1999 Printed & Bound Distribution Date: October 1999 This is a unique and compelling account of the Black Dahlia murder - one of Hollywood's most infamous unsolved crimes. *Childhood Shadows: The Hidden Story of the Black Dahlia Murder* combines the author's personal experience as a close friend of Elizabeth Short with in-depth research, bringing a unique perspective and opening up an intriguing new area of speculation about who the killer might be. Author Mary Pacios sets the stage by recreating the



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neighborhood she shared with Elizabeth 'Bette' Short during the years of the Great Depression and World War II. The war ends, but instead of peace, the horrendous murder of the young and beautiful Elizabeth Short sends shock waves through the nation. Years later, haunted by the unsolved murder of her childhood friend, Pacios sets out to discover the true circumstances surrounding her friend's brutal death. Because of her personal relationship with the victim, Pacios gains access to officials close to the investigation, who discuss with her unpublicized details of the case and their own privately held theories about who murdered the Black Dahlia. A Network of people sent Pacios information and gave her referrals. The research that Pacios expected to last only a few months, turned into a strange ten-year odyssey, leading her to a well-known celebrity whose name as a suspect is likely to startle millions. Appendices of public documents, an extensive annotated bibliography and photographs are included.

Robyn Schneider's *The Beginning of Everything* is a witty and heart-wrenching teen novel that will appeal to fans of books by John Green and Ned Vizzini, novels such as *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, and classics like *The Great Gatsby* and *The Catcher in the Rye*. Varsity tennis captain Ezra Faulkner was supposed to be homecoming king, but that was before—before his girlfriend cheated on him, before a car accident shattered his leg, and before he fell in love with unpredictable new girl Cassidy Thorpe. As Kirkus Reviews said in a starred review, "Schneider takes familiar stereotypes and infuses them with plenty of depth. Here are teens who could easily trade barbs and double entendres with the characters that fill John Green's novels." Funny, smart, and including everything from flash mobs to blanket forts to a poodle who just might be the reincarnation of Jay Gatsby, *The Beginning of Everything* is a refreshing contemporary twist on the classic coming-of-age novel—a heart-wrenching story about how difficult it is to play the part that people expect, and how new beginnings can stem from abrupt and tragic endings.

A "terrific, harrowing, true-crime account of an elusive serial killer who preyed upon gay men in the 1990s." -The New York Times (Editor's Pick) "In this astonishing and powerful work of nonfiction, Green meticulously reports on a series of baffling and brutal crimes targeting gay men. It is an investigation filled with twists and turns, but this is much more than a compelling true crime story. Green has shed light on those whose lives for too long have been forgotten, and rescued an important part of American history." -David Grann, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Killers of the Flower Moon* The gripping true story, told here for the first time, of the Last Call Killer and the gay community of New York City that he preyed upon. The Townhouse Bar, midtown, July 1992: The piano player seems to know every song ever written, the crowd belts out the lyrics to their favorites, and a man standing nearby is drinking a Scotch and water. The man strikes the piano player as forgettable. He looks bland and inconspicuous. Not at all what you think a serial killer looks like. But that's what he is, and tonight, he has his sights set on a gray haired man. He will not be his first victim. Nor will he be his last. The Last Call Killer preyed upon gay men in New York in the '80s and '90s and had all the hallmarks of the most notorious serial killers. Yet because of the sexuality of his victims, the skyhigh murder rates, and the AIDS epidemic, his murders have been almost entirely forgotten. This gripping true-crime narrative tells the story of the Last Call Killer and the decades-long chase to find him. And at the same time, it paints a portrait of his victims and a vibrant community navigating threat and resilience.

New true crime classic from the acclaimed author of *Severed: The True Story of the Black Dahlia murder* and a fascinating work of true crime literature and a singular book by one of the most defiantly original authors of our time. L.A. Despair arrives as the long-awaited true-crime capstone to a collection of works celebrated for generous helpings of bloody violence, sex and sordidness. Gilmore maintains his crosshair-focused obsession spanning many decades on the high- and low-life of his hometown - Hollywood/Los Angeles.

