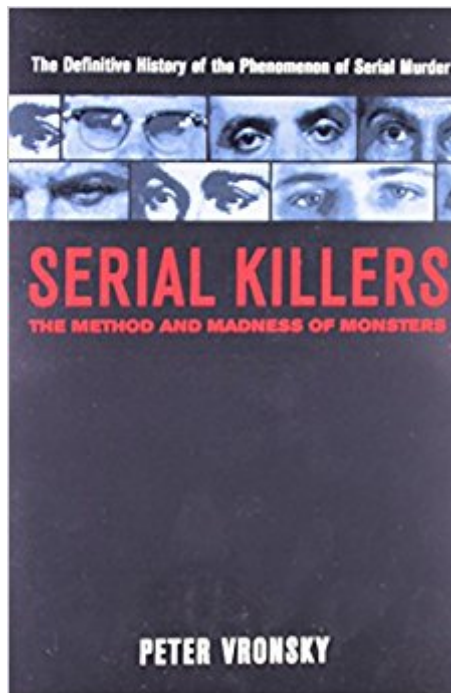




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Serial Killers: The Method And Madness Of Monsters



Synopsis

In this unique book, Peter Vronsky documents the psychological, investigative, and cultural aspects of serial murder, beginning with its first recorded instance in Ancient Rome, through fifteenth-century France, up to such notorious contemporary cases as cannibal/necrophile Ed Kemper, Henry Lee Lucas, Ted Bundy, and the emergence of what he classifies as "the serial rampage killer" such as Andrew Cunanan. Exhaustively researched with transcripts of interviews with killers, and featuring up-to-date information on the apprehension and conviction of the Green River Killer and the Beltway Snipers, Vronsky's one-of-a-kind book covers every conceivable aspect of an endlessly riveting true-crime phenomenon.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Peter Vronsky's fascinating book is jam packed with an abundance of cultural, psychological, sociological and investigative insights into how and why serial killers emerge. The amount of detail and in-depth exploration in this work will certainly carry a reader into the dark unimaginable inner realm of human evil. And there in an abundance of case histories (some notorious, others less so, but still unimaginably horrific and disturbing) from which Vronsky cites. However, before he journeys into the lives of the monsters he chillingly writes about, he recounts with a vividness his own incredible and inadvertent meeting with not one but two (not yet captured) serial killers, most notably Andrei Chikatilo, a.k.a., The Butcher of Rostov as well as Richard Cottingham, a.k.a., The Torso Killer of New Jersey and New York. Long before Vronsky acquired a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice History and Espionage in International Relations, he worked in many facets of the documentary and film business, and these two chance encounters only helped in germinating his budding interest in

the dark area of the human psyche. While there are many aspects of this book that are quite compelling and well laid out (read the Brief History of Serial Homicide in Part I, most notably the case histories of Gilles de Rais, the original Bluebeard near Nantes, France and Countess Elizabeth Bathory, The Vampire Blood Countess of Transylvania), I found the section, labeled Part II and III, to be especially informative, essentially because Vronsky addresses the various aspects and operations of the Behavioral Sciences Division of the FBI; he lays out the criminal profiling team's system of categories and subcategories, of organized sexual homicide, disorganized sexual homicide and mixed sexual homicide.

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