

## How to Read True Crime and Still Sleep at Night

“As sad as it might be, we all die, then disappear. That has to happen. But when you’re murdered, that’s something else.” –Stacy Horn, in *The Restless Sleep*

### ***Pick historical titles.***

Blum, Deborah. *The Poisoner’s Handbook*.

Colquhoun, Kate. *Murder in the First-Class Carriage*.

Geary, Rick. *Lizzie Borden*.

Grann, David. *Killers of the Flower Moon*.

Larson, Erik. *The Devil in the White City*.

Markey, Eileen. *A Radical Faith: The Assassination of Sister Maura*.

Preston, Douglas. *The Monster of Florence*.

Schechter, Harold. *Hell’s Princess*.

Summerscale, Kate. *The Suspicions of Mr. Whicher*.

Tyson, Timothy. *Blood Done Sign My Name*.

### ***Think of it as journalism, or your “research.”***

Armstrong, Ken, and Nick Perry. *Scoreboard, Baby: A Story of College Football, Crime, and Complicity*.

Franscell, Ron. *Fall: The Rape and Murder of Innocence in a Small Town*.

Horn, Stacy. *The Restless Sleep and Damnation Island*.

Kolker, Robert. *Lost Girls*.

Krakauer, Jon. *Under the Banner of Heaven*

Quinones, Sam. *Dreamland*

Reding, Nick. *Methland: The Death and Life of an American Small Town*.

Simon, David. *Homicide: A Year On the Killing Streets* or *The Corner*.

### ***Read it as a personal journey or triumph.***

Backderf, Derf. *My Friend Dahmer*.

Bolkovac, Kathryn. *The Whistleblower: Sex Trafficking, Military Contractors, and One Woman’s Fight for Justice*.

Canada, Geoffrey. *Fist Stick Knife Gun: A Personal History of Violence*.

Cummins, Jeanine. *A Rip in Heaven*.

Gilmore, Mikal. *Shot in the Heart*.

Harding, Debora. *Dancing with the Octopus*.

Jentz, Terri. *Strange Piece of Paradise*.

Klebold, Sue. *A Mother’s Reckoning*.

Perry, Sarah. *After the Eclipse: A Mother’s Murder, a Daughter’s Search*.

Ward, Jesmyn. *Men We Reaped: A Memoir*.

### ***Or, if you're okay with being scared...***

Carlo, Philip. *The Night Stalker: The Life and Crimes of Richard Ramirez*.

Glatt, John. *Cries in the Desert*.

Olsen, Gregg. *If You Tell: A True Story of Murder, Family Secrets, and the Unbreakable Bond of Sisterhood*.

Olsen, Jack. *I: The Creation of a Serial Killer*.

Phelps, M. William. *I'll Be Watching You*.

Provost, Gary. *Without Mercy*.

Ramsland, Katherine. *Inside the Minds of Mass Murderers: Why They Kill*.

Schechter, Harold. *Deviant: The Shocking True Story of Ed Gein*.

Sullivan, Terry. *Killer Clown: The John Wayne Gacy Murders*.

### ***Other True Crime genres***

Police Procedurals/Insider Memoirs

Burke, Doyle. *Death As a Living: Investigating Murder in the American Heartland*.

Morrison, Helen. *Cop Procedure: My Life among the Serial Killers*.

Prison Memoirs

Kerman, Piper. *Orange Is the New Black: My Year In a Women's Prison*.

Kiriakou, John. *Doing Time Like a Spy*.

The Classics

Berendt, John. *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*.

Bugliosi, Vincent. *Helter Skelter: The True Story of the Manson Murders*.

Capote, Truman. *In Cold Blood*.

Mailer, Norman. *The Executioner's Song*.

Rule, Ann. *The Stranger Beside Me*.

Financial Crime

Alexander, Brian. *Glass House*.

Burgis, Tom. *Kleptopia: How Dirty Money Is Conquering the World*.

Lewis, Michael. *The Big Short and Liar's Poker*.

Tech Crime

Goodman, Marc. *Future Crimes: Everything Is Connected, Everyone Is Vulnerable, and What We Can Do About It*.

The Mafia

Lehr, Dick. *Black Mass: The True Story of an Unholy Alliance Between the FBI and the Irish Mob*

Maas, Peter. *Underboss: Sammy the Bull Gravano's Story of Life in the Mafia*

Friedman, Robert I. *Red Mafiya: How the Russian Mob Has Invaded America*