Barbados 1652. In the aftermath of the English Civil War, the vanquished are uprooted and scattered to the ends of the earth. When marauding English soldiers descend on Mairead O'Connell's family farm, she is sold into slavery. After surviving a harrowing voyage, the young Irish woman is auctioned off to a Barbados sugar plantation where she is thrust into a hostile world of depravation and heartbreak. Though stripped of her freedom, Mairead refuses to surrender her dignity. Scottish prisoner of war Iain Johnstone has descended into hell. Under a blazing sun thousands of miles from home, he endures forced indentured labour in the unforgiving cane fields. As Iain plots his escape to save his men, his loyalties are tested by his yearning for Mairead and his desire to protect her. With their future stolen, Mairead and Iain discover passion and freedom in each other's arms. Until one fateful night, a dramatic chain of events turns them into fugitives. Together they fight to survive; together they are determined to escape.

Scriptwriter Jake Morgan is shooting a vampire movie in France. By night he drinks and snorts cocaine with a bizarre entourage, including a transvestite drug dealer, a hunchback poet, and Eston, the film photographer who is secretly assembling his own book of porno portraits for the local street urchins. All are obsessed with Juju, a fetishistic rollerblader who is also an extra in the movie. A novel of labyrinthine plot, expressed in terms of subterranean violence and depravity, where worst nightmares can and do become true.

"Severed Souls -- A sweeping new novel of Richard Rahl, Kahlan Amnell, and their world from New York Times Bestselling author, Terry Goodkind"--

In this book, we have hand-picked the most sophisticated, unanticipated, absorbing (if not at times crackpot!), original and musing book reviews of "Severed: The True Story of the Black Dahlia Murder." Don't say we didn't warn you: these reviews are known to shock with their unconventionality or intimacy. Some may be startled by their biting sincerity; others may be spellbound by their unbridled flights of fantasy.

Don't buy this book if: 1. You don't have nerves of steel. 2. You expect to get pregnant in the next five minutes. 3. You've heard it all.

The best-known and most sensational event in Vincent van Gogh's life is also the least understood. For more than a century, biographers and historians seeking definitive facts about what happened on a December night in Arles have unearthed more questions than answers. Why would an artist at the height of his powers commit such a brutal act? Who was the mysterious "Rachel" to whom he presented his macabre gift? Did he use a razor or a knife? Was it just a segment—or did Van Gogh really lop off his entire ear? In *Van Gogh's Ear*, Bernadette Murphy reveals, for the first time, the true story of this long-misunderstood incident, sweeping away decades of myth and giving us a glimpse of a troubled but brilliant artist at his breaking point. Murphy's detective work takes her from Europe to the United States and back, from the holdings of major museums to the moldering contents of forgotten archives. She braids together her own thrilling journey of discovery with a narrative of Van Gogh's life in Arles, the sleepy Provençal town where he created his finest work, and vividly reconstructs the world in which he moved—the madams and prostitutes, café patrons and police inspectors, shepherds and bohemian artists. We encounter Van Gogh's brother and benefactor Theo, his guest and fellow painter Paul Gauguin, and many local subjects of Van Gogh's paintings, some of whom Murphy identifies for the first time. Strikingly, Murphy uncovers previously unknown information about "Rachel"—and uses it to propose a bold new hypothesis about what was occurring in Van Gogh's heart and mind as he made a mysterious delivery to her doorstep. As it reopens one of art history's most famous cold cases, *Van Gogh's Ear* becomes a fascinating work of detection. It is also a study of a painter creating his most iconic and revolutionary work, pushing himself ever closer to greatness even as he edged toward madness—and one fateful sweep of the blade that would resonate through the ages.

Offers a documented and reasoned solution to one of the strangest of all unsolved murders in the annals of modern crime, the murder of aspiring starlet Elizabeth Short in Los Angeles in 1947.

Nestled comfortably in their northern New Jersey home, the attack on the Twin Towers, just 30 miles away, prompted this couple to relocate to the remote surroundings of the Eastern Shore. Faced with a life-threatening medical problem, decisions had to be made. Did they triumph or succumb?

Morrissey & Marr: The Severed Alliance is among the most successful – and controversial – rock biographies ever published. Having denounced the book and called for the death of its author Johnny Rogan, Morrissey later did a U-turn and cited it as evidence in the royalty-related court case brought by Smiths drummer Mike Joyce. Now, 20 years after it was first published, Rogan has returned to his definitive Smiths biography to produce a completely revised edition based on new information and new interviews to add to the almost 100 initially conducted over a four-year period. Widely acclaimed as one rock's leading writers, Johnny Rogan now brings yet more insight and analysis to his best-selling book that revealed, for the first time, the true and unsanitised story of The Smiths – the most important group of their generation.

OUT OF CONTROL June 26, 2010. A Pennsylvania State Trooper, heading home from work, witnesses a car speeding and crashing into trees. Stopping to help, he finds that the driver, Michael Ballard, is alive—and drenched in blood. When asked what happened, the man answers: "I just killed everybody." OUT OF HIS MIND Not far from the accident, police make a gruesome discovery in the home of Michael's ex-girlfriend, Denise Mehri. Four bodies are found, stabbed repeatedly with a knife: Denise on the kitchen floor; her grandfather, in his wheelchair; her neighbor, who tried to help; and her father, in a room with a blood-smeared obscenity painted on the wall. How could anyone do something so sinister? OUT OF TIME... Michael had already been convicted of murder when he was only eighteen. Despite several misconducts during his time in prison, he was found suitable for parole shortly after his minimum sentence lapsed. But this time, his deadly rampage would not be so easily pardoned. From authors Colin McEvoy and Lynn Olanoff, this is the shocking true story about four innocent people who fell prey to one man's FATAL JEALOUSY. Includes 8 pages of dramatic photographs

Discover the haunting untold true story of the woman whose crimes inspired speculation that Jack the Ripper was a woman. On October 24, 1890, a woman was discovered on a pile of rubbish in Hampstead, North London. Her arms were lacerated and her face bloodied; her head was severed from her body save a few sinews. Later that day, a blood-soaked stroller was found leaning against a residential gate, and the following morning the dead body of a baby was found hidden underneath a nettle bush. So began the chilling story of the Hampstead Tragedy. Eventually, Scotland Yard

knocked on the door of No. 2 Priory Street, home to Mary Eleanor Pearcey, the pretty 24-year-old mistress whose dying request was as bizarre and mysterious as her life. *Woman at the Devil's Door* is a thrilling look at this notorious murderer and the webs she wove.

What is it like to learn that your ordinary, loving father is a serial killer? In 2005, Kerri Rawson heard a knock on the door of her apartment. When she opened it, an FBI agent informed her that her father had been arrested for murdering ten people, including two children. It was then that she learned her father was the notorious serial killer known as BTK, a name he'd given himself that described the horrific way he committed his crimes: bind, torture, kill. As news of his capture spread, Wichita celebrated the end of a thirty-one-year nightmare. For Kerri Rawson, another was just beginning. She was plunged into a black hole of horror and disbelief. The same man who had been a loving father, a devoted husband, church president, Boy Scout leader, and a public servant had been using their family as a cover for his heinous crimes since before she was born. Everything she had believed about her life had been a lie. Written with candor and extraordinary courage, *A Serial Killer's Daughter* is an unflinching exploration of life with one of America's most infamous killers and an astonishing tale of personal and spiritual transformation. For all who suffer from unhealed wounds or the crippling effects of violence, betrayal, and anger, Kerri Rawson's story offers the hope of reclaiming sanity in the midst of madness, rebuilding a life in the shadow of death, and learning to forgive the unforgivable. "No easy answers here. No platitudes. Only raw honesty, written with the gracious authority of one who has glimpsed hell. Kerri Rawson shares her earned wisdom and a hope that has been bought with tears and nightmares. This book is a gritty must-read in the library of hope." —Paul J. Pastor, author of *The Face of the Deep* and *The Listening Day*

When twelve-year old Jack Garron runs away from home to find his father, a wayward minstrel whom he hasn't seen since birth, he'll discover how quickly the American dream can become a nightmare.

